

Interior Design

The Career

Interior design is the process of shaping the experience of interior space through the manipulation of spatial volume, as well as surface treatment. Not to be confused with interior decoration, interior design draws on aspects of environmental psychology, architecture, product design, and furniture design, in addition to traditional decoration. Interior design is a creative practice that analyzes programmatic information, establishes a conceptual direction, refines the design direction, and produces graphic communication and construction documents.

Average starting salary: Call for more information.

Graduate employment rate: Call for more information.

The Program

The Dunwoody interior design student develops skills and knowledge to design functional and aesthetically-pleasing environments that enhance the quality of life while protecting the health, safety and welfare of the public. Students use design theories, interior materials, building codes, and manual and computer-aided drafting to develop and prepare designs for residential, kitchen and bath, and commercial projects. This program also develops skills for interacting with carpenters, electricians, architects, heating/cooling trades, and other building professionals. Estimating the costs of an entire project and coordinating the project implementation are part of the curriculum plan.

Program Length

Graduates of this twelve-quarter program earn a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree. Visit dunwoody.edu for more details on courses and requirements.

Applying to Dunwoody is easy

To apply online, visit dunwoody.edu. Or, to speak with a Dunwoody Admissions representative, call 612-374-5800 or 800-292-4652.

Dunwoody's Admissions team is committed to working with you to ease and simplify the admissions process and provide all the necessary information regarding our academic programs, degree opportunities, financial aid, expectations and everything else that enters into such an important decision.

Other exciting Design and Graphics Technology programs and degree options are available. Visit dunwoody.edu for complete details.

B.S. Degree Requirements

Years 1 & 2

IDSN 112	Basic Drafting
IDSN 114	Interior Design Careers
IDSN 116	Color & Light
IDSN 118	Design Fundamentals
IDSN 121	AUTOCAD I
IDSN 123	Presentation Skills II
IDSN 126	Materials
IDSN 128	Creative Thinking
IDSN 130	Residential Studio I
IDSN 132	Textiles
IDSN 138	History of Interiors I
IDSN 210	Commercial Studio I
IDSN 216	AUTOCAD II
IDSN 218	History of Interiors II
IDSN 220	Kitchen & Bath Design
IDSN 225	Life Safety Codes
IDSN 227	Specifications
IDSN 230	Residential Studio II
IDSN 234	Introduction to CS4
IDSN 238	History of Interiors III
IDSN240	Study Abroad

Years 3 & 4

IDSN 300	Studio III
IDSN 311	REVIT I
IDSN 313	Building Technologies
IDSN 320	Studio IV
IDSN 324	Presentation Skills II
IDSN 326	REVIT II
IDSN 330	Studio V
IDSN 332	Lighting
IDSN 334	Custom Detail Drawing
IDSN 336	Research
IDSN 340	Internship
IDSN 410	Studio VI
IDSN 413	Global Design
IDSN 421	Portfolio
IDSN 424	Project Management
IDSN 427	Contract Documents
IDSN 430	Capstone
IDSN 437	Professional Business Practices
IDSN 439	Special Topics

Arts and Sciences

ENGL 101	Composition
COMM 101	Electronic Communications
SPCH 101	Public Speaking
ARTS 135	Structural Drawing
MATH 105	Algebra/Trig/Geo
COMM150	Communication: Interaction and Process
GSCI 108	Environmental Science
PSYC 100	Survey of Psychology
HUMN 301	Human Creative Expression
PSYC 301	Organizational Behavior
SBSC 100	Cultural Diversity
COMM 301	Organizational Communication
GSCI 301	Environmental Science II LEED



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Course Descriptions

IDSN112 - Basic Drafting

This course covers the basic hand drafting skills necessary to complete the drafting process of any given space. Students will learn appropriate use of drafting equipment, appropriate line quality, appropriate use of architectural symbols and lettering, dimensioning, electrical symbols and application, elevations, sections, detail and isometric drawings. The skills learned will be used in the majority of all future design courses.

IDSN114 - Interior Design Career Directions

This course prepares the student with the tools and information necessary to begin planning a career in a segment of the Interior Design field. Individual skills needed in different positions will be researched and identified. Career goals will be investigated and documented.

