Overview

Interior Decorators work with outfitting the interior of a structure. Their focus is on color selection, fabric, furnishings, lighting, paint and materials selection.

Interior Designers are different than Interior Decorators. The Interior Designer not only works with the surface decoration as with the Interior Decorator, but they specialize in planning and designing functional interior spaces that lead to a safe, comfortable and aesthetic physical environment. They are skilled in space planning, lighting design, textiles, sketching and computer aided design. They have working knowledge of structural systems, building codes, and standards regarding the needs of the disabled or elderly. Knowledge or interest in the construction industry as well as excellent communication skills are important for Interior Designers.

Graduates of our program work in Interior Design firms, Architecture firms, Real Estate firms, and wholesale and retail showrooms or are self-employed.

Specific on-the-job activities of Interior Designers

- Think creatively to solve design problems
- Create design solutions that serve clients’ needs and desires
- Apply design concepts such as current trends and historical styles to design projects
- Create budgets for interior design projects
- Make or utilize measurements and provide information about interior spaces
- Sketch floor plans and use computer applications to draft final plans
- Specify materials, furniture, lighting, window treatments and cabinetry
- Coordinate with suppliers, contractors and builders
- Establish and maintain relationships with clients, contractors, builders and suppliers
Employment Outlook

For Information about Employment Outlook for Interior Design, see CIS - Occupations - Interior Designers

Our Program

PCC’s Associate’s of Applied Science degree in Interior Design is the only two year degree program in residential interior design in Oregon and Southern Washington. One year certificates are offered in Kitchen and Bath Design, Aging in Place and Interior Furnishings (Interior Decorator). The Kitchen and Bath certificate is accredited by the National Kitchen and Bath Association, the NKBA. All core classes are offered at the Sylvania Campus. The Interior Design program is not a transfer program. If you are considering transferring to a four year college or university for interior design, please plan to work with a general advisor for information about a General Transfer Degree. We also recommend working with a program advisor within the interior design program at the school where you wish to attend.

The associate’s 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. The curriculum includes a range of courses from Interior Design, Architecture, and Art/Design. Students have the option to gain hands-on experience through an internship.

We are a strong technical design program. Students will need to have strong basic computer skills and an interest in construction technology is necessary. The software PCC currently uses is AutoCAD, REVIT, Google SKETCHUP Pro, Photoshop and InDesign. Open computer lab times with relevant software are available for student use.
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Associates of Applied Science

- Two year program, 98 credits.
- All classes offered at Sylvania campus.
- Classes are offered in the evening and during the day, although flexibility is needed in second year.
- Students can attend full time or part time.
- Open entry; no program application process and you can start any time during the year.
- Our focus is on residential design.
- Classes are technical, skills based combined with fundamentals of design.
- Students have the opportunity to learn AutoCAD, REVIT, Google SKETCHUP Pro, Photoshop and InDesign.
- First year classes focus on Architecture and Interior Design foundational coursework.
- Second year focuses application of first year coursework in design studio classes, finishing with a culminating design project for a client.
All candidates for the Associate of Applied Science in Interior Design must complete 16 credits from three general education discipline areas General Education Discipline Studies and complete a writing competency requirement: AAS Degree Requirements

The 16 credits must include at least one course and no more than eight credits from each of the following three categories: PCC AAS degree worksheet

1. Arts and Humanities (ART 116 program requirement will satisfy this distribution requirement)
2. Social Science
3. Mathematics (> 100 level), OR Natural and Physical Science OR Computer Studies
   ** Math 20 or higher is a standard prerequisite for most general education classes

Students will also be required to complete competency requirements in Writing;
• Pass WR 121 or a lower division writing course with a prerequisite of WR 121 with a grade of C or higher

General Education and Writing competency requirements may be waived for students with a previous A.A., A.A.S., B.S., B.A. or B.F.A. degree from an accredited United States institution.

Certificate Programs

The NKBA Kitchen and Bath certificate (50 CR) includes coursework from architecture and interior design and the building construction program. The certificate prepares the student to take the NKBA Associate Kitchen and Bath Designer examination. Please see National Kitchen & Bath Association for more information.

The Design for Aging and Accessibility in Place certificate (49 CR) includes coursework from architecture, interior design, sociology and gerontology studies.

The Interior Furnishings certificate (41 CR) coursework is embedded in the Associate’s Degree. This course of study is defined by the skills needed in the interior furnishings industry. Students can expect this course of study to lead to positions in sales and retail showrooms.

While students can obtain a certificate without an Associate’s Degree, these certificates are intended to enhance student’s knowledge and skills of interior design in these specific areas while they are learning the design/drafting fundamentals required within the degree program.

See the Catalog for: Interior Design Course Descriptions
Course Suggestions for Getting Started in the Interior Design Program

**Please refer to the online schedule for class times and course recognition (CRN) numbers.**

**First Term Plan**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arch 110</td>
<td>2 CR</td>
<td>Introduction to Architectural Drawing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arch 124</td>
<td>3 CR</td>
<td>Introduction to Building Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ID 122 or ID 123</td>
<td>3 CR</td>
<td>History of Furniture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education or Art 215 or Art 116</td>
<td>3/4 CR</td>
<td>General Education or History of American Residential Architecture or Basic Design Color Theory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Second Term Plan**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ID 125</td>
<td>3 CR</td>
<td>Introduction to AutoCAD for Interior Designers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arch 100</td>
<td>3 CR</td>
<td>Graphic Communication for Designers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arch 132</td>
<td>2 CR</td>
<td>Residential Building Codes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ID 122 or ID 123</td>
<td>3 CR</td>
<td>History of Furniture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ID 120</td>
<td>3 CR</td>
<td>Interior Products and Materials</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Get Started at PCC