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Florence University of the Arts (FUA) is an academic institution for study abroad in Florence, Italy. FUA collaborates with The American University of Florence (AUF), an international university offering US-style undergraduate and graduate degrees, in a cooperation to offer study abroad programs with a diverse breadth and depth of academic curriculum.

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**SCHOOL OF IDEAS SCHOOL INTERIOR DESIGN, ENVIRONMENTAL ARCHITECTURE, AND SUSTAINABILITY**

**DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND VISUAL DESIGN**

**COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO INTERIOR DESIGN**

**COURSE CODE: IDIDID200**

**3 semester credits**

**1. DESCRIPTION**

This is an introductory course on the planning and furnishing of interiors. Students will be introduced to the basic vocabulary, skills /techniques, practices and context of interior design through the vehicle of a series of small abstract projects. The course introduces students to basic interior design principles, theory and conceptual processes. The emphasis is on creating small-scale environments based on the interaction of the individual with the environment. Human scale, movement, circulation and fundamental form making will be explored. Site trips are an integral part of the course curriculum. This class includes experiential learning with CEMI.

**2. OBJECTIVES**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- Be provided with the basic understanding of interior design theories and techniques
- Be provided with the basic knowledge of interior design both from the historical and practical point of view
- Handle basic drafting tools
- Identify different styles of historical and contemporary interior design
- Analyze and organize the complexity of an interior space
- Draw floor plans, vertical sections and elevations, with bi-dimensional techniques.
- Render spaces and objects both bi-dimensionally and three-dimensionally (perspectives).

**3. REQUIREMENTS**

There are no prerequisites for this course.

**4. METHOD**

This course consists of lectures, class discussions, projects. Mediums for instruction used will include, but are not limited to, interactive and hands-on activities which challenge thought processes, academic texts and studies, videos, slides, guided problem solving, and experiential and/or field learning activities where applicable.

**5. TEXTBOOK – FURTHER READINGS – RESOURCES**

TEXTBOOK (Copy available at the university library):

Susan j. Slotkis, *Foundation of Interior Design*, Fairchild Publications; (2012).

The textbook is mandatory for successful completion of the course.

Where applicable, additional materials, handouts and/or notes will be provided by the instructor.

**FURTHER READINGS**

Linda O'Shea, Chris Grimley, Mimi Love, *The Interior Design Reference & Specification Book: Everything Interior Designers Need to Know Every Day*, Rockport Publishers; (2013)

Francis D. K. Ching, Steven Juroszek, *Design Drawing*, Wiley; (2010)

David Adler, Metric Handbook, Planning and design data, Routledge; (2008)  
Keith Styles, Andrew Bichard, Working Drawings Handbook, Routledge; (2004)  
Maureen Mitton, Interior Design Visual Presentation, Wiley; (2003)  
Christina M. Scalise, Interior Design Illustrated: Marker and Watercolor Techniques, Fairchild Books; (2014)  
Ivo D. Drpic, Sketching and Rendering Interior Spaces, Watson-Guptill (1988)  
John Pile, A History of Interior Design, Wiley; (2009)  
Autodesk - Autocad handbook 2008-2009  
Rosemary Kilmer, W. Otie Kilmer, Construction Drawings and Details for Interiors: Basic Skills, John Wiley & Sons; (2009)

## **LIBRARIES IN FLORENCE**

Please consult the posted schedules for official opening times of the university library. Also note that the library is for consultation only and it is not possible to borrow materials. The library is equipped with a scanner and internet access so that you may save or email a digital copy of the pages needed. Students may also utilize additional libraries and research centers within the local community:

### **BIBLIOTECA PALAGIO DI PARTE GUELFA**

Located in Piazzetta di Parte Guelfa between Piazza della Repubblica and Ponte Vecchio. Please consult the library website for hours of operation:  
[http://www.biblioteche.comune.fi.it/biblioteca\\_palagio\\_di\\_parte\\_guelfa/](http://www.biblioteche.comune.fi.it/biblioteca_palagio_di_parte_guelfa/)

### **BIBLIOTECA DELLE OBLATE**

Located in via dell'Oriuolo 26. Please consult the library website for hours of operation:  
[www.bibliotecadelleoblate.it](http://www.bibliotecadelleoblate.it)

### **THE HAROLD ACTON LIBRARY AT THE BRITISH INSTITUTE OF FLORENCE**

Located in Lungarno Guicciardini 9. Please consult the library website for hours of operation. This library requires a fee-based student membership. For information: [www.britishinstitute.it/en](http://www.britishinstitute.it/en)

## **6. FIELD LEARNING**

Please consult your Official Registration for any mandatory field learning dates. Field Learning Activities cited in Official Registrations are an integral part of the course and also include an assignment that counts towards your final grade, details will be provided on the first day of class.

