INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE

College of Arts and Sciences

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https://iarc.uncg.edu

Ana Marshall-Baker, Chair of Department
Maruja Torres, Director of Graduate Study
Stoel Burrowes, Director of Undergraduate Studies

About
We have elected to call our department “Interior Architecture” as a statement of our belief that design education is a holistic and multidisciplinary activity. We believe that learning to be a designer is a complex and rigorous task, requiring devotion and passion.

We share with interior design a fundamental interest in human and environmental relationships. Yet because these relationships are affected by objects as well as the architectural context, we also study the design of building forms and systems and provide facilities, tools, and equipment for students to build what they design - an approach to design education that is more typical of schools of design or architecture. Thus in our department we address Interior Architecture as a broad based discipline, both informing and defined by the arts of the built environment – product design, architecture, historic preservation, and engineering; connected to the allied disciplines of interior design, art, theater, dance, film making, graphic design, fashion design, industrial design, and the design of materials; and interwoven with the human experience expressed in psychology, sociology, anthropology, philosophy, history, and religion. The focus on the design and development of interior space depends upon knowledge of materials, finishes, furnishings, manufactured objects and products, buildings, context, human behavior, and human development. Instruction in these areas converges with general education requirements at UNC Greensboro to reinforce and expand the multidisciplinary nature of design.

Mission Statement
Students and faculty engage in regional, national, and international design discourses, practices, and processes to unite interior spaces with enclosing architecture and the objects contained within them.

Undergraduate
The Interior Architecture program is structured around a continuing sequence of studio courses that help the student develop a deepening mastery of the processes of designing architectural interiors.

The first year presents small-scale problems that take the student through the total design process, from problem identification to graphic communication of the solution. Methods of making and craft are emphasized.

Second-year design studios focus on the development of scale and proportioning systems within the context of interior spaces. Communication skills are stressed.

Third- and fourth-year studio courses deal with typical interior environments, with emphasis on institutional and commercial interiors, but also including residential design, historic restoration, adaptive reuse, and interior product design. Attention is also directed toward the environmental needs of special populations.

The major requirement in IARC Experience courses (9 credits) offers opportunities for educational experiences beyond the classroom in the form of study abroad, field study, practicum, design thesis, concentrated electives, or a second internship.

The Interior Architecture Internship provides opportunities for experiential learning in design practice through private design firms, government agencies, or health care facilities.

Accreditation
The Interior Architecture program is accredited by the Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA).

Departmental Admission
Enrollment in the Interior Architecture program is limited. Students are admitted on evidence of scholastic and design potential, motivation, and self-direction. A personal interview or group orientation during a scheduled Open House is required. Students may not enroll in interior architecture courses without formal admission to the Interior Architecture program or written permission of the instructor.

Transfer students applying for advanced studio placement must present a portfolio and transcript evidence of relevant achievement through prior coursework or experiences.

Interior Architecture Learning Community
The integrated curriculum and work environment of IARC is recognized by UNC Greensboro as a university learning community, affording IARC students opportunities to enhance their experiences through prioritized class registration, access to the New York Times learning partnership, and subsidized field trips during their first year.

Curriculum Policies
The policies of the Undergraduate Program were developed with the best interests of the students in mind. Minimum requirements for overall and studio performance ensure that students understand the rigor of design, and by doing well in an academic setting, will be prepared to enter a competitive work force. Students who fall below these standards in the protected environment of an academic setting where faculty members are invested in each student’s success are not likely to do well in competitive professional practice.

• Students are expected to maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA overall, a minimum 2.0 GPA in the IARC major, and a minimum 2.0 in their studio courses.

• Students with less than a 2.0 GPA overall, in the IARC major, or in any studio course, will be informed in writing by the Department Chair that a probationary period has begun. Students must raise their GPA and/ or studio grades to the required 2.0 during the successive semester. Those who do not will be suspended from active status as an Interior Architecture major for a period of one year.

• Students earning a D+, D, D-, or F in a studio course (See list to follow this section.) will be required to repeat the course.

• Students on probation twice within a four semester studio sequence will be suspended from active status as an Interior Architecture major for a period of one year. Students in this situation who are enrolled in 4th- and 5th-year courses will meet with the Department Chair to discuss their future in the department.
Students who have been suspended for a year may then petition the department in writing to enroll in Interior Architecture courses. The Department Chair will determine the conditions of re-enrollment such as completing particular course requirements, and inform the student in writing of the departmental decision. To appeal a decision regarding probation or suspension, students may submit a letter to the Department Chair explaining the current situation and the reason for the appeal. After consultation with the IARc Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, the Department Chair will write to the student regarding his/her future in the department.

