

INTERIOR DESIGN STUDIO III
INT 363**Fall 2025**

Instructor – [Paula Rocha, IIDA, NCIDQ](#)
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Studio Location – **W651**
Office Hours –by appointment

COURSE STRUCTURE

Sessions: Monday 1:00 - 5:20 PM
 Thursday 1:00 - 5:20 PM

Credits: 5

Room: **W651**

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a continuation of the studio sequence with design and space planning projects of increasing complexity selected within the exploration of design for domesticity and what it means to dwell. We will examine these forms of design through the lens of human factors, ergonomics, proxemics, psychology, materiality, systems and construction. An emphasis on sustainability and responsible material selection, energy consumption and building practices will be pursued as it relates to the impact on the environment and the wellbeing of people. To that end, this semester we will address the design of an Adaptive Reuse Hotel complex as it relates to proposed new environmental/hospitality model. There will be an emphasis on the exploration of ways to maximize the functionality of efficient hospitality environments and their ability to sponsor a sustainable appreciation of the natural environment. Students are expected to apply the knowledge acquired in both Building Interior Systems (INT 221 & 222) as they further develop skills to simultaneously resolve conceptual, technical, aesthetic and functional aspects of design.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- To engage in the practice of a design process that facilitates the resolution of an interior design problem. (CIDA Standards 4)
- To gather appropriate and necessary information and research findings to resolve design issues (evidence-based design) (CIDA Standards 4)
- To evaluate, select, apply and synthesize information and research findings to generate multiple concepts and/or multiple design responses to programmatic requirements. (CIDA Standards 4)
- To demonstrate creative thinking and originality through presentation of a variety of ideas, approaches, and concepts for a commercial environment. (CIDA Standards 4)
- To include learning experiences that engage students in collaboration, consensus building, leadership, and team work. (CIDA Standards 5)
- To produce competent presentation drawings across a range of appropriate media. (CIDA Standards 6)
- Students select and *apply* appropriate materials and products on the basis of their properties and performance criteria, including environmental attributes and life cycle cost. (CIDA Standard 11)
- To be *able* to layout and specify furniture, fixtures and equipment. (CIDA Standard 11)
- To understand the relationship of building and environmental control systems as an integral component of interior design solutions for commercial office environments. (CIDA Standard 12)
- To demonstrate knowledge and application of interior construction and building systems. (CIDA Standard 13)

TEXTS

Books, articles, and journal studies will be assigned throughout the semester as they pertain to issues critical to the development of the project at the time. As always, individual initiative is expected from each student to seek out readings and sources for inspiration, insight and guidance.

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. If you arrive late or leave early without prior approval of your instructor you will be considered absent. An attendance sheet will be circulated at the beginning of each class. You are responsible for signing the sheet. 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) Additionally, one absence will be recorded for every three late arrivals to class. A late arrival is defined as arriving to class 10 minutes or more after the start.
NOTE: *Anyone arriving after 30 minutes from the start of class will be marked absent.*

Acceptable Absences:

Documented Illness

Documentation of an illness is accomplished in one of two ways; (1) personal observation by the instructor and (2) written excuse by a medical professional/practitioner who is *not* a family member of the student.

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 STUDIO WORK: Students are expected to be in studio and prepared to present their work at the beginning of all scheduled critiques. Your active participation in critique sessions is a learning expectation of the studio. Bring all progress drawings to assist in the dialogue. Print or plot drawings at an appropriate scale for critique sessions. Hard copies of drawings and trace paper are necessary for effective desk and pin-up critique sessions. Studio is also the time for active dialogue with your classmates concerning the project. Use this time constructively to give and receive assistance with your work.

3 ASSIGNED WORK: Work is due as scheduled in the Syllabus or assigned by your instructor. Work will be accepted up to one week late but it will be dropped in grade.

All written work submitted for this course must meet the Standards for English I. Poor written papers will be returned to you, without a grade, for revision. Students are encouraged to utilize the resources provided by NJIT for assistance with written papers.

4 REVIEWS: There will be periodic pin-up reviews during the semester. Active participation in these reviews is an important part of your studio experience. Each student should be prepared to present at the beginning of the class time and stay for the entire class. If you are not prepared to present at the beginning of the class session (or are not present) your grade for the presentation may be reduced.

5 DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY: *Cell phones and all PDA devices* are not permitted to be used in class to send or receive messages. If your phone disturbs the class you may be asked to leave and assigned an absence for that day.

Laptop computers are to be used exclusively for note taking, computer aided drafting and modeling (CAD) and approved research. Under no circumstances are students permitted to use email, instant messaging, web surfing, or video/audio streaming during studio unless expressly authorized by the instructor for the purpose of specific classroom instruction.

