



INTERIOR DESIGN

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The profession of interior design is relatively new, constantly evolving and often misunderstood by the public—as well by as potential clients. NCIDQ, the National Council for Interior Design Qualification, defines the profession in this way: “The Professional Interior Designer is qualified by education, experience, and examination to enhance the function and quality of interior spaces.”

NCIDQ goes on to describe interior design as a multi-faceted profession in which creative and technical skills are applied within a structure to achieve a built interior environment that is functional, enhances the quality of life and culture of the occupants, and is aesthetically attractive. In addition, interior designers must adhere to code requirements and be conscious of the principles of environmental sustainability.

The Interior Design program at College of DuPage provides a range of courses from fundamental through advanced levels. Students begin the program with entry-level courses like Drafting, Sustainable Design, and Architecture and Design History. Courses in the intermediate level include Computer Aided Drafting, Space Planning, and Lighting. These classes add to the scope of skills and knowledge required for the upper-level studio courses, which focus on specific areas of design practice like Residential, Kitchen and Bath, Retail, or Office.

Students complete the program with a course covering Professional Practice and Ethics, in addition to compiling a comprehensive portfolio of work geared to find success in the professional interior design industry.



“The people at COD are amazing. I was lucky to have studied under so many professional, perceptive and engaging teachers with a commitment to my excellence. Being taught in-depth about the many disciplines within interior design by passionate teachers made a world of difference.”

— Jerome Coloma,
COD Interior Design Student



WHY COLLEGE OF DuPAGE IS RIGHT FOR YOU

The Interior Design program at COD has a diverse student population in regard to age, prior education, and range of employment experiences. Whether you are preparing for a career in interior design, planning to transfer to a four-year baccalaureate-granting institution, or updating your skills, you will find classes with a dynamic exchange of life perspectives. This results in students not only sharing a love of interior design, but also finding other students at similar points in their educational and career journeys. We offer:

- Dedicated instructors with years of professional experience, certification, and licensing.
- Instruction utilizing top-notch facilities, equipment, and resources that creates a “design firm” environment for students.
- Affordable programs to help students achieve success without creating overwhelming debt or draining a savings account.
- Small class sizes that ensure students receive personalized attention from instructors.
- An advisory board made up of respected industry professionals, ensuring a curriculum guided by current and emerging trends, as well as educational support and opportunities in and out of the classroom.



ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE (A.A.S.) IN INTERIOR DESIGN

The A.A.S. in Interior Design degree program prepares students for successful entry into a professional career or easy transfer to a partner institution for a bachelor's degree. Students in this program are required to complete a minimum of 70 credits of coursework, which includes 52 credits in core program courses and electives and 18 general education credits. Additional electives are available for those students wishing to broaden their knowledge, update skills, and gain experience for an occupational edge over competition.

CERTIFICATES IN INTERIOR DESIGN

The Interior Design department at College of DuPage currently offers three certificate programs. These programs are aimed at interior design majors and returning professionals who are seeking advanced skills in specialized areas.

Kitchen and Bath Design Certificate

This certificate program requires a minimum of 41 credits and provides students with a broad range of instruction that builds on fundamental courses within the A.A.S. Interior Design degree. Studio courses dedicated to the Kitchen and Bath industry ensure that students are prepared for the variety of jobs available in this specialized area. The program has received full endorsement by the National Kitchen and Bath Association (NKBA), which ensures that students receive instruction in all categories of the NKBA Body of Knowledge.

Interior Design Lighting Certificate

This 25-credit certificate prepares students for a support job in the lighting industry. In addition to entry-level prerequisite courses, students focus on lighting fundamentals, new technology, various lighting applications, and graphic communication methods required in the design industry. This certificate provides an excellent area of specialization when combined with the A.A.S. degree.

Interior Design Computer Applications Certificate

This certificate prepares students for computer related jobs in the interior design industry. The certificate requires a minimum of 20 credits of design prerequisites and a wide array of computer courses including 2D AutoCAD drafting, 3dsMax 3D modeling, Photoshop, Sketch-up, Revit, and 20-20.

STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITIES

Facilities for the Interior Design program are housed in the Technical Education Center (TEC), a LEED-certified building constructed in 2009. The department includes three studio classrooms, one dedicated computer classroom, a Resource Library, and display areas for student work. Other equipment available to students includes an architectural plotter, architectural copier, and large format scanners. All interior design related computer software is updated annually to provide students the most up-to-date programs possible.

AVAILABLE SCHOLARSHIPS

Students who are planning to enroll in the Interior Design program at College of DuPage may be qualified to receive a financial award through a variety of supported scholarships.

Visit cod.edu/foundation/scholarships_list.aspx for requirements and a full list of available scholarships.

TRANSFER OPPORTUNITIES

The Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) facilitates the transfer of general education credits between schools in Illinois. The Interior Design program has articulation agreements and transfer guides for many baccalaureate-granting schools. The program coordinator can advise students on available options.

EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the median annual wage for interior designers was \$48,400 in May 2014. Projected growth in this field is expected to expand by four percent between 2014 and 2024. Designers will be needed to respond to consumer trends and expectations, such as being environmentally friendly or more easily accessible. For more information and employment statistics, visit www.bls.gov.

POSSIBLE SPECIALIZATIONS FOR INTERIOR DESIGNERS

- **Residential Design:** Design homes and living spaces for clients, including space planning, custom built-ins, furniture, architectural finishes, lighting, and accessories.
- **Kitchen and Bathroom Design:** Use knowledge of cabinetry, appliances, fixtures, finishes, and hardware with an aesthetic style to create functional and beautiful spaces.
- **Corporate Interiors:** Create pleasing and efficient workspaces that reflect the image of a company utilizing sustainable materials and furnishings.
- **Healthcare Interior Design:** Help make clinical and residential healthcare environments responsive to patient needs to promote healing and wellness.
- **Hospitality Design:** Create inviting spaces for the hotel industry while considering important factors such as comfort, function, aesthetic appeal, and budget.
- **Restaurant Design:** Design dining spaces that will create positive customer experiences and contribute to the success of the restaurant.
- **Retail Design:** Create retail stores that enhance the shopping experience, highlight merchandise, and provide viable profit for the owner/operator.



GETTING STARTED

If you are considering this program as an area of study:

- Visit our website at cod.edu/programs/interior_design
- Consult with a faculty advisor or specialist:

Lisa Horvatin, Program Advisor

Berg Instructional Center (BIC), Room 1474A, (630) 942-2078

Anna Gay, Program Support Specialist

Berg Instructional Center (BIC), Room 1441A, (630) 942-2502

Jane Kielb, Assistant Professor

Technical Education Center (TEC), Room 1055, (630) 942-2508

Shelly Mocchi, Instructor

Technical Education Center (TEC), Room 1047, (630) 942-2538

- Contact the Arts, Communications and Hospitality Division Office:
Berg Instructional Center (BIC), Room 2E06, (630) 942-2048

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For individuals who need language assistance, contact Campus Central at (630) 942-2380.



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