

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	BA (Hons) Applied Interior 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
Standard Length of Course ³	3 years full-time
Intended Award	BA (Hons) Applied Interior Design
Named Exit Awards	None
Entry Requirements ⁴	Typical offer: 112 UCAS tariff points (or above), BBC (A-Level), DMM (BTEC)
Delivering Institution(s)	University of Suffolk at West Suffolk College
UCAS Code	D123

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the BA (Hons) Applied Interior Design course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2017-18 academic year.⁵

Course Summary

BA (Hons) Applied Interior Design is aimed at students wishing to pursue a vocational career in Interior Design, covering the underpinning theories of design and their application to a wide range of design scenarios. Emphasis will also be placed on practical decoration and material applications; the professional creation of client requirements from initial drawings, a critical understanding of materials and products, client care and business entrepreneurship. What makes our course stand apart from others is its focus on Interior Design and refurbishment, with continual live briefs to prepare the student for complete awareness of the skills required in industry. Students' will have access to professionally equipped resources and materials to develop skills and knowledge. The aim is to develop an understanding of the whole process and the ability to project-manage a job from start to finish, or find a specific skill within the industry to pursue. This will be achieved by helping students maximise their design creativity and practical skills in specific finishing fields such as decorative applications, lighting, textiles, furniture, historical influences and CGI drawings, together with an understanding of client and sector needs. Lecturing staff have links with

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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industry and are practicing designers with current and relevant experience of topical issues and trends. Graduates should leave with a strong sense of what is possible in the field of interior design, understanding the importance of a professional approach to working with clients and related professional practitioners in architecture, construction, building services and computer aided design, opening the door to many career possibilities within this exciting field of interior design.

Course Aims

- Produce a portfolio of interior design work in response to challenging briefs and use research to develop appropriate outcomes
- Be entrepreneurial and resourceful in the support of their work
- Understand and consider ethical environmental issues in their approach to interior design
- Understand business and commercial issues related to the built environment sector in general and interior design in particular
- Develop a critical and contextual appreciation of interior design
- Use a variety of materials, techniques and processes to realise a variety of interior design and related entrepreneurial outcomes
- Develop time management strategies in order to manage their own time and workload from research through to final outcome and presentation of work
- Understand and apply the design process to develop ideas through to final outcome
- Develop a high level of interpersonal and collaborative skills
- Understand the value of and apply the use of critical awareness in the review and evaluation of their own work and the work of others
- Use various and appropriate IT in their work to a professional standard
- Confidently present and articulate ideas in a variety of forms to a range of audience
- Fully prepare students for progression either within the industry or for post graduate studies

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the BA (Hons) Applied Interior 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

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

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Knowledge and Understanding

1. Understand the broad critical dimensions of interior design and decoration as a discipline and professional practice
2. In-depth knowledge, powers of analysis and comparison of boundaries of interior design and the related disciplines of architectural technology and building services engineering
3. Knowledge and understanding of particular aspects of current research methodology and creative thinking in Applied Interior Design

Subject specific skills

4. In depth understanding of the influence of theory underpinning practice
5. Demonstrate the ability to critically analyse and evaluate
6. Demonstrate original, innovative and imaginative responses
7. Evidence innovative, creative skills and exercise judgement in the analysis of research in providing solutions to interior design projects
8. Construct and present a “signature” interior design portfolio to professional standards

Cognitive Processes

9. Evidence independent learning techniques based on theoretical texts
10. Demonstrate comprehensive proficiency in observation, investigation, enquiry, visualisation and fabrication
11. Realise fully developed design ideas via personally identified projects
12. Understand abstract concepts and theoretical design ideas and apply them critically to creative problem-solving

Generic Skills

13. Attend to, reproduce accurately, reflect on and interact with the ideas and arguments of others
14. Work collaboratively as a member of a team or group in a way which allows each individual's talents to be utilised effectively
15. Show independence in thought, and critical self-awareness about one's own outlook, commitments and prejudices
16. Undertake independent or self-directed study or learning (including time management) and reflect on one's strengths and weaknesses as a learner
17. Communicate ideas and research findings by written, oral and visual means

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Course Design

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

QAA Benchmarks:

- Art and Design (2008)
- Business and Management (2007)

Professional Standards:

- British Institute of Interior Design (BIID) Professional Pathway for accredited membership
- BIID Code of Conduct for accredited interior designers (2015)

Course Structure

The BA (Hons) Applied Interior 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			
	Drawing and Design Principles "Space and Place"	20	R
	Design Methods and Visualisation	20	R
	Aesthetics, Function and Emotional Value	20	R
	Specialist Decorative Effects: Wall Coverings, Paint Finishes and Surface Identification	20	R
	Historical Trending and Influences	20	R
	Introduction to Computer Generated Imaging	20	R
Level 5			
	Professional Communication	20	R
	Furniture, Lighting and Textile Applications in Context	20	R
	Lens-Based Media and Interior Design	20	R
	Ethics and Sustainability in Interior Design	20	R
	Small Project Management	20	R
	Research Methods for Interior Design	20	M
Level 6			
	Advanced Computer Generated Imagery	20	R
	Commercial Collaboration	20	R
	Signature Project	40	R
	Dissertation	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) Applied Interior Design.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at the University of Suffolk at West Suffolk College. Students studying full-time on BA (Hons) Applied Interior Design are likely to have approximately 12 contact hours per week at levels 4 and 5 and less at level 6 where the students are expected to engage in more independent study towards their dissertation. The contact hours will be a mix of lectures and practicals. Students will normally be expected to undertake 12-15 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. Assessment on the course overall will be approximately 35% coursework (including essays and reports) and 65% practical assessments (including studio work, 'live' projects, practical work, presentations and written and oral reports).

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) Applied Interior 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	Not applicable
Full-time International	£11,580 per year
Part-time International	Not applicable

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the University Tuition Fee Policy. Students will be required to pay additional costs for trips, visiting exhibitions payable at a later date. There may also be an optional overseas trip arranged.

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](#).