

Interior Design Quick Start Guide



PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Interior designers specialize in creating uniquely defined environments that cater to the spatial needs and functional requirements of its user, drawing from a diverse set of skills. Students in this program learn to apply design principles and techniques to professional planning, equipping, and furnishing of residential interior spaces. Specializations within the program of study also include Kitchen & Bath Design and Sustainable Building Design.

PCC's Interior Design program is the only two-year degree program in residential interior design available in Oregon and Southern Washington. Our graduates are sought by employers for their unique abilities: adept design problem solving, ability to draw from historical traditions, and effective communication skills.

The degree program prepares students for an entry-level position as an interior designer, or for more advanced placement in the wholesale or retail sales business. Emphasis is placed on a broad scope of courses which are application-oriented. Students must finish the Interior Furnishings Certificate before or concurrently with this option.

CONTENTS



- 1. GETTING STARTED AT PCC**
- 2. DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**
- 3. CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS**
- 4. FIRST TERM CLASSES**
- 5. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

Getting Started at PCC



- PCC has a lot of services to help new and transfer students get started. Here are two lists to help you get started:
 - New to college:
<http://www.pcc.edu/resources/advising/documents/checklist.pdf>
 - Been to college before:
<http://www.pcc.edu/resources/advising/documents/previous-college.pdf>
- If you need help getting started at PCC, you should use the advising office and the advising website:
<http://www.pcc.edu/resources/advising/>
- PCC has an excellent website that is set-up to help new students navigate the school. If you are looking for something you can probably find it under the “resources” tab on the homepage:
<http://www.pcc.edu/resources/#student>

Interior Design Degree Requirements

INTERIOR DESIGN AAS DEGREE

Minimum 103 credit hours. Students must also meet Associate Degree Comprehensive Requirements and Associate of Applied Science Requirements. Students must complete a total of sixteen credits of General Education. Some courses specified within the program may be used as General Education.

COURSE OF STUDY

The coursework listed below is required.

Foundation Courses

ARCH 110 Introduction to Architectural Drawing 2
ID 131 Introduction to Interiors 3
ART 131 Introduction to Drawing* 3
General Education 4
MTH 65 Introductory Algebra 4
ID 125 Computer Drafting for Interior Designers 3
ARCH 100 Graphic Communication for Designers 3
ARCH 124 Introduction to Building Systems 3
ID 120 Interior Products and Materials I 3
WR 121 English Composition 4

Intermediate Core Courses

ID 236 Lighting Design 3
ARCH 200 Principles of Architectural Design 4
SP 130 Business & Professional Speech Communication* 4
or
SP 111 Public Speaking* 4
ID 133 Space Planning and Design 3
ID 138 Introduction to Kitchen and Bath Planning 3
ID 230 Textiles for Interiors 3
ARCH 101 Architecture Graphics I 3
ARCH 132 Residential Building Codes 2
ID 122 History of Furniture-Ancient to 1800 3
ART 215 History of American Res Architecture 3
ARCH 111 Working Drawings I 3

ID 132 Planning Interiors 3
ID 121 Sustainable Materials for Residential Interiors 3
ID 123 History of Furniture-1800 to Present 3
ARCH 121 Structural Systems I 2
ARCH 127 Introduction to Goggle Sketch-Up 3
ID Degree Electives 3

Advanced Courses

ID 135 Professional Practices for Designers 3
ID 234 Advanced Interiors 3
ID 240 Interior Design Internship 3
BA 238 Sales 3
General Education 5
ID Degree Electives 3
**Could be used as General Education*

Interior Design Degree Electives

ART 115 Basic Design 3
ART 116 Basic Design 3
BCT 244 Kitchen and Bath Cabinet Installation 2
ID 225 CAD for Kitchen and Bath Design 1
ID 238 Advanced Kitchen and Bath Planning 3
ID 280A CE: Kitchen and Bath varied

General Education Requirements

You can find the general education worksheet for the Associates of Applied science degrees on this page: <http://www.pcc.edu/programs/university-transfer/transfer-guides/documents/worksheet-aas.pdf>

Interior Design Certificates



INTERIOR FURNISHINGS CERTIFICATE

Minimum 41 credit hours. Students must also meet comprehensive certificate requirements. The Interior Furnishings Certificate is a related certificate. All courses within the certificate are in the Interior Design AAS Degree.

