Interior Architecture, B.S.

Degree Offered

• Bachelor of Science

Nature of the Program

In response to professional industry trends, the WVU Interior Design program has expanded its curriculum to include building and construction systems and changed its major name to **Interior Architecture** beginning with the incoming 1st year class of 2021. Graduates still practice interior design and can be certified by the National Council for Interior Design Qualification exam but will have a wider range of skills.

Interior designers create architectural interiors that improve inhabitants’ quality of life and protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public. The interior architecture program at West Virginia University prepares students for entry-level interior design practice and meets the education requirement for National Council for Interior Design Qualifications (NCIDQ) certification ([https://www.cidq.org/paths/](https://www.cidq.org/paths/)). NCIDQ certification is the basic credential required by most states that license interior design/interior architecture professionals. In addition to an educational requirement, NCIDQ certification requires the completion of two years of professional practice as an interior designer and passing the NCIDQ examination.

The interior architecture program offers the Bachelor of Science (BS) degree and is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD).

Career Opportunities

Recent alumni of the program are employed by interior design and architecture firms and work in the hospitality, education, office, healthcare, and real estate development sectors, while others have pursued graduate degrees in fields including architecture, historic preservation and sustainability studies. Some have followed paths in design publishing, product sales, social media, and entrepreneurship, to name a few.

According to the United States Department of Labor ([Occupational Outlook Handbook](https://www.bls.gov/ooh/)), the 2021 median pay for interior designers was $60,340 per year.

Program Opportunities

In addition to study abroad and/or internships, students have opportunities to enroll in courses associated with Interior Architecture’s allied programs and faculty within the School of Design and Community Development. Courses in product design, sustainability, landscape architecture, and global economies are regularly offered, and a minor in Sustainable Design ([http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/minors/sustainable_design/](http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/minors/sustainable_design/)) is available. Other common minors include Landscape Studies ([http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/minors/landscape_studies/](http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/minors/landscape_studies/)), Entrepreneur ([http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/minors/entrepreneurship/](http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/minors/entrepreneurship/)), Event Planning ([http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/minors/eventplanning/](http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/minors/eventplanning/)), Marketing ([http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/minors/marketing/](http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/minors/marketing/)), and Strategic Social Media ([http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/minors/strategicsocialmedia/](http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/minors/strategicsocialmedia/)).

**ADMINISTRATION**

**PROGRAM COORDINATOR**

• Lee Mullett, Asst. Professor - M.S. Agr. Nat. Res. & Design
  lsmullett@mail.wvu.edu

**FACULTY**

**ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS**

• Lee Mullett - M.S. Agr. Nat. Res.& Design (WVU)
• Ron Dulaney, Jr. - M.Arch (Virginia Tech)

**ASSISTANT PROFESSORS**

• Stacey Bowers
• Nicole Kreider

**Admissions**

First-Time Freshman are admitted directly into the major.
Students transferring from another major within WVU are directly admitted into the major as a first year student if they are in good academic standing (2.0 or higher GPA), or with departmental approval.

Students transferring from another institution are directly admitted into the major as a first year student if they are in good academic standing (2.0 or higher GPA), or with departmental approval. Students who have design courses from other institutions and who wish to transfer directly into the second year must submit to the Interior Architecture program coordinator the following: complete transcript, syllabi of design courses, portfolio showing coursework from previous design courses, and completion of the Gateway Project. Admission into the second year is contingent upon available space and evaluation of the submitted materials.

The interior architecture program at WVU is a competitive access major with required sequential studio course offerings in interior architecture. Three (3) qualifying courses are offered during the first year of study. These are:

- ID 105 Introduction to Interior Architecture, 3 credit hours (Fall Semester)
- ID 115 Introduction to Architectural Design & Graphics, 4 credit hours (Fall Semester)
- ID 165 Architecture & Design Foundations, 4 credit hours (Spring Semester)

To continue in the major beyond the first year, students must successfully complete all three courses with a grade of C- or better. Additionally, in order to become eligible for selection to continue in the second year, a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.67 must be earned in the first-year qualifying courses.

If more than twenty students apply to move forward into the second year, only the top twenty students will be allowed to continue in the major. The top twenty students will be determined based upon:

- Cumulative GPA ranking in the first year qualifying courses
- Performance in the Gateway Project conducted at the end of the first year
- Overall GPA
- A Faculty Interview, if requested by the faculty (Fall Semester)

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS 2023-2024**

The Admission Requirements above will be the same for the 2023-2024 Academic Year.

Interior Architecture Major Code: 0733

Click here to view the Suggested Plan of Study (p. 3)

**General Education Foundations**

Please use this link to view a list of courses that meet each GEF requirement. (http://registrar.wvu.edu/gef/)

NOTE: Some major requirements will fulfill specific GEF requirements. Please see the curriculum requirements listed below for details on which GEFs you will need to select.

