

Interior Design Philosophy

design:

The interior design curriculum is centered around a progressive 6-studio sequence. The teaching of process and a design ethos is at the heart of the program. The studio is the place of integration for all the components of the curriculum.

liberal arts:

Interior design at JMU is studied within the context of a liberal arts university. Students are exposed to a rich diversity of art making practices, other design disciplines, historical precedents, literature and philosophy, and world cultures in order to develop crucial skills in analytical thinking and humanistic understanding. Interdisciplinary collaborations and studying abroad are encouraged.

social responsibility:

JMU's interior design program is committed to the social aspects of contemporary design, including barrier free interiors, designing for under-privileged communities, projects that question ethical and political assumptions, and sustainability.

technology:

Our students are empowered with the technological understanding to realize their design aspirations. State of the art fabrication techniques, CAD and digital representation, lighting, building information modeling, environmental technologies, and material detailing are integrated throughout the curriculum.

profession:

JMU interior design students are valued and recruited in the interior design profession. The program emphasizes its links with the profession through a vigorous commitment to outside design critics, mandatory student internships, visiting professors in the practice, student chapters of ASID and IIDA, and real-world clients & studio projects. The program is fully accredited by the Council for Interior Design Accreditation and graduates are encouraged to take the National Council for Interior Design Qualification exam.

holistic education:

The study of interior design at JMU is a holistic learning experience. Technical capabilities are given purpose through humanistic learning. Social engagement is translated into versatile design thinking. Professional competencies are expressed through both practical and poetic forms. We are committed to educating students to lead productive and meaningful lives.