IDSN116 - Color and Light

This course studies color systems, theories and principles to develop an understanding of hue, value and intensity of color. The dynamics of color and light in interior space are investigated. Knowledge of what color is, why it happens and how it is controlled is applied.

IDSN118 - Design Fundamentals

This course covers the elements of design, line, shape, space, texture, illusion of space, illusion of motion, value and color. Design principals of unity, emphasis, scale, balance, and rhythm, will be studied in two and three dimensional formats. The design process and creative problem solving techniques will be explored.

IDSN121 - AUTOCAD 1

Introduction to computer aided drafting and design using autodesks's AutoCAD software. Emphasis is on architectural applications and building components as utilized for Interior Design.

IDSN123 - Presentation Skills 1

This course covers the unique specialized methods of presentation for interior designers. The basics of graphics, methods and techniques, craftsmanship, and model making are covered. The student will learn the necessary tools of presentation for communicating visually with the client.

IDSN126 - Materials for Interior Design

This course is an introduction to a broad range of materials and products utilized in interior and exterior finishes. Materials are analyzed for durability, biohazards, ease of use, life-cycle cost, sustainability, safety and performance. Take-off calculations are completed for wall covering, floor finish materials and paint.

IDSN128 - Creative Thinking and Processes

A variety of techniques are utilized to provoke originality, creative thought, and ideation, individually and in groups. Critical listening is used to produce inventive design solutions.

IDSN130 - Residential Studio 1

This course covers the basic skills necessary to design interior spaces in a home. The interior design process will be applied with an emphasis through the design development phase. Students will investigate residential furnishings, lighting and finish sources and will be introduced to specifying these products. Students will apply their design fundamentals as well as verbal and visual communications skills in progressively complex residential design projects. Visual tools will include manually and CAD drafted floor plans, presentation elevations and presentation boards. The projects will be presented to a client for approval.

IDSN132 - Textiles 1: Analysis

In-depth study of fiber (chemical and natural), textile manufacturing, identification of weaves, finishing, engineering toward end uses, and the codes that apply to their use.

IDSN138 - History of Interiors 1

A history of interiors, architecture, art furniture, and the decorative arts for the time period Ancient thru Renaissance are studied within their political and cultural context.

IDSN210 - Commercial Studio 2

This course builds on the skills from Residential Studio I to design interiors in small commercial settings. Efficient use of space and ergonomics are studied. The interior design process will be applied with an emphasis through the design development phase. Students will investigate contract furnishings, lighting, and finish sources and will be introduced to specifying these products. The project will be presented for client approval.

IDSN216 - AutoCAD 2

This course teaches intermediate CAD drafting processes and procedures for practical application in Interior Design utilizing AIA (American Institute of Architects) standards. The emphasis is on production of presentation and construction drawings used in an interior design study. Students will complete floor plans, interior elevations, cabinet sections and millwork details.

IDSN218 - History of Interiors 2

A history of interiors, architecture, art, furniture, and the decorative arts for the time period Meso-America thru Industrial Revolution are studied within their political and cultural context.

IDSN220 - Kitchen & Bath Design

This course details the unique Interior Design specialty of Kitchen & Bath Design. Analysis of plumbing fixtures, cabinet types, and materials will be included. NKBA (National Kitchen & Bath Association) guidelines will be utilized. Short projects will be completed to demonstrate different types and styles of kitchens and baths.

IDSN225 - Life Safety Codes

This course is an overview of codes and guidelines from the IBC and ADAAG (International Building Code and Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines) that students must understand to practice interior design and to pass the NCIDQ exam. An understanding of how to use the entire IBC is included: however, the focus of the class is on the Life Safety Codes and the ADA.

IDSN227 - Specifications

This course covers professional liabilities, regulations, and performance criteria for interior design, FF&E (furniture, fixtures, and equipment). It includes specification format and content as well as coordination guidelines for contract documentation. Building materials and finished generally specified by the interior designer will be included.

IDSN230 - Residential Studio 2

This course covers a more advanced study of residential interior design and includes kitchen and bathroom interior spaces. The project utilizes IBC, ADAAG, and NKBA guidelines. This project follows the typical industry design phases. Presentation to the client is followed by contract documentation including specifications, installation plans and schedules. An electrical and lighting plan, basic plumbing plans, working elevations as well as sections and details for custom millwork.