COURSE OF STUDY

The coursework listed below is required.

Foundation Courses

ARCH 110 Introduction to Architectural Drawing 2
ID 131 Introduction to Interiors 3
ART 131 Introduction to Drawing 3
ARCH 124 Introduction to Building Systems 3
ID 122 History of Furniture- Ancient to 1800 3
ARCH 100 Graphic Communication for Designers 3
BA 238 Sales 3
ID 120 Interior Products and Materials I 3

Intermediate Core Courses

ID 123 History of Furniture- 1880 to Present 3
ID 132 Planning Interiors 3
ID 121 Sustainable Materials for Residential Interiors 3
ID 133 Space Planning 3
ID 135 Professional Practices for Designers 3
ID 230 Textiles for Interiors 3

SUSTAINABLE BUILDING CERTIFICATE

Minimum 42 credit hours. Students must also meet comprehensive certificate requirements.

COURSE OF STUDY

The coursework listed below is required.

Foundation Courses

ARCH 101 Arch Graphics I 3
ARCH 124 Introduction to Building Systems 3

Intermediate Core Courses

ARCH 224 Passive & Active Bldg Systems 4
BCT 206 Sustainable Const. Practices 3
ID 121 Sustainable Materials for Res Interiors 3
PHL 206 Environmental Ethics 4
ARCH 113 Site Planning 2

SOC 228 Environmental Sociology 4
ARCH 131 Sustainable Building Strategies 4
ESR 171 Environmental Science 4
or
ESR 172 Environmental Science 4

Advanced Courses

ARCH 204 Green Residential Studio 4
ARCH 280 CE: Arch Drafting 4

KITCHEN AND BATH CERTIFICATE

Minimum 62 credit hours. Students must also meet certificate requirements. The Kitchen and Bath Certificate is a related certificate.

COURSE OF STUDY

The coursework listed below is required.

Foundation Courses

ARCH 100 Graphic Communication for Designers 3
ARCH 110 Introduction to Architectural Drawing 2
ARCH 124 Introduction to Building Systems 3
ID 125 Computer Drafting for Interior Designers 3
ID 131 Introduction to Interiors 3
ID 121 Sustainable Materials for Residential Interiors 3
WR 121 English Composition (or higher) 4
MTH 65 Introductory Algebra (or higher) 4

Intermediate Core Courses

ID 132 Planning Interiors 3
ID 133 Space Planning 3
ID 138 Introduction to Kitchen and Bath Planning 3
BCT 244 Kitchen and Bath Cabinet Installation 2
ID 225 CAD for Kitchen and Bath Design 1
ID 236 Lighting Design 3
ARCH 111 Working Drawings I 3
ARCH 121 Structural Systems I 2
ARCH 132 Residential Building Code 2
ART 215 History of American Residential Architecture 3
BA 238 Sales 3

Advanced Courses

ID 238 Advanced Kitchen and Bath Planning 3
ID 135 Professional Practice for Designers 3
ID 280A CE: Kitchen and Bath 3

Interior Design

First Term Class Planning



Full-time Student (12 – 19 credit hours)

- ARCH 110 Intro. to Arch. Drawing (2 credits)
- ID 131 Intro. to Interiors (3)*
- ART 131 Intro. to Drawing (3) **or** ARCH 100 Graphic Com. For Designers (3)
- WR 121 College Composition (4) if needed **or** ARCH 124 Intro. to Building Systems (3)
- Math 20, 60 or 65 if needed (4) **or** ID 125 CAD for Interiors (3)

Part-Time or Three-quarters Time Student (under 12 credit hours)

- ARCH 110 Intro. to Arch. Drawing (2)
- ID 131 Intro. to Interiors (3) *
- + One or more classes from this list. Starting at the top and moving down.
 1. WR 121 College Composition if needed (4)
 2. Math 20, 60 or 65 if needed (4)
 3. ART 131 Intro. to Drawing (3)
 4. ARCH 124 Intro. to Building Systems (3)

I just want to take some classes to try it out.

