



History of Furniture

Fall Semester, 2024

Fall 2024 – INT 350 (3 credits)
History of Furniture
3 Credit Hours,

Prof: Amanda R. Kogle
Email: ark78@njit.edu
Office Hours: By Appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

History of Furniture is a survey course that spans the history of furniture & interiors from the 1400s to the present, focusing on 1850-present day. It will focus on the study of use and stylistic changes as they respond to social, political and technological evolutions of society. Students will analyze furniture in terms of function and use, cultural and social identities, the evolution of taste and style, construction and materials, ergonomics, universal/ barrier-free accessibility, sustainability, and technology. Major stylistic movements will be discussed and critically analyzed for the relationship they hold to current-day topics in interior design & furniture design. Class will be conducted as a seminar (lecture-discussion format). In-class team projects and exercises as well as home research assignments will be included.

Prerequisite: AD 161 and AD 162 or equivalent; or Arch 251, 252 and 381.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course, the student will be able to:

- Clear understanding of the development of furniture styles and their relationship to the culture and society of the time.
- Awareness of the importance of studying original furniture to develop an understanding of the differences between the original and the reproduction; to begin to establish designer professionalism.
- Proficiency in communication skills: experience in presentation techniques and working as a team member.
- Familiarization with resources for information in the metropolitan area, including furniture manufacturing, technology, museums, and auction houses.

SUGGESTED RESOURCES

There is no central, required textbook from this course, however, I recommend the following general texts for your designer libraries:

- Kirkham, Pat, and Susan Weber. *History of Design: Decorative Arts and Material Culture, 1400-2000*. New Haven, CT: Yale U Press, 2013. Print.
- Hinchman, Mark. *History of Furniture: A Global View*, 2016.
- Margolin, Victor. *World History of Design*. 2017.
- Pile, John and Judith Gura *A History of Interior Design*, 4th ed.
- Raizman, David. *History of Modern Design*. 2013.

Any additional readings/videos/content will be found in the 'Files' section of Canvas.

COURSE OUTLINE (Tentative and Subject to Change):

Date	Topic(s)	Notes
9/3/24	Medieval // Gothic	
9/10/24	Renaissance	
9/17/24	Baroque & Rococo	Reading TBD
9/24/24	Neoclassical // The Great Exhibition & Bad Taste	Reading TBD
10/1/24	Design Reform – Arts & Crafts and Revivals	Reading TBD, Diorama Proposal Due
10/8/24	Art Nouveau	Reading TBD
10/15/24	Birth of Modernism	Reading TBD

Date	Topic(s)	Notes
10/22/24	Modernism I: De Stijl & Bauhaus	Reading TBD
10/29/24	Modernism II: Russia & Le Corbusier	Reading TBD, Diorama Check-In
11/5/24	Art Deco	Reading TBD
11/12/24	Streamlining	Reading TBD
11/19/24	Postwar America	Reading TBD
11/26/24	Pop // Postmodernism	Reading TBD
12/3/24	Final Diorama Presentations	
12/10/24	Final Diorama Presentations	Final Paper Due

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Your responsibilities consist in doing weekly readings (when applicable) and responding to a prompt related to that reading or weekly topic. The main project that you will work on this semester will be a combination paper and diorama that you will make by the end of the semester. There will be a few check-ins and a proposal throughout the semester. You will need to research the works of architecture and Interior design in your chosen style and organize them in power point presentation that will take place within the last two weeks of class. For the paper portion of the project, you must properly cite all info taken from other sources (books, websites). For more info on how to properly cite please refer to the NJIT Library.

It is essential that you take very good notes in class during the lectures. It is fundamental that you research the images discussed in the lectures weekly in order not to fall behind on the course workload.

GRADING BREAKDOWN

Attendance & Participation	20%
Diorama Proposal & Check-In	20%
Diorama Presentation	30%
Final Diorama and Paper	30%

DEADLINES FOR ASSIGNMENTS

All Homework assignments shall be handed in on time. Not submitting homework and assignments on time will reflect in your final grade.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- Students must have all necessary and required materials for all individual check-in sessions. This includes USB drive with class work, any distributed handouts, and note taking supplies.
- Weekly participation and check-ins are mandatory. In the event of missing the weekly individual check-ins, (email responses, zoom meetings,) the student is responsible for the material covered, including make-up and submitting any missed assignment on time. Get material from classmates with enough time in advance to understand it, seek help if needed and to submit assignments on time.
- All assignments are to be submitted on Canvas as directed by the instructor.
- Canvas, Computer, Internet, or Software glitches are not valid excuses for not being able to submit assignments on time.
- All course information, including grading, will be posted on Canvas.

DISABILITIES

If you need accommodations due to a disability please contact the Office of Accessibility Resources & Services (OARS) at OARS@NJIT.EDU, or visit us in Kupfrian Hall 201, to discuss your specific needs. A Letter of Accommodation Eligibility from the OARS authorizing your accommodations will be required. See more information at <https://www.njit.edu/accessibility/>

SYLLABUS

This syllabus serves as a general outline. I reserve the right to deviate from any part of the plan as necessary. Students will be notified of any such modifications.

GRADE DISPUTES

If a student has a grade dispute, they should submit a one- page memo to the instructor presenting evidence for their case. The instructor will review and re- grade the original assignment. This review can create a grade increase, but may also create a grade decrease based on the new overall evaluation.

COURSE GRADE APPEALS

Grading is done at the sole discretion of each faculty member. A student who wishes to appeal a grade must write a formal letter to the Dean of the College of Architecture and Design specifying the course number, term, year and faculty member, AND reasons for the appeal. The Dean then refers the matter to the Associate Dean for Academics who in turn appoints an ad hoc committee to review the student's work and the manner of grading. Full details of the appeals procedure and required documentation can be obtained from the academic advisor Sasha Corchado.

VIOLATIONS OF ACADEMIC 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: NJIT Academic Integrity Code. 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 includes work generated from Chat GPT. 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”

INCOMPLETE GRADES

The grade of "Incomplete" may be given under rare, documented circumstances. Instructors must provide written details of the remaining work and deadlines to the student and the Department Chair. The "Incomplete" grade must be resolved in the next regular semester to avoid automatic conversion to a failing grade. Instructors should not accept work by a student after the end of the semester following the one in which the Incomplete was issued, unless the Dean of Students certifies extenuating circumstances, the instructor is willing to process a late change of grade and the Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs pre-authorizes such a change.

PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE

Class participation is required and expected. A student who fails to fulfill the participation requirement on more than two occasions during the semester will receive a grade reduction of one-half letter grade for each additional class where there is no participation. For example, if a student completes assignments and earns an average of 86 (B) on all work for the course but does not participate in three classes during the semester, the final grade will be a 76 (C). For excused absences, legitimate documentation must be provided by the student to the instructor and appropriate University staff at the onset of any issues that may impact their class performance. The University is under no obligation to offer special dispensation to students who present documentation after the end of the semester.

RUBRICS (HOW YOUR ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE GRADED)

Note: Working hard is an important aspect of your development as a designer. It does not guarantee high grades. The evaluation criteria of this course are based on the following:

1. In-class writing assignments
2. Fulfillment of homework
3. Midterm and Final exams