

## DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN

Course Code	Course Name	Year/Semester	Theory	Practice	Credits	ECTS
IAED 3301	HUMAN FACTORS IN INTERIOR SPACE	2025-2026 / FALL	2	0	2	2

**Level of Course:** Undergraduate

**Course Type:** Core Course

**Language of Instruction:** English

**Course time:** Thursday 10:00-12:00

**Course Classroom:** BB-36

**Mode of Delivery:** Class Teaching, Presentation, Assignments

**Prerequisites and Co-requisites:** N/A

**Course Coordinator:** Asst. Prof. Dr. Yaren ŞEKERCİ

**Course Teaching Assistant:**

**Course Objectives:** This course will use a case study approach to human factors problem analysis in domains of interior space. The course mainly focuses on the interactions between human and design and, the environment that surrounds people.

**Course Description:** This course refers to systems thinking, biophilia, social interactions, cognition and perception, inclusivity, diverse populations, and contextualizing human experience and behavior in environments.

This could include natural, built, virtual, and/or technological environments. Technological environments could include smart homes and interior environments; awareness of and response to technology; and the way in which users interface with various platforms. Human experience could include wellbeing, behavior, and performance. Wellbeing could include physical and emotional wellbeing and physical and psychological security.

Examples could include both qualitative and quantitative data, such as precedent studies, case studies, surveys, observations, peer-reviewed literature, and focus groups.

Universal design refers broadly to “the design of products and environments to be useable by all people to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design.” Quote attributed to Ron Mace, excerpted from North Carolina State University Center for Universal Design website. Inclusive design refers broadly to current social-political issues related to inclusion and considers the full range of human diversity with respect to ability, language, culture, gender, age, and other forms of human difference. Design for inclusion includes a range of solutions in the built environment versus one design solution that accommodates multiple users. Examples could include gender neutral restrooms, non-

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gendered iconography and signage, cultural appropriation, etc.

**Learning  
Outcomes:**

**Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:**

1. Understanding theories related to the impact of the built environment on human experience, behavior, and performance.
2. Understanding the relationship between natural and built environments and their impact on human experience, comfort, behavior, and performance.
3. Understanding the acquisition of human-centered knowledge.
4. Understanding the application of wayfinding techniques in interior design solutions.
5. Understanding the selection of products and materials based on ergonomic characteristics and performance criteria.
6. Understanding industry-specific regulations related to ergonomic standards.
7. Understanding regulations and guidelines related to universal access and accessibility.

**Language:** Lectures presentation will be in English. Assignments and class practical exercises also will discuss in English. Students will be aware of the terminology of lighting design as well as their daily skills.

**Recommended Text  
Books:**

- Environmental Psychology: Principles and Practices, Robert Gifford, 2002, 3rd, Optimal
- Recommended - Reading: Creating Architectural Theory: The role of Behavioral sciences in environmental design, J. Lang, 1987, Van Nostrand Reinhold
- Recommended - Textbook: An Introduction to Environmental Psychology, W.H. Ittelson, H.M. Proshansky, L. R. Rivlin, G.H. Winkel, 1974, Holt, Rinehart & Winston
- Caan, S. (2011). *Rethinking design and interiors: Human beings in the built environment*. Hachette UK.
- Donald, I. (2022). *Environmental and architectural psychology: the basics*. Routledge.
- Robinson, S., & Pallasmaa, J. (Eds.). (2015). *Mind in architecture: Neuroscience, embodiment, and the future of design*. Mit Press.

**For the  
terminology:**

Human Dimension and Interior Space: A Source Book of Design Reference Standards By Julius Panero, Martin Zelnik

1. Human Factors in the Built Environment by Linda L. Nussbaumer
2. Comfort and Design: Principles and Good Practice edited by Peter Vink

The Handbook of Interior Design edited by Jo Ann Asher Thompson, Nancy Blossom

**Planned Learning  
Activities and  
Teaching Method:**

**Learning/Teaching Method:** The expected learning outcomes for the course will be assessed through: Individual/Group Presentations, a Midterm Project, a Final Project, Class discussions and feedbacks.

**Assignments:** Students are required to do surveys, presentations, and carry-on a research project throughout the semester.

**Class Participation:** Regular attendance of all enrolled classes is expected. Do not be late for the class. Attendance will be taken through your signature within the first quarter of the class; if you come later you will be considered half-attended. At the end of the Semester, your

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attendance will be reported on the UBS. Attendance is compulsory and in case of absenteeism of more than **20% for the practice and %30 for the theory**, the system will automatically grade you "FX". If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to 'make up' all work, including items discussed in class. The class contribution will be measured in terms of quality, not quantity. If you need to leave early, you should notify your professor at the commencement of the session.