- ARCH 110 Intro. to Arch. Drawing (2)
- ID 131 Intro. to Interiors (3) *

- You can find the schedule of classes online at www.pcc.edu/schedule
- You can find a class planning worksheet at this link:
http://www.pcc.edu/programs/schedules/documents/schedule_planning.pdf

* The ID 131 has a prerequisite or co-requisite of the ARCH 110 class. This means that you are required to have completed the ARCH 110 class prior to taking the ID 131 or that you take the ARCH 110 class at the same time as the ID 131 class. You must register for the ARCH 110 class first before the computer will allow you to register for the ID 131 class.

Frequently Asked Questions about PCC and Interior Design



- 1. I've never been to college before and I feel lost. How can I get help?** PCC has lots of resources to help new students. A good first stop would be an advising office (<http://www.pcc.edu/resources/advising/>) on any of our campuses. They are set up to help new students make a smooth transition to college life.
- 2. What level do my reading, writing and math need to be at to start in the degree or certificate programs?** Students should be at least entering into the *WR 115 Intro. to Expository Writing* or a higher writing level when starting the first term of interior design classes. Students can start at *Math 20 Basic Math* or any level higher than this.
- 3. I've already been to college and I want to see what classes will transfer?** You will need to contact your previous schools and send in your official transcripts to the Student Records office and then request an official transcript evaluation. http://www.pcc.edu/resources/student-records/documents/Transfer_Evaluation_Request_Form.pdf Our first quarter classes don't have prerequisites so you can get started in classes your first term while you complete these processes. However, the evaluation should be complete by the time you register for your second term of classes, as the second term classes have writing and math prerequisites. If you haven't taken college level writing or mathematics higher than algebra, you will need to take the college placement tests prior to starting classes: <http://www.pcc.edu/resources/testing/placement/>
- 4. I already have a college degree, what classes will transfer into the program?** General Education requirements will be waived for students who enroll at PCC with an A.A., A.A.S., A.G.S., A.S., B.A., B.S. degree or higher from a regionally accredited United States institution. Program-specific General Education requirements for AAS degrees will not be waived. Students with A.A., A.A.S., A.G.S., A.S., B.A., B.S., degrees or higher from a U.S. regionally accredited institution will have the basic competency in writing (WR 121) waived. Other writing requirements specified by the program remain in effect. The math requirement for the degree will have to be evaluated based on previously completed math classes. If you haven't taken a math course in college you will need to take the math placement test and complete our Math 65 requirement. Student's with a previous degree that meet the criteria above do not need to request a complete evaluation from the student records office. However, you do need to send in your official undergraduate transcripts from every institution you attended to the student records office. Our first quarter classes don't have prerequisites so you can get started in classes your first term while you complete this process.
- 5. I'm just doing research about the field of interior design, where can I get more information?** There are two main ways to get more information about the career field of interior design at PCC. You can attend an orientation session. The schedule can be found at www.pcc.edu/staff/choul.wou and you can just show up to the time that best fits your schedule – there is no RSVP. Or you can visit any of our career centers: <http://www.pcc.edu/resources/careers/resource-centers/>
- 6. How do I get into the program?** The program is an open entry program, which means you can just get started in the next quarter. The academic calendar lists registration dates and start dates: <http://www.pcc.edu/registration/academic-calendar.html> You can start the interior design program any term of the year; fall, winter, spring, and summer. There is no additional application to the interior design program after you've applied to PCC.
- 7. How is this program different than a four or five year program?** The most basic difference is that the PCC program specializes in residential interiors, while most four or five year programs will focus on commercial interiors.
- 8. I have a job, can I complete the program part-time? In the evening only?** It's no problem to attend part-time. We offer most classes at least once per year in the evening and once per year in the day. However, there are a few advanced classes that can not be completed in the evenings. They are usually offered in the afternoons.