6 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.

7 KEPLER

All work designated by the instructor MUST be uploaded to the Kepler site before the conclusion of the semester in order to receive a grade. Failure to comply will result in a failing grade (F) for the course.

ACADEMIC CONDUCT & HONESTY

Each student is responsible for reading and conducting themselves within the parameters of the *NJIT University Code on Academic Integrity*. Please refer to the NJIT website for the complete text of the policy: <http://www.njit.edu/education/pdf/academic-integrity-code.pdf>

“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>.

If you have questions of interpretation in this class please see your studio instructor for clarification. We welcome a discussion of our expectations.

GENERATIVE AI

The usage of artificial intelligence (AI) is permitted in this course. However, if and when students use AI in this course, the AI must be cited as is shown within the [NJIT Library AI citation page](#) for AI. If you have any questions or concerns about AI technology use in this class, please reach out to your instructor prior to submitting any assignments.

ASSESSMENT

Your grade for the semester will be made up of the following assignments/performance.
(See #1 - 4 above for elements that effect grading policy)

Preliminary Research Assignments:	
Anthropometrics/Ergonomics	
Case Studies on Human Factors/Spaces	2.5%
Project One: Tiny Suite	15%
Project Two: Condominium Project	
Existing Building Documentation & Research	5%
Preliminary Design Strategies	5%
Design Development (Typical Residential Floor)	10%
Design Development (Lobby and Amenities)	10%
Final Design/ Full design Integration	10%
Final Presentation	20%
Process & class participation	20%

Note: All work must be satisfactory posted to Kepler before your grade will be issued to you and submitted to the Registrar. This is a CoAD requirement and no exceptions will be made.

GRADE 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 Superior (4.0)

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.

B+ Excellent (3.5)

B Very Good (3.0)

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.

C+ Good (2.5)
C Acceptable (2.0)

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.

D Minimum (1.0)

Student learning and accomplishment based on the published objectives for the course/project/test were met with minimum passing achievement.

F Inadequate (0.0)

Student learning and accomplishment based on the published objectives for the course/test/assignment were not sufficiently addressed nor met.

SCHEDULE

01	M	Sept. 01	Labor day. No Classes
	TH	Sept. 04	Introduction/Course Overview, Competition Criteria review. Project Overview. Project One: Tiny Suite Introduction Assignment One: Anthropometrics/Ergonomic Research / Suite Case Studies Research.
02	M	Sept. 08	Studio session / Pin-up: Anthropometrics/Ergonomic Research / Tiny Suite Case Studies Research
	TH	Sept. 11	Studio session / Tiny Suite– Preliminary review Pin-up
03	M	Sept. 15	Studio session / Tiny Suite– Design Development.
	TH	Sept. 18	Studio session / Tiny Suite– Design Development.
04	M	Sept. 22	Studio session / Review: Project One: Tiny Suite.
	TH	Sept. 25	Project Two: Condominium Project - Introduction Assignment: Research site conditions define demographics research Unit Layouts
05	M	Sept. 29	Studio session / Pin-up: Share findings Present demographic selection & needs
	TH	Oct. 02	Wellness Day
06	M	Oct. 06	Studio session / P2 Programming
	TH	Oct. 09	Studio session / Pin-up: P2 Program diagrams
07	M	Oct. 13	Studio session / P2 Schematic Design development
	TH	Oct. 16	Studio session / P2 Schematic Design development
08	M	Oct. 20	Studio session / P2 Pin-up: P2 Schematic Design Plans
	TH	Oct. 23	Studio session / P2 Design Development
09	M	Oct. 27	Studio session / P2 Design Development
	TH	Oct. 30	Studio session / P2 Design Development
10	M	Nov. 03	Studio session / P2 Design Development
	TH	Nov. 06	Studio session / P2 Design Development

11	M	Nov. 10	Studio session / P2 Design Development
	TH	Nov. 13	Studio session / P2 Design Development
12	M	Nov. 17	Presentation / Project Design
	TH	Nov. 20	Studio session
13	M	Nov. 24	Studio session
	T	Nov. 25	Studio session – Thursday class meet.
	TH	Nov. 27	Thanksgiving Holiday – No Classes
14	M	Dec. 01	2 nd Year Studio Review.
	TH	Dec. 04	3 rd Year Final Review (time & location to be determined) Documentation due via Kepler / (see “assessment”)
15	M	Dec. 08	4 th Year Studio Review. Studio wrap-up / Exit Interviews
	W	Dec. 10	Last day of Classes