Students in Interior Architecture are required to complete all course requirements before advancing to a successive studio course, unless granted an exception in writing by the Department Chair. Students who receive an Incomplete, for example, in a studio course must complete that course no later than the Friday of the first week of classes of the successive studio. The Department of Interior Architecture recognizes that university policy allows a 6 month period to finish an Incomplete course; however, due to the sequential nature of studio courses, students must satisfy the course requirements of each studio before advancing to the next level. Students who do not complete the course requirements from a previous studio within the first week of classes will be dropped from the studio course in which they are enrolled.

Students are expected to complete their work in accordance with the Academic Integrity Policy at UNC Greensboro. The latest version is on the Dean of Students website.

Because many learning experiences occur beyond the classroom, the Department of Interior Architecture has an active Speaker Series and often has guests in the department. These events and end of the semester critiques are part of the educational experience, and students are expected to attend. If an absence is necessary, students must inform the faculty member teaching their studio course of the planned absence prior to the event.

Students who receive an Incomplete, for example, in a studio course must complete that course no later than the Friday of the first week of classes of the successive studio. The Department of Interior Architecture recognizes that university policy allows a 6 month period to finish an Incomplete course; however, due to the sequential nature of studio courses, students must satisfy the course requirements of each studio before advancing to the next level. Students who do not complete the course requirements from a previous studio within the first week of classes will be dropped from the studio course in which they are enrolled.

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### Studio Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IAR 101</td>
<td>Environmental Design I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IAR 102</td>
<td>Environmental Design II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IAR 201</td>
<td>Basic Environmental Design III</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IAR 202</td>
<td>Basic Environmental Design IV</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IAR 301</td>
<td>Interior Architecture I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IAR 302</td>
<td>Interior Architecture II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IAR 411</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IAR 412</td>
<td>Interior Architecture IV</td>
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</tbody>
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### International Study Opportunities

The international context is a vital element of the educational experience for Interior Architecture students. Qualified third- and fourth-year students are encouraged to take advantage of study abroad opportunities in a variety of locations around the world including Australia, Europe, Asia, Central and South America, and Africa. International travel grants are available for participating students through the International Programs Center. Most programs are exchange-based, meaning tuition and fees for study abroad are the same of those at UNC Greensboro. Studying abroad, whether one or two semesters, does not extend the student’s graduation date.

### Graduate

The Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) in Interior Architecture offers students a venue for advanced investigations of the built environment in close collaboration with faculty mentors. Students pursuing an M.F.A. in Interior Architecture develop their own intellectual interests in design while preparing for careers in teaching, research, or specialized practice.

The program offers distinctly strong student-faculty relationships, where students work closely with faculty members to gain expertise. The Department of Interior Architecture supports a broad range of student interests reflecting IARc’s values of promoting sustainable design for social, psychological, and ecological well-being. The department offers particular strengths in historic preservation, interior product design, community-engaged design, and human-environment relationships.

In the M.F.A. graduate studios, students will demonstrate their competency to gather, evaluate, and apply appropriate information and evidence to solve the problem. Their design investigations will demonstrate creative thinking and originality through presentation of a variety of ideas, approaches, and concepts. Students will apply a variety of communication techniques and technologies to their projects and communicate their designs through competent drawings and models across a range of appropriate media.

The M.F.A. requires 60 credit hours and is a post-professional degree program. Through coursework, studios, and thesis development, students will undertake advanced research investigations on topics related to architectural interiors. These investigations must align with faculty interests and connect theory with application. By the time students finish their graduate studies, they will have developed expertise on a relevant topic of interest and demonstrated that expertise through a public defense of their written theses and public exhibit of their design work.

**Professor**

Jo R Leimenstoll

Anna Marshall-Baker

**Associate Professor**

Travis L Hicks

**Visiting Associate Professor**

Maruja Torres

**Assistant Professor**

Amanda Jane Gale

Asha Kutty

E Stephen Skorski

**Visiting Assistant Professor**

Sabrina Frey

**Lecturer**

Tommy Lambeth

Sebastian J. Lindquist

Majedeh Modarres Nezhad

**Senior Academic Professional**

Stoel Burrowes

**Academic Professional**

Felicia F Dean
Graduate-level faculty

- Interior Architecture Undergraduate Minor (https://catalog.uncg.edu/arts-sciences/interior-architecture/interior-architecture-minor)
- Interior Architecture, M.F.A. (https://catalog.uncg.edu/arts-sciences/interior-architecture/interior-architecture-mfa)
- Historic Preservation, Post-Baccalaureate Certificate (https://catalog.uncg.edu/arts-sciences/interior-architecture/history-preservation-pbc)

Interior Architecture Disciplinary Honors

Contact the departmental office. See also Honors Programs (https://catalog.uncg.edu/honors).