FAQ's Continued...



- 1. I've already worked in the field of interior design, can I get credit for work experience?** PCC doesn't have a way to give credit or waive required classes based on prior work experience. If you've had formal training, but not received college credit, you may be able to apply for non-traditional credit through our student records office: <http://www.pcc.edu/resources/graduation/documents/request-non-trad-credit.pdf>
- 2. I've taken specific interior design and/or architecture classes at another college or university, can I get them transferred into the program?** Possibly. You must submit your transcripts either to the student records office (see #2) or directly to the department. Evaluations can take several weeks to complete, so if you have classes you are hoping to transfer in please plan to get your transcripts in early. Also, in some cases we may request that you bring in a portfolio of previous coursework in order to complete the official program evaluation. Please be aware that you must earn a minimum of 24 credits from the PCC interior design program excluding courses used solely for the General Education requirements.
- 3. Do I need to buy a computer before I start the program?** There is no computer requirement for this program. We have open computer lab times with the software available for students to use. Having a computer at home can be convenient when in more advanced courses.
- 4. Do I have to already know how to draw before I start the program?** No, drawing skills are not a prerequisite to the program. If you don't know how to draw, you will learn this skill in your courses. You are required to learn to draw by hand and on the computer.
- 5. How long will it take to complete the program?** Full-time students usually attend a minimum of seven terms to complete the program. Part-time students can spread the program out longer. How quickly you complete the program really depends on the number of credits you take each term. If you're planning on attending the program longer than six years, you should check in with the program advisor during your first term of classes.
- 6. Can I get a two year map of every class I'll take each term?** There is a lot of flexibility in the interior design program during the first year of classes and the class schedule is only available before each term. Your schedule in the first year will depend on when classes are offered and what term you start classes. When you start the program it's most important to know your first term of classes and once you're in your first term, the program advisor will be available to help you plan your second term of classes so you can stay on track.
- 7. Will my classes transfer to another school or program?** There is some transferability of some interior design and architecture classes to Marylhurst University and the Art Institute of Portland. The entire degree does not transfer to either school. For students who are interested in these schools you should plan to visit those schools early in your education.

What do I do next?



1. The first step is to attend a program information session. These sessions are offered regularly and are an invaluable introduction to the career field, graduate jobs, transferring, student work examples, professional development, and getting started in the program. You can find the schedule online at www.pcc.edu/staff/choul.wou There is no RSVP to attend; you can just show up to the time that best fits your schedule. The session typically lasts about an hour and a half. Most students find the session answers their question and gives them valuable information to help plan their education and careers. The information session is not a requirement to getting started in the program.
2. If you plan to start classes during the next quarter or a later quarter, you can find registration dates, term start dates and class schedule availability on the academic calendar: <http://www.pcc.edu/registration/academic-calendar.html>
3. It's fine to register for classes before attending the information session. You can even attend a session while in your first term of classes. To view the schedule of classes for the next available term, you can find it online at www.pcc.edu/schedule Don't see the term you're looking for? Then check the academic calendar for the date the next term's schedule is available.
4. Use one of these checklists to help guide you in what you need to get done to get started at PCC. These are the same lists from the first page.
 - New to college: <http://www.pcc.edu/resources/advising/documents/checklist.pdf>
 - Been to college before: <http://www.pcc.edu/resources/advising/documents/previous-college.pdf>
5. Feel free to email the program advisor if you have a quick question: choul.wou@pcc.edu Unfortunately, the advisor doesn't have time to meet with each prospective student individually to go over the information session content. Please plan to attend an information session if you need this material. Thanks!