

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN

Course Code	Course Name	Year/Semester	Theory	Practice	Credits	ECTS
IAED 4180	Independent Study in Interior Architecture	2025-2026/Fall	3	0	3	4

Level of Course: Undergraduate

Course Type: Elective Course

Language of

Instruction: English

Course time: Monday, 09.30 – 12.30

Office Hours: You can request an appointment

Course classroom: BB-04

Mode of Delivery: One o one critique, Class Teaching, Presentation, Assignments, Technical trips

Prerequisites and Prerequisites:

Co-requisites: None

Course Coordinator: Asst. Prof. Dr. Yaren Şekerci

Name of Lecturer(s):

Course Teaching Asst. Prof. Dr. Yaren Şekerci

Assistant:

Course Objectives: The aim of this course is to foster a research-oriented mindset among interior architecture students by enhancing their creative and critical thinking skills and encouraging the integration of scientific methods into the design process. Students will be guided to engage in research activities through project development, participation in design competitions, collaborations with industry or institutions, and presentation of papers at academic events. The course ultimately aims to support both the academic and professional growth of students by promoting research and development (R&D) practices within the discipline.

Course Description: This course explores research and development processes in the field of interior architecture. Key topics include identifying design problems, conducting literature reviews, formulating research questions, selecting appropriate methods, collecting and analyzing data. In addition, students are encouraged to develop R&D-oriented projects through industry collaborations, design competitions, academic presentations, and applied research activities.

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

1. Define the fundamental steps of the research process,
2. Formulate research questions related to design problems,
3. Select and apply appropriate research methods,
4. Develop projects through industry collaboration, competitions, or academic events.

Language: The studio classes and discussions will be in English. Developing your verbal language skills will be very important in acquiring the disciplinary terminology as well as daily communication at the class.



Text Books:

**Recommended Text
Books:**

For the terminology:

Reading Textbooks:

**Timeline of
Architecture and Art
history:**

**Planned Learning
Activities and Teaching
Method:**

Learning/Teaching Method: This is a studio course and students learn about the design process by getting directly involved in the process. The studio practice is supported by lectures and group/one-on-one critique sessions. The main teaching medium in the studio is individual critiques.

Project Development: A series of assignments with an emphasis on the main topic will be offered in this course. In the first half of the semester, assignments will mainly include kitchen design exercises. The second half of the semester will be followed by a bathroom design project. For developing the projects **minimum of 80% critiques are expected**. The development of the project will be evaluated by following the project improvement during the critique sessions.

Class Participation: Regular attendance of all enrolled classes is expected. Do not be late for the class. **Attendance will be taken in the first quarter of the class; if you come later you will be considered half-attended.** At the end of the Semester, your attendance will be reported on the UBS system. Attendance is compulsory and in case of absenteeism of more than **30%**, 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.

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. This means, either intentionally or unintentionally, using the words or ideas of someone else without giving credit, it's strictly forbidden.

There will be pop-up quizzes (unscheduled or unannounced quiz) throughout the semester. The aim is recording student's drawing and modelling skills. In case of serious differences between the quiz results and jury submissions, instructors are allowed to take an extra exam from students.

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Also, all visual submissions will be checked through Google's image search engine and in case of detecting high level of similarities between student project and existing designs, the case will be investigated and handled by universities' discipline committee.

Course Textbooks: Students are required to study recommended reading textbooks and also do researches on a variety of architectural presentation techniques.

Key Works: In this studio course lectures and assignments mainly focus on User Requirements, critical thinking, elements of design, and the awareness of basic concepts, factors, functions, and materials in designing a space.

Specific Rules:

1. Be punctual. Punctuality is a sign of respect toward yourself and 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. No candies or gums are allowed during classes.
6. Students should raise their hands to signal a question or to answer a question.
7. Students should use the Internet at school for academic purposes only.
8. It is forbidden to record classes with any type of device.
9. Each student has a different learning style. Please create your strategy to learn the topics mentioned in Syllabus.
10. If you request, the instructor may repeat a lecture in the class or during office hours and explain the subjects that you do not understand.
11. Students will be prepared for market conditions and their professional life during the education period. Everyone will be treated equally and fairly. Please do not expect privileged or special treatment from your instructor.
12. Please send your requests about the course to the instructor without delay. When the training process is completed, it is not possible to fulfill any demand.

Communication:

If you have any questions 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 and the research assistant to respond at length via e-mail to questions of content, the definition of terms, grading questions, etc. If you have a question that requires a substantive response, please set up an appointment to speak with one of us.

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

Date	Week	Chapter Topic	Take-home exercise
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04.02.25	1	- Introduction to the Course	
11.02.25	2	Fundamentals of research: What is scientific research? Types, ethics, and its relation to design.	
18.02.25	3	Defining the design problem: Identifying needs, developing a research question.	
25.02.25	4	Literature review: Types of sources, how to search, read, and summarize academic texts.	
04.03.25	5	Research methods: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods; case studies, observation, surveys, interviews.	
11.03.25	6	Developing data collection tools: Designing forms, sampling strategies, validity and reliability.	
18.03.25	7	Developing data collection tools: Designing forms, sampling strategies, validity and reliability.	
	8	- MIDTERM Submission	
01.04.25	9	Industry and competition research: Identifying current calls, competitions, and collaboration strategies.	
08.04.25	10	Project development: Group work on applied R&D projects based on selected topics.	
15.04.25	11	Data collection and analysis: Collecting data from the field and applying basic analysis techniques.	
22.04.25	12	Evaluating research outcomes: Interpreting findings and shaping R&D outputs.	
29.04.25	13	Presentation techniques: Academic writing, poster design, and effective presentation skills.	
06.05.25	14	Final project presentations (1): Group/individual presentations and feedback.	
13.05.25	15	Final project presentations (2): Remaining presentations and	



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		overall course evaluation.	
		FINAL SUBMISSION	

* 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 all necessary materials).

Assessment Methods and Criteria :

METHODS	EFFECTS ON GRADING
Participation, Critiques, and Project Developments	20%
Midterm submission	30%
Final Submission	50%

ECTS Workload Table :

ACTIVITIES	NUMBER	HOUR	WORKLOAD
Course Teaching Hours	12	3	39
Assignments	12	2	24
Project Developments	1	4	4
Midterm submission	1	5	5
Final Submission	1	5	5
Total Workload			77
Total workload/25			77/25
ECTS			3

GRADING AND EVALUATION

The students' progress will be evaluated throughout the semester.

Grade Scale:

GRADE	MARKS	VALUE
A+	100	4.00
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	2.30
C	55-59	2.00
C-	50-54	1.70
D+	45-49	1.30
D	40-44	1.00
F	0-39	0.00