**General Education Foundations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>F1 - Composition &amp; Rhetoric</th>
<th>3-6</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 101</td>
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<td>&amp; ENGL 102</td>
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<td>or ENGL 103</td>
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<tr>
<td>Introduction to Composition and Rhetoric and Composition, Rhetoric, and Research Accelerated Academic Writing</td>
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</tbody>
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| F2A/F2B - Science & Technology | 4-6 |
| F3 - Math & Quantitative Reasoning | 3-4 |
| F4 - Society & Connections | 3 |
| F5 - Human Inquiry & the Past | 3 |
| F6 - The Arts & Creativity | 3 |
| F7 - Global Studies & Diversity | 3 |
| F8 - Focus (may be satisfied by completion of a minor, double major, or dual degree) | 9 |

Total Hours 31-37

Please note that not all of the GEF courses are offered at all campuses. Students should consult with their advisor or academic department regarding the GEF course offerings available at their campus.
Degree Requirements

University Requirements 31
Interior Architecture Major Requirements 89
Total Hours 120

University Requirements
General Education Foundations (GEF) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 (31-37 Credits)
Outstanding GEF Requirements 1, 2, 3, 5, and 8 18
ANRD 191 First-Year Seminar 1
General Electives 12
Total Hours 31

Interior Architecture Major Requirements
Minimum GPA of 2.67 in all ID major coursework is required
Minimum grade of C- in all ID major coursework is required
DSGN 340 Design for Energy Efficiency (GEF 2A) 3
WVUE 270 Effective Public Speaking (GEF 4) 3
ARHS 120 Survey of Art History 1 (GEF 6) 3
ARHS 160 Survey of Art History 2 (GEF 8) 3
Foreign Language (6 credits in the same language - GEF 7 & GEF 8) 6
ID 105 Introduction to Interior Architecture 3
ID 115S Introduction to Architectural Design and Graphics Studio 4
ID 165S Architecture and Design Foundations Studio 4
ID 205 Introduction to Architectural Building Technologies 3
ID 215S Architectural Interior Design and Graphics 1 Studio 6
ID 250 History of the Architectural Interior 1 3
ID 265S Architectural Interior Design and Graphics 2 Studio 6
ID 280 History of the Architectural Interior 2 3
ID 305 Architectural Interior Building Systems and Construction 3
ID 310 Interior Finishes, Furnishings, and Fixtures 3
ID 315S Advanced Architectural Interior Design 1 Studio 4
ID 316S Advanced Architectural Graphics 1 Studio 2
ID 335 Light & Color in Architectural Interiors 3
ID 365S Advanced Architectural Interior Design 2 Studio 4
ID 366S Advanced Architectural Graphics 2 Studio 2
ID 400 Interior Design Internship (120 work hours; OR 3 week Study Abroad Experience) 3
ID 415S Advanced Architectural Interior Design 3 Studio 6
ID 425 Professional Practices in Architectural Interior Design 3
ID 465S Advanced Architectural Interior Design 4 Studio 6
Total Hours 89

CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS
SUGGESTED PLAN OF STUDY

First Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ID 105</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ID 165S</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ID 115S</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>ARHS 160 (partially</td>
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<td>satisfies GEF 8)</td>
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<td>ARHS 120 (GEF 6)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ENGL 101 (GEF 1)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANRD 191</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>GEF</td>
<td>3</td>
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Major Learning Outcomes

INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE

Interior designers create architectural interiors that improve inhabitants’ quality of life and protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public. Upon graduation from the interior design program at WVU, students will be able to demonstrate entry-level professional competencies that include:

- applying the elements and principles of design to the analysis and development of architectural interiors;
- understanding relationships between architecture, architectural interiors, interior artifacts, and the human condition – through historical, theoretical, social, and scientific lenses;
- utilizing hand and computer drawing and modeling technologies, techniques and conventions in the study, visualization, and presentation of architectural interiors;
- selecting and integrating appropriate building materials and construction assemblies; building systems; finishes, furnishings & equipment (FFE); and codes during the design of architectural interiors;
- understanding professional and ethical responsibilities, opportunities, and constraints associated with interior design practices.

These competencies are introduced in both design studio and lecture courses and are developed and expanded incrementally along the curriculum. The holistic integration and synthesis of these competencies in the design of architectural interiors are centered in design studio courses which are rigorous laboratories and typically have a high number of contact/meeting hours in relation to credit hours.

Maintaining Good Standing

In order to remain in the program, interior architecture students are required to maintain at least a 2.67 GPA in ID courses. Students’ GPAs will be monitored each semester. Any student who has an ID GPA below 2.67 will be notified of the deficiency and will have one semester to raise their ID GPA to 2.67 or above. Students who do not raise their ID GPA to 2.67 or above after one semester may not be permitted to enroll again in interior architecture courses.
All interior architecture students are required to earn at least a C- in all ID courses.

All studio courses are to be taken sequentially. Any student who has earned a grade of D+ or lower in any of the interior architecture studio courses will be notified of the problem and will not be permitted to enroll in their next ID studio course until the course in which a D+ or lower was earned is repeated and completed with a grade of C- or higher. Interior design studio courses are: ID 115S, ID 165S, ID 215S, ID 265S, ID 315S, ID 365S, ID 415S, and ID 465S. Any student who earns a grade of D+ or lower in ID 465 must retake it and earn a C- or higher in order to graduate with a major in Interior Architecture.

Typically, only one section of each interior architecture course is offered annually. Therefore, repeating a studio course adds one year to the student's college career.

Computer Expectation Policy

All students are expected to have, upon the first day of the ID 115S course (typically in the fall of 1st year), a computer that meets the interior architecture program's hardware and software specifications. These specifications are updated annually for incoming 1st year students and published online by the end of May. Please consult this page (https://designcomm.wvu.edu/undergraduate/majors/interior-architecture/computer-requirements/) for a full copy of the current computer requirements.

Internships and Studying Abroad

Graduation from the interior architecture program requires 3 credits (ID 401) through an approved summer three-week study abroad through a WVU authorized program or 3 credits (ID 400) through an approved summer internship of at least 120 hours. These credits should be taken in the summer after the 3rd year.