## **7. COURSE MATERIALS**

Some courses may require specific materials. Please refer to your enrollment information.

## **8. COURSE FEES**

Course fees cover course-related field learning activities, visits, and support the instructor's teaching methodologies. Book costs are not included in the course fee. The exact amount will be communicated by the instructor on the first day of class.

## **9. EVALUATION – GRADING SYSTEM**

Attendance: 15%

Participation: 15%

Assignments: 20%

Midterm Test and Midterm Exam Critique: 20%

Final Exam Critique: 30%

A = 93-100 %, A- = 90-92%, B+ = 87-89%, B = 83-86%, B- = 80-82%, C+ = 77-79%, C = 73-76%, C- = 70-72%, D = 60-69%, F = 0-59%, W = Official Withdrawal, W/F = Failure to withdraw by the designated date.

## **10. ATTENDANCE – PARTICIPATION**

Academic integrity and mutual respect between instructor and student are central to the academic policy and reflected in the attendance regulations. Student presence is mandatory and counts toward the final grade.

**Absences** are based on academic hours: 1 absence equals 3 lecture hours.

Two absences: 6 lecture hours, attendance and participation grade will be impacted.

Three absences: 9 lecture hours, the final grade may be lowered by one letter grade.

Four absences: 12 lecture hours, constitutes automatic failure of the course regardless of when absences are incurred.

Please note:

- The above hours refer to lecture hours. Please note that the contact / credit hour policy in the academic catalog includes additional distribution ratios according to delivery category. Ex: 1 absence equals 6 FL/SL/Lab hours or 9 EL hours.

- Hours may be distributed in different formats according to the academic course schedules.

#### LATE ARRIVAL AND EARLY DEPARTURE

Arriving late or departing early from class is not acceptable. Two late arrivals or early departures or a combination will result in an unexcused absence. Travel is not an exceptional circumstance.

#### TRAVEL (OR DELAYS DUE TO TRAVEL) IS NEVER AN EXCUSE FOR ABSENCE FROM CLASS.

It is the student's responsibility to know how many absences are incurred. If in doubt, speak with your instructor!

**Participation:** Satisfactory participation will be the result of contributing to class discussions by putting forth insightful and constructive questions, comments and observations. Overall effort, cooperation during group work, proper care of work space and tools, responsible behavior, and completion of assignments will be assessed. All of the above criteria also apply to Field Learning and site visits.

## 11. EXAMS – PAPERS – PROJECTS

The Midterm exam accounts for 20% of the final course grade. For exam time and date consult the course website. The time and date of the exam cannot be changed for any reason.

Format:

Section 1- The Midterm test which will count for 30% of the Midterm Exam.

Section 2 - Presentation of the Project which will count for 70% of the Midterm Exam.

Presentation of the assigned project, individual critique and discussion.

The Final exam accounts for 30% of the final course grade. For exam time and date consult the course website. The time and date of the exam cannot be changed for any reason. Format:

Presentation of the assigned project and individual critique.

Presentation and exposition will count 10%

Project correspondence to the requests 10%

Graphic, technique and style quality of the project 10%

## 12. LESSONS

Lesson 1	
Meet	In class
Lecture	Course program introduction, books, tools and materials. Introduction to the technical drawing and orthographic (multi view) projections. Scales of measurements and proportions.

	Practice 1 - Orthographic projections of a 2-d geometric figure (rectangle) Practice 2 - Orthographic projections of a 3-d geometric figure (polyhedron)
<b>Objectives</b>	Learn technical drawing
<b>Readings/ Assignments</b>	1. Orthographic projections of a chair, scale 1:5 with assigned measures. 2. Orthographic projections of a table, scale 1:10 with assigned measures. Foundation of Interior Design Chapter 1

<b>Lesson 2</b>	
<b>Meet</b>	In class
<b>Lecture</b>	History of Interior Design The axonometric projections. Transformation of a 2-d representation in a 3-d view. Practice 3 - Isometric projection of a volume (polyhedron), Practice 4 - Isometric projection of a simple object (armchair) Practice 5 – Isometric projection of a simple object (table)
<b>Objectives</b>	A general overview on history of Interior Design. Learn technical drawing.
<b>Readings/ Assignments</b>	1. Isometric projection of a chair, scale 1:5 with the assigned measures. 2. Isometric projection of a table, scale 1:10 with the assigned measures Foundation of Interior Design Chapter 6

<b>Lesson 3</b>	
<b>Meet</b>	In class
<b>Lecture</b>	Principles of Interior Design How to make a survey and the transferring of the data in a drawing. Tools and methods. Standard measurements for inner spaces and furniture. Practice 6 – Survey of an existing space and measures transferring on orthographic projections, scale 1:20.
<b>Objectives</b>	Be aware of the professional aspects of Interior Design. Learn how to make a survey of an existing space and correctly transfer information on paper.
<b>Readings/ Assignments</b>	Survey – Plan and elevations. Completion of work started in class. Foundation of Interior Design Chapter 3

<b>Lesson 4</b>	
<b>Meet</b>	In class
<b>Lecture</b>	Presentation of the project: a flat-apartment for four people. Power point presentation with examples of apartments in different styles. Illustration of the requisites.

