

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	BA (Hons) Interior Architecture and Design
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 6
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	None
Credit Structure ²	360 Credits Level 4: 120 Credits Level 5: 120 Credits Level 6: 120 Credits
Mode of Attendance	Full-time and Part-time
Standard Length of Course ³	3 years full-time
Intended Award	BA (Hons) Interior Architecture and Design
Named Exit Awards	None
Entry Requirements ⁴	Typical Offer: 112 UCAS tariff points (or equivalent) Subject to interview and portfolio review
Delivering Institution	University of Suffolk
UCAS Code	W261 BA/IDes

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the BA (Hons) Interior Architecture and Design course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2018-19 academic year⁵.

Course Summary

The BA (Hons) Interior Architecture and Design course offers a wide spectrum multi-disciplinary contemporary approach to the design of interior spaces. It provides an appropriate learning environment in which architectural culture and values, together with contemporary art and design methodologies, merge together. The project-based work offers creative challenges and encourages strategies for re-defining design outcomes, facilitating growing awareness, confidence and ability to develop and resolve aesthetically intriguing, innovative and sustainable design solutions. The theoretical modules integrate and support the practical project activities in enabling reflective and critical practice. The final year promotes independence and responsibility for individually negotiated design projects, towards the development of a rich portfolio of work.

¹ For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

² All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the [Higher education credit framework for England](#).

³ Where the course is delivered both full-time and part-time, the standard length of course is provided for the full-time mode of attendance only. The length of the part-time course is variable and dependent upon the intensity of study. Further information about mode of study and maximum registration periods can be found in the [Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards](#).

⁴ Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the [Admissions Policy](#)

⁵ The University reserves the right to make changes to course content, structure, teaching and assessment as outlined in the [Admissions Policy](#).

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Course Aims

As general aims, the BA (Hons) Interior Architecture and Design course will:

- educate the future interior architectural designers of our contemporary world needs as responsible with regards to space and place making, at the same time encouraging consciousness of the cultural and critical contexts that surround creation
- be interdisciplinary, adaptive, responsive and flexible responding to the rapid changes of the built environment and its production, encouraging positive changes for the future
- consider the students' memories, perceptions and projections as to be expressed in work, allowing an experimental approach to learning by making as an empirical pedagogical journey from the simple to the complex
- develop the students' critical and research skills through consideration of analytical frameworks and the development of investigative and reflective practices
- develop the students' practical, technical and expressive design skills in order to enable them to create innovative and challenging work
- integrate and develop key skills, including personal and social skills, both explicitly and implicitly embedding professional development (PDP) across modules
- prepare students to become self-managed professionals capable of fulfilling employment expectations or undertaking further studies

More specifically the BA (Hons) Interior Architecture and Design course will:

- provide holistic knowledge that considers design outputs as elements of integration and intervention, involving reflection and critical analysis and encouraging innovation
- emphasise on practice enhanced through theoretical underpinning and vice versa stimulating creative relevance as a criterion in the setting and assessment of assignments
- encourage historical, theoretical and critical knowledge and understanding, result of reflection and evaluation, of the relevant psychological and sociological implications that inform and challenge the making and perception of interior architecture and design
- facilitate training and specialised knowledge on advanced production processes at the industry standards, skillsets related to presentation and representation in 2D and 3D
- provide an understanding of technological and environmental practices that promotes sustainability, technological innovation and advanced architectural production

Supporting the above aims, the course is designed to employ students with the relevant knowledge, understanding and practical skills empowering them to become competent and industrious professionals.

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Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the BA (Hons) Interior Architecture and Design course will have been judged to have demonstrated in order to achieve the award. These statements, known as learning outcomes, have been formally approved as aligned with the generic qualification descriptor for level 6 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)⁶.

Analysis

1. knowledge and understanding to form critical judgments about the spatial, aesthetic, technical, social, economical and historical qualities of a design within the context of a wider cultural environment;
2. ability to revise, assess and critically reflect upon the progressive production of practical output and own arguments using precedents and advanced research methods;
3. ability to understand and critically evaluate issues of contextual nature as well as the related arts practices, technologies, philosophies and human sciences that relate to architecture and design, reflecting upon associate theoretical ideas to own design work as well as the work of others;

Performance

4. ability to work both collaboratively and autonomously within an interdisciplinary environment;
5. ability to demonstrate development and currency of practice formulating responses to a broad constituency of interests;
6. knowledge and understanding to respond creatively yet systematically to the social and ethical concerns of the subject;

