

Fall 2025
School of Art + Design
New Jersey Institute of Technology

INT 263 Interior Design Studio I

INSTRUCTORS: David Brothers / 681 Weston / dabrothers@gmail.com / brothers@njit.edu /
Office hours: Monday 10-11.30 / Thursday 10-11.30 or by remote appointment

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COURSE STRUCTURE:

Credits – 4

Lab/Studio	Monday	1:00-5:20
	Thursday	1:00-5:20

*NOTE: For the Fall 2025 semester, this course will operate **in-person** unless there are revised guidelines established by the University. Due to the fluctuating nature of circumstances surrounding university policy and/or extenuating circumstances, there may be times that the class will need to meet remotely. Face-to-face and synchronous online class time will be divided between lectures, discussions, in-class assignments and reviews. All course material and correspondence will be conducted through the Canvas course management system. Work will be expected outside of required class time based upon assignment expectations. All students are expected to complete required reading, participate in class discussions and to initiate ideas and effort beyond the minimum requirements.*

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Interior Design Studio I is a hands-on studio-based introduction to the basic principles and elements of design for interior designer students. Emphasis is on design methods using multiple media, manipulating form and space. Coursework concentrates on three-dimensional design projects and includes lectures, readings, and graphic and written analysis.

PREREQUISITES: [AD 111](#), [AD 150](#) or [ARCH 334](#)

PRE- or CO-REQUISITE: [AD 112](#)

COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this course students will be able:

- To utilize a variety of design processes to facilitate the resolution of interior design problems.
- To iterate design process work with exploratory sketching and model-making to resolve three-dimensional design problems.
- To use digital and hand-drawing skills for effective graphic communication: ideation, orthographics, perspective, and paraline drawing
- To demonstrate fluency with the elements and principles of two- and three-dimensional design introduced in the Foundation year to increase conscious control of these elements to achieve appropriate compositional effects
- To represent the influence of historically meaningful architecture and interior designs through graphic and written analysis
- To incorporate both natural and engineered environmental control systems as an integral component of interior design solutions
- To independently navigate library and online resources in the study and analysis of art and design
- To critically analyze the work of published designers by researching original graphic and written work

CIDA LEARNING & COMPETENCY OBJECTIVES

The Council for Interior Design Accreditation accredits NJIT's interiors program. CIDA has 16 Standards, consisting of 79 subcategories, which must be covered by any curriculum to attain approval.

Student work in this course demonstrates the ability to apply knowledge and skills learned to:

- 8b.** solve progressively complex design problems.
- 8c.** identify and define issues relevant to the design problem.
- 8d.** execute the design process: pre-design, schematic design, and design development.
- 8f.** explore and iterate multiple ideas.
- 8g.** design original and creative solutions.
- 9a.** distill and visually communicate data and research.
- 9b.** express ideas and their rationale in oral communication.
- 9c.** express ideas and their rationale in written communication.
- 9d.** express ideas and their rationale developed in the design process through visual media: ideation drawings and sketches.
- 9e.** express project solutions using a variety of visual communication techniques and technologies appropriate to a range of purposes and audiences.
- 10f.** apply precedents to inform design solutions.
- 11b.** explore a range of two- and three-dimensional design solutions using a variety of media.
- 11c.** effectively apply two-dimensional design solutions.
- 11d.** effectively apply three-dimensional design solutions.
- 14a.** Students understand that design decisions relating to acoustics, thermal comfort, and indoor air quality impact human wellbeing and the environment.
- 14e.** Students **understand** how active and passive thermal systems and components impact interior design solutions.

TEXTS (Required)

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|---------------------|--|
| Rengel, Roberto J. | <u>Shaping Interior Space</u> , Fairchild Publications, Inc., 2003
ISBN: 978-1-56367-518-8 |
| Erwine, Barbara | <u>Creating Sensory Spaces: The Architecture of the Invisible</u> , Routledge, 2017
ISBN: 9781138918771 (paper) ISBN: 9781315688282 (ebook) |
| Ching, Francis D.K. | <u>Interior Design Illustrated 3rd Edition</u>
Van Nostrand Reinhold, New York
ISBN-10: 1118090713 |
| De Botton, Alain | <u>The Architecture of Happiness</u> , Vintage Books, 2008
ISBN: 978-0-307-27724-4 |

TEXTS (Recommended)

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| Seidler, Douglas R. | <u>Hand Drawing for Designers: Communicating Ideas through Architectural Graphics</u> , Fairchild Books, 2010
ISBN: 978-1-56367-780-9 |
| Elam, Kimberly | <u>Geometry of Design</u> , Princeton Architectural Press, 2001
ISBN: 1-56898-249-6 |

TEXTS (Reference)

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|----------------|------------------------------------|
| Barrie, Thomas | <u>Spiritual Path Sacred Space</u> |
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Ching, Francis D.K. Shambhala, 1996
Architecture: Form Space & Order 2nd Edition
Design Drawing
Architectural Graphics
 Van Nostrand Reinhold, New York

Freeman, Michael Meditative Spaces, Universe Publishing, 2005
 ISBN: 0-7893-1349-9

Krier, Rob Architectural Composition
 Rizzoli, 1988

Lawson, Bryan How Designers Think...The Design Process Demystified
 Butterworth Architecture, 1990

Panero & Zelnik Human Dimension and Interior Space, Whitney Library of Design, 1979
 ISBN: 0-8230-7271-1

Ramsey/Sleeper Architectural Graphic Standards
 A.I.A. Ninth Edition, John Wiley & Sons

Raskin, Eugene Architecturally Speaking
 Dell Publishing

Reznikoff, SC Interior Graphic and Design Standards
 Whitney Library of Design, New York, 1986