	Practice 7 - Draft of the apartment
<b>Objectives</b>	Case studies and analysis. Functional organization of an apartment.
<b>Readings/ Assignments</b>	Layout of the apartment, plan, and elevations in scale 1:20 Foundation of Interior Design Chapter 5

<b>Lesson 5</b>	
<b>Meet</b>	In class
<b>Lecture</b>	Workshop 1. Materials in Interiors Design.  The bathroom, presentation of different styles and models, the project of a bathroom in plan and elevation with dimensions.
<b>Objectives</b>	Work on the project focusing on the bathroom.
<b>Readings/ Assignments</b>	Project of the apartment, refining drawing of the kitchen and the bathroom, plan and elevations in scale 1:20.  Foundation of Interior Design Chapter 9

<b>Lesson 6</b>	
<b>Meet</b>	In class
<b>Lecture</b>	Workshop 2. Materials in Interiors Design.  The kitchen, presentation of styles and different models, the project of a kitchen in plan and elevation with dimensions.  Practice 8 - Draft of the apartment, individual overview.
<b>Objectives</b>	Work on the project focusing on the kitchen.
<b>Readings/ Assignments</b>	Project of the apartment, refining drawing of the kitchen and the bathroom, plan and elevations in scale 1:20.  Project concepts and style description.

<b>Lesson 7</b>	
<b>Meet</b>	In class
<b>Lecture</b>	MIDTERM EXAM

<b>Lesson 8</b>	
<b>NA</b>	ACADEMIC BREAK

<b>Lesson 9</b>	
<b>Meet</b>	In class
<b>Lecture</b>	Workshop 3. Materials in Interior Design.  The bedroom, presentation of styles and different models, the project of a bedroom in plan and elevation with dimensions.

	Practice 9 - Draft of the apartment.
<b>Objectives</b>	Work on the project focusing on the bedroom.
<b>Readings/ Assignments</b>	Project of the apartment, refining drawing of the bedroom, plan and the elevations in scale 1:20.

<b>Lesson 10</b>	
<b>Meet</b>	In class
<b>Lecture</b>	Workshop 4. Materials in Interior Design.  The living room, presentation of styles and different models, the project of a living area in plan and elevation with dimensions.  Practice 10 - Draft of the apartment
<b>Objectives</b>	Work on the project focusing on the living room/dining room.
<b>Readings/ Assignments</b>	Project of the apartment, refining drawing of the living room, plan and the elevations in scale 1:20.

<b>Lesson 11</b>	
<b>Meet</b>	In class
<b>Lecture</b>	Workshop 5. Elements of Lighting Design
<b>Objectives</b>	Work on the project focusing on lighting systems and lighting design.
<b>Readings/ Assignments</b>	Research lighting systems, materials and furniture for the apartment.

<b>Lesson 12</b>	
<b>Meet</b>	In class
<b>Lecture</b>	Perspective drawing – one vanishing point.  Practice 11 - one vanishing point perspective view of a chair/sofa  Practice 12 - one vanishing point perspective view of a table  Practice 13 - one vanishing point perspective view of a room
<b>Objectives</b>	Learn technical drawing and renderings.
<b>Readings/ Assignments</b>	Perspective views of the apartments, living room, bedroom.

<b>Lesson 13</b>	
<b>Meet</b>	In class
<b>Lecture</b>	Perspective drawing – two vanishing points  Practice 14 – two vanishing point perspective of a chair/sofa/table in a room.
<b>Objectives</b>	Learn technical drawing and renderings.
<b>Readings/ Assignments</b>	Perspective views of the apartments: living room, bedroom.

<b>Lesson 14</b>	
<b>Meet</b>	In class

<b>Lecture</b>	Working on drawings for final work.  Continuing the design of the apartment for the final project, elevation, section, free hand sketches, color palette, materials and project references.
<b>Objectives</b>	General overview on the ongoing projects. Individual meetings.
<b>Readings/ Assignments</b>	work on drawings for the final project.  Project concepts and style description.  Foundation of Interior Design Chapter 14

<b>Lesson 15</b>	
<b>Meet</b>	In class
<b>Lecture</b>	FINAL EXAM