Creativity

7. ability to conceptualise, investigate and develop the design of architectural spaces within a specific site and context;
8. knowledge and understanding to create and deliver interior architectural design solutions that integrate social, conceptual and technical requirements;
9. ability to research, formulate and respond to programmes or briefs that are appropriate to specific contexts and circumstances;

Application

10. ability and skills to create investigative as well as definitive, digital and physical, models that demonstrate and test the design intentions;
11. knowledge and understanding of the integrative relationship of structural systems, materials and environments in architectural designs;
12. knowledge, understanding and ability to exercise informed and reflective judgment in the development of sustainable design, considering the reciprocity of climates, services and energy supply;

⁶ As set out in the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

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Communication

13. understanding and ability to present and represent the geometrical parameters of space using a range of advanced methodologies in order to communicate ideas producing refined outputs in 2D and 3D;
14. knowledge and skills to use a range of visual and text-based methodologies as well as design-based software and multimedia applications to express ideas and creatively present concepts and design solutions;
15. ability to engage in critique and debate around complex issues of the discipline, using advanced vocabulary and terminology, appropriated to audiences and situations.

Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by the following QAA Benchmarks and Professional Standards:

QAA Subject Benchmarks:

- Architecture, 2010 (referring to ARB and RIBA)
- Art and Design, 2008

Professional Standards:

- CSD Genetic Matrix™

Course Structure

The BA (Hons) Interior Architecture and Design comprises modules at levels 4, 5 and 6.

Module Specifications for each of these modules are included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

	Module	Credits	Module Type ⁷
Level 4			
	Reading Context	20	M
	Design Studio 1	60	M
	Visual Communication: Language of Design	40	M
Level 5			
	Critical Perspectives	20	M
	Design Studio 2	60	M
	Design Technology	20	M
	CAD and Digital Imaging	20	M
Level 6			
	Debates on Contemporary Practice	20	M
	Design Studio 3	60	M
	Research and Identity	40	M

⁷ Modules are designated as either mandatory (M), requisite (R) or optional (O). For definitions, see the [Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards](#)

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Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a BA (Hons) Interior Architecture and Design.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at Ipswich. Students studying full-time on BA (Hons) Interior Architecture and Design are likely to have approximately 15 contact hours in an average week. The contact hours will be a mix of studio practice, lecture, seminars, and task-based activities. Students will normally be expected to undertake 22.5 hours of independent study in an average week, but should be prepared for this to vary based on assignment deadlines and class exercises.

Course Assessment

A variety of assessments will be used on the course to enable students to experience and adapt to different assessment styles. The assessment methods used will be appropriate to assess each module's intended learning outcomes. All assessment on the course will be based on coursework including design projects, essays, presentations, group work, reflective journals, research projects, timed presentations and discussion (of coursework).

Course Team

The academic staff delivering this course are drawn from a team that includes teaching specialists and current practitioners. All staff are qualified in their subjects with their own specialist knowledge to contribute.

Course Costs

Students undertaking BA (Hons) Interior Architecture and Design will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK/EU	£9,250 per year
Part-time UK/EU	£1,454 per 20 credit module
Full-time International	£13,000 per year
Part-time International	£2,165 per 20 credit module

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the Tuition Fee Policy.

Students are likely to incur other costs for specialised materials, optional field trips, and exhibitions.

- Students will need to provide themselves with a basic equipment kit. Details will be provided before the start of the course. Estimated cost £200-£250 per year.
- National and International student trips. Where trips are part of the curriculum there will be a contribution to the costs by the students. Where the trip is providing engagement with extra-curricular activities or contributes to the student experience, an estimated cost of £300-£500 (including subsistence, for EU destinations) is covered solely by the student. Costs depend on destination and cohort numbers.
- Consumables for the production of physical models. Estimated cost depends on materials, scale of work and method of production.

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- Publication charges for illustrated volumes.
- Essential IT/AV equipment is available on campus, yet students may wish to purchase their own laptop and camera. Costs depend on brand and specifications.
- Preparation of End of Year Show (mandatory), and IE Free Range exhibition participation (optional). The incurring costs vary depending on scale and nature of the design output and shall include event registration (for IE Free Range £125), transportation to venue, accommodation, and materialisation of artefacts (estimated £250-£500).

Academic Framework and Regulations

This course is delivered according to the Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards and other academic policies and procedures of the University and published on the [website](#).