Taylor, Joshua Learning to Look – A Handbook for the Visual Arts
 University of Chicago Press, 1981

PERIODICALS

Abitare	Dwell	Metropolitan Home
Architectural Digest	Domus	Nest
Architectural Record	Frame	Wallpaper
Casabella	Interior Design	World of Interiors
Detail	Metropolis	

CLASS GUIDELINES

1 ATTENDANCE: You are expected to attend every class unless there is an acceptable excuse (see below). You are expected to be present in class for the entire duration of the class meeting time whether synchronously online or face-to-face in a converged learning environment. If you arrive late or leave early without prior approval of your instructor you will be considered absent. If you miss a class, you are responsible for the material and directions covered. The NJIT attendance policy is as follows: **After three absences students may be docked one-half grade for each subsequent unexcused absence.** (i.e., if the final grade would have been an 'A', it results in a 'B+'. A 'B+' becomes a 'B' and so on. There is a one-half grade penalty for EACH absence after the third) and students will not be permitted to return to class without permission from both the instructor and class coordinator. Additionally, **one absence will be recorded for every three late arrivals to class.**

A **late arrival** is defined as arriving to class 5-30 minutes or more after the start.

NOTE: *Anyone arriving after 30 minutes from the start of class will be marked absent.*

NOTE: *All excused absences MUST be documented through the Dean of Students.*

Acceptable Absences:

Documented Illness or Unavoidable Circumstance

The only accepted documentation is notification from the Dean of Students. Your instructor will not accept notes from doctors directly. Students must present appropriate documentation to the Dean of Students within two lectures of returning.

Religious Observation

Students must inform their instructor **prior** to class that they will miss a session (or more) due to religious observance. Students are permitted to observe religious holidays of one *and only one* religion per semester.

2 ASSIGNED WORK: Work is due as scheduled on the Syllabus or assigned by your instructor. Late work will be accepted at the discretion of the instructor but will be dropped in grade.

NOTE: Students are required to regularly upload all process work to a shared Google Drive and/or Canvas prior to meeting for review for EACH class (unless otherwise noted).

3 DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY: It is well recognized that digital technology devices (cell phones, personal digital assistants, laptops, etc.) are a ubiquitous and necessary accessory to student life. It is expected, however, that these devices will be used exclusively for educational purposes during class time as authorized by your instructor for the purpose of specific classroom instruction. Instructors reserve the right to limit access and/or to ask students to leave class if their application for personal use inhibits the effectiveness of either individual or class learning.

4 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: Student use of artificial intelligence (AI) in this course is only permitted for specific assignments that will be clearly articulated by your instructor for when and how it is to be utilized. Additionally, if and when students use AI in this course, the AI must be cited as is shown within the NJIT Library AI citation page: <https://researchguides.njit.edu/AI/home>

5 STUDENT ACCOMMODATIONS: All reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate a student with a temporary disability (e.g., broken arm, protracted illness, etc.) as long as the student is responsible for communicating with their instructor about the issue and for cooperating in its resolution. Students with more permanent physical or learning disabilities must provide documented requests for accommodation to their instructor *at the beginning of the semester* (or as soon as the disability is diagnosed and documented). Students should contact the Disability Office (<http://www.njit.edu/counseling/services/disabilities.php>) for further information and instruction for obtaining medical and/or psychological disability documentation.

ACADEMIC CONDUCT & INTEGRITY

“Academic Integrity is the cornerstone of higher education and is central to the ideals of this course and the university. Cheating is strictly prohibited and devalues the degree that you are working on. As a member of the NJIT community, it is your responsibility to protect your educational investment by knowing and following the academic code of integrity policy that is found at:

<http://www5.njit.edu/policies/sites/policies/files/academic-integrity-code.pdf>.

*Please note that it is my professional obligation and responsibility to report any academic misconduct to the Dean of Students Office. **Any student found in violation of the code by cheating, plagiarizing or using any online software inappropriately will result in disciplinary action. This may include a failing grade of F, and/or suspension or dismissal from the university.** If you have any questions about the code of Academic Integrity, please contact the Dean of Students Office at dos@njit.edu”*

GRADES

Your grade for the semester will consist of the following assignment topics.

Design Process Folders	5%
Project 1: Sensorial Space	15%
Project 2: Six Walls	20%
Project 3: W681 Space Analysis	15%
Project 3: Case Study Analysis	15%
Project 4: Design Synthesis	30%

Your instructor reserves the right to change and/or revise the projects and grading percentages based upon student progress and relevance to developed work.

GRADING CRITERIA

The Institute guidelines for grading are as follows. These guidelines will be used by your instructor to evaluate your work. Please familiarize yourself with these standards and discuss any questions with your instructor.

A	Superlative	(93-100)	<i>Student learning and accomplishment far exceeds published objectives for the course/test/assignment and student work is distinguished consistently by its high level of competency and/or innovation</i>
B+	Excellent	(87-92)	<i>Student learning and accomplishment goes beyond what is expected in the published objectives for the course/test/assignment and student work is frequently characterized by its special depth of understanding, development and/or innovative experimentation</i>
B	Very Good	(80-86)	
C+	Good	(75-79)	<i>Student learning and accomplishment meets all published objectives for the course/test/assignment and student work demonstrates the expected level of understanding and application of concepts introduced</i>
C	Acceptable	(69-74)	
D	Minimum	(60-68)	<i>Student learning and accomplishment based on the published objectives for the course/project/test were met with minimum passing achievement</i>
F	Inadequate	(<60)	<i>Student learning and accomplishment based on the published objectives</i>