**Academic integrity & plagiarism:** Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly activity based on the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. Practicing academic integrity means never plagiarizing or cheating, never misrepresenting yourself, never falsifying information, never deceiving or compromising the work of others. Basically, this means, either intentionally or unintentionally, using the words or ideas of someone else without giving credit, it's strictly forbidden.

**Course Text books:** There is no specific textbook for this course but topics will mainly follow the chapters in the book 'Human Dimension and Interior Space: A Source Book of Design Reference Standards'.

**Key Works:** In this studio course lectures and assignments mainly focuses on Human Factors and Universal Design.

**Specific Rules:**

1. Be punctual. Punctuality is a sign of respect toward yourself and the others.
2. Show respect for all the people and property around you.
3. Be responsible for your actions and meet all expectations.
4. Follow directions the first time they are given.
5. Students should raise their hand to signal a question or to answer a question.
6. Students should use the Internet at school for academic purposes only.
7. It is forbidden to record classes with any type of device.

**Communication:** If you have any question about the syllabus, your responsibilities in the course and assessment procedures please ask your instructor without any delay. Students are encouraged to visit the professor during their Office Hours. If you cannot make it to announced office hours, please make individual arrangements via e-mail. However, do not expect the professor to respond at length via e-mail to questions of content, definition of terms, grading questions etc. If you have a question that requires a substantive response, please set up an appointment to speak with your instructor.

**Course Contents\*:  
(Weekly Lecture  
Plan)**

Date	Week	Chapter Topic	Take-home exercise
25.09.25	1	Syllabus overview, introduction to the course Introduction to Human Factors	N/A
2.10.25	2	Environmental Psychology Theories	N/A
9.10.25	3	Place, Sense of Place, Place Identity, and Place Attachment	N/A
16.10.25	4	Spatial Behavior: Crowding, Privacy, Personal Space, and	<b>Ass. 1:</b> Creating a behavioural mapping according to the users in

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		Territoriality Behavioral Mapping and Tracking	the design project
23.10.25	5	Std. Presentation & Critiques	N/A
30.10.25	6	Physical Factors Detailed review for human dimensions and anthropometrics- anthropometric data	<b>Ass 2:</b> Take the anthropometric dimensions of your friend.
6.11.25	7	Detailed review for human dimensions and anthropometrics- anthropometric data	Preparing for Midterm Submission
	8	<b>Midterm Submission</b>	
20.11.25	9	Principles of Universal Design National and International Universal Standards and Codes Universal Toilet Design In-class exercise: Creating a public toilet design (plan, 3d)	<b>Ass 3:</b> Finalizing the design
27.11.25	10	Std. Presentation & Critiques	N/A
4.12.25	11	Accessibility in Built Environment	N/A
11.12.25	12	In class exercise on Accessibility: Experiencing Rehabilitation Center as visually and physically impaired person	N/A
18.12.25	13	Wayfinding Techniques Workshop: (working as a group) Analysis of Campus Wayfinding and Recommendations for Improvement	<b>Ass 4:</b> Finalizing the presentation
25.12.25	14	Std. Presentation & Critiques	N/A
1.01.26	15	National Holiday	
		<b>FINAL SUBMISSION</b>	

\* PLEASE NOTE: Details of the syllabus and course schedule are subject to minor changes that will be announced in class.

**Grading:** Midterm and final exam responses will be evaluated for accuracy, thoughtfulness and clarity. Assignments will be evaluated for content, quality of ideas and clarity of presentation (including both writing and graphics).



**Assessment Methods  
and Criteria :**

METHODS	EFFECTS ON GRADING
Assignments & In-class work	20%
Midterm Submission	30%
Final Submission	50%

**ECTS Workload Table :**

ACTIVITIES	NUMBER	HOUR	WORKLOAD
Course Hours	14	2	28
Weekly homework	4	4	16
Midterm Submission Preparation	1	2	2
Midterm Submission	1	1	1
Final Submission Preparation	1	2	2
Final Submission	1	1	1
<b>Total Workload</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>Total workload/25</b>			<b>51/25</b>

**GRADING AND EVALUATION**

The students' progress will be evaluated throughout the semester.

**Grade Scale:**

GRADE	MARKS	VALUE
A+	-	
A	95-100	4.00
A-	85-94	3.70
B+	80-84	3.30
B	75-79	3.00
B-	65-74	2.70

GRADE	MARKS	VALUE
C+	60-64	2.40
C	55-59	2.20
C-	50-54	1.70
D+	45-49	1.30
D	40-44	1.00
F	0-39	0.00