IDSN234 - Intro to CS4

This class is an introduction to creating images and boards utilizing the adobe CS4 Suite with emphasis on Photoshop and InDesign. The principles of color correction, layout, and typeface are applied.

IDSN238 - History of Interiors 3

A history of interiors, architecture, art, furniture, and the decorative arts for the time period 1900 thru Present are studied within their political and cultural context.

IDSN240 - Study Abroad

This spring quarter class will focus on the country that the students will travel to in the summer of each year. History of the culture, the interior design, decorative arts, and architecture will be explored in preparation for

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the trip. The interior design students will be required to present a final project that demonstrates their learning.

IDSN300 - Studio III

Studio III explores the complex problem of the live/work environment. Students will work individually and in teams incorporating the principles of sustainable and universal design. A design concept will be developed and presented. This concept will be refined individually and the student will produce presentation boards and construction documents.

IDSN311 - 3D Revit

Introduction to three dimensional computer aided drafting and design using Autodesk's Revit software. Emphasis is on architectural components as utilized for Interior Design.

IDSN313 - Building Technologies

This course covers building construction from the 1900's on. Structural systems such as wood frame (stick built), post and beam, and contemporary commercial and residential construction practices will be discussed. The installation and operation of standard mechanical, electrical, plumbing, security and telecommunication systems will be studied and observed.

IDSN320 - Studio 4

Studio 4 explores the design problem of the public building space including corporate, facility management, retail, and historic preservation. Students will work individually and in teams to produce projects thru all design phases. The student will produce a presentation and construction documents for a client.

IDSN324 - Presentation Skills 2

A variety of techniques are utilized to successfully combine the principles of color, layout, and visual communication with the skills of digital design, hand rendering, and sketching to produce successful and professional presentation drawings, boards, models, and documents.

IDSN326 - Revit 2

Introduction to three dimensional computer aided drafting and design using Autodesk's Revit software. Emphasis is on architectural applications and building components as utilized for Interior Design.

IDSN330 - Studio 5

Studio 5 explores the design problem of healthcare and hospitality design. Students will work individually and in teams to produce projects thru all design phases. The student will produce a presentation and construction documents for a client.

IDSN332 - Lighting

The principles of natural and electrical lighting design are used to determine appropriate light levels and use lighting as an aesthetic expression. Lighting plans are documented with selection and placement of appropriate fixtures and switches.

IDSN334 - Custom Detail Drawing

Custom casework, construction, and installation detail drawings are produced by hand drafting and AutoCAD. Shop drawings are reviewed for accuracy.

IDSN336 - Research

A variety of methods to gather appropriate information and research to solve an interior design problem will be introduced. Students will research and produce a paper on a technical interior design topic utilizing APA format.

IDSN340 - Internship

No course description available

IDSN410 - Studio 6

Studio 6 includes a project that is directed toward the career specialty the student wishes to pursue. The project is completed thru the preliminary contract documentation phase. The student will produce a professional

presentation for a client. Time management is a focus of the studio including time-sheets.

IDSN413 - Global Design

Various cultures and mores are studied for the successful conducting of the business of interior design in a world market. The needs of a variety of socio-economic populations are applied to design solutions.

IDSN421 - Portfolio

Students compile a portfolio in a format of their choosing. Past projects are reworked to be added to the student's portfolio.

IDSN424 - Project Management

This class includes an understanding of how to complete a project on-time and on-budget. How all the parts of a project come together, what the responsibilities and liabilities are, and how to put together a cohesive team as well as troubleshooting are discussed. What to look for when making site inspections and the protocol for making any necessary changes are explained.

IDSN427 - Presentation: Contract Documents

This class utilizes Auto CAD to produce a final complete set of contract documents from the Studio 6 Project.

IDSN430 - Presentation: Capstone

A final project that is directed toward the career specialty the student wishes to pursue. Includes all phases of the project including research, a preliminary budget, presentation, and contract documentation.

IDSN437 - Pres: Professional Business Practices

This course will emphasize the business practices specific to the Interior Design industry. The course will cover establishing a business, understanding the basics of a business plan, organizational methods and procedures, marketing and sales techniques, and determining fees and proposals. Business ethics and how the Interior Design business interacts with other businesses will be discussed.

IDSN439 - Presentation: Special Topics

The principles of LEED certification, POE (Post Occupancy Evaluation), and facility management are applied to existing studio projects.