

INTERIOR DESIGN

Is Interior Design for me?

The field is for you if you ...

- Learn and integrate necessary business principles and practices.
- Can work with individuals/teams under pressure.
- Can visualize new opportunities and respond to challenges.
- Are self-motivated and work independently.
- Have creative problem-solving skills.
- Are able to meet deadlines and respond quickly to changes.

What skills will I need for this field?

You will need to have ...

- Critical thinking and organizational skills.
- Excellent verbal and written communications skills.
- Artistic awareness and a sense of details.
- The ability to learn new technologies.

What is the work atmosphere like?

Primarily indoors (often includes travel) using a variety of skills including drafting and computer technologies, space planning and construction details, code and life safety issues, visualizing and rendering design concepts, lighting layout/specifying, client problem solving, product review and specifications, business principles and practices. Work can be challenging and demanding, with short deadlines.

What are my degree options?

Certificates (Pending Approval)

Interior Design Computer Applications
Kitchen and Bath Design
Lighting Design

Associate's Degree

Associate in Applied Science (AAS)

Bachelor's Degree

Bachelor's degrees are available by transferring to four-year colleges and universities. For example: Illinois Institute of Art, Schaumburg; International Academy of Merchandising and Design, Chicago; and Illinois State University, Normal.

Professional Certification

Many states require Title Registration and/or Practice Act Registration for individuals using the title and/or practicing the profession of Interior Design. Check with your local state department of professional regulations for details. This usually requires a combination of education (two-year Interior Design degree minimum), examination (pass National Council of Interior Design Qualifications-NCIDQ), and work experience (documented with professional/firms). Membership in professional interior design organizations is encouraged. These organizations help develop continuing career education and networking opportunities.

What are my career opportunities?

Many opportunities exist for experienced and educated Interior Design majors. Prospects are best in large metropolitan areas. Advancement generally requires established work records with successful project portfolios. Passage of NCIDQ exam often required by state registration/practice acts, employers and professional organizations.

What can I do with these degrees?

If you have completed ...

High School Diploma

Sales Related

Associate in Applied Science Degree

ADA and Universal Design Consultant, Assistant Project Manager, Assistant Showroom Manager, CAD Specialist, Facilities Planning and Design, Government Facility Design, Health Care Design, Hospitality Design, Interior Consultant, Kitchen/Bath Designer, Lighting Designer, Office Design, Research Library/Materials (Specifications), Residential Design, Restaurant Design, Retail Design, Sales Rep (Products), Space Planner

How can I prepare now?

Recommended courses ...

Math

Algebra or Applied Math

Science

Computer Basics

Communications

Composition, Speech, Technical Writing, Typing

Occupational Electives

Building Technologies, Desktop Publishing, Drafting, Graphic Arts

Recommended Supporting Electives

Art History, Computer-Aided Drafting, Interior Design

What about my articulated credit?

Check with your high school coordinator to see if you are eligible for articulated credit at College of DuPage.

Certificate

Computer Applications, Kitchen and Bath Design, Lighting Designer

Bachelor's Degree

ADA and Universal Design Consultant, Assistant/Showroom Manager, CAD Specialist, District Manager, Education and Research, Facilities Planning and Design, Government Facility Design, Health Care Design, Hospitality Design, Interior Design (Project Manager), Kitchen/Bath Designer, Lighting Design, Office Design, Research Library/Materials (Specifications), Residential Design, Restaurant Design, Retail Design, Sales Rep (Products), Space Planner

What should I take in my first semester at C.O.D.?

INTER 1110: Drafting Interiors

INTER 1151: Architecture and Design: History I

INTER 1160: Environmental Textiles

INTER 1170: Environmental Materials and Applications

Whom can I talk to for more information?

Business and Technology Division
(630) 942-2592

For more information on the Associate in Applied Science Degree curriculum, see your program coordinator, or go to www.cod.edu.