What can you do with a major in Interiors?

Campus(s) program is offered: Mountain View Campus

What are the most likely job titles one can expect to qualify for after completing this program?

- Interior Designer
- Lighting Designer
- Antique Dealer
- Historic Preservationist
- Art Director
- Home Furnishings Coordinator
- Color Consultant
- Product Consultant
- Commercial Interior Designer
- Project Designer
- Contract designer
- Researcher
- Custom Designer
- Residential Designer
- Environmental Designer
- Sales Representative
- Exhibition Design
- Set Designer
- Fabric Designer
- Showroom Designer
- Space Designer
- Kitchen and Bath Designer
- Furniture Designer
- Specialty Designer
- In-store designer
- Writer, Design Magazine
- Junior/Assistant Designer

What do students express as the thing they enjoy the most about this program?

- Creating sample boards
- Drawing floor plans and ideas
- Learning about what happens “behind the scenes” in a project
- Discovering resources such as showrooms and innovative product companies

What is the least?

- Time commitment to be detailed and thorough
- Research technical requirements of building codes
- Paperwork to document material selections is lengthy and detailed
- Reading of historical information and current standards
- Math components in material quantity calculations and geometry of layouts

What are some typical misconceptions about this program of study?

- There is a lot more to it than picking colors and making it pretty
- This career is a combination of design creativity and technical applications

What are some essential skills and abilities a student needs to have in order to be successful in program of study?

- Creativity
- “Eye” for color and detail
- Problem-solving skills
- Strong interpersonal/communication skills
- Adept at using computers
- Astute business sense
What are typical skills and abilities that a student gains once he/she has completed the program of study?

- Technical drawing by hand and computer
- Understanding of construction for interior projects
- Coordination of responsibilities
- Business knowledge required
- Concept development using principles and elements of design

Typical work activities/occupational functions:

- Determine the client’s goals and requirements of the project
- Consider how the space will be used and how people will move through the space
- Sketch preliminary design plans
- Specify materials and furnishings, such as lighting, furniture, wall coverings, flooring, equipment, and artwork
- Prepare final plans using computer applications
- Create a timeline for the interior design project and estimate project costs
- Oversee installing the design elements
- Visit after the project to ensure that the client is satisfied
- Search for and bid on new projects

What additional training would you recommend for a student who wants to go to the next level in this field?

- Studies can be continued for the use of software such as AutoCAD, Revit, and Photoshop
- Certifications available include Kitchen and Bath Design, Environmental Sustainability (LEED), Aging in Place (CAPP)
- Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees are available

Do any of the occupational courses transfer easily?

- Articulation agreement currently in place with The Art Institute

What are some common limitations, if any, in this program that students face?

Time commitment and use of computers

Are there any exams/certifications that a student needs to take after completing the courses? Are these exams/certifications offered on campus?

NCIDQ certification is only available after the student completes coursework and gains substantial experience. None offered on campus.

Possible employment settings:

Many Interiors professionals are entrepreneurs or secure employment with industrial or commercial architectural and design firms, residential construction companies, or building supply companies. A variety of retail settings prove to be the right creative outlet for many employment seekers.

Names of potential employers:

Woodstock Outlet
Thomasville Furniture
Duralee Fabrics
Decorating Den
Independent designers
Home Depot

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