



This is a studio based, research led practical design course, which has been ranked No.1 in the UK in the Guardian University League Tables 2023 (*covers interior design and product and furniture design).

Students explore the subject of Interior Design through a series of strategic practical design projects of increasing complexity. Lectures, seminars and workshops provide a contextual framework. The course is outward facing, collaborating in live projects and inviting guest lecturers from industry. Visits and field trips are encouraged and facilitated where appropriate.

The course explores Interior Design's ambiguous but autonomous situation in the relationship between built internal space and its contents, finishes and alteration. It recognises the changeable hierarchy in this relationship depending upon each contextual circumstance and the diversity of approach and outcome this consequently engenders. The course is concerned primarily with the cultivation of a critically informed and enquiring mindset willing to explore creative possibility. It is understood that this occurs within a climate of relevant contextual understanding – historical, theoretical, technical, environmental, social, political, commercial – and through the incremental acquisition and development of core skills and knowledge in context. It is also understood that nurturing creativity is an intensely iterative process. Graduates emerge as well equipped entrants to industry, conscious of their personal position within the broad scope of possibility and able to make an effective contribution.

Central to the student experience is the development of an appreciation of materials and making. The course values the practical skills and heightened awareness of the made environment this promotes – ‘thinking’ and ‘doing’ are mutually informing. Students are required to engage with the course as a continuum across levels leading to a future beyond, strategically shaping an attitude accordingly. This attitude is reflected in both individual projects and the developing personal portfolio, firmly connecting students to industry and current topical debate.

Level 5 (Year 2)

Level 5 focuses on the processes of interior design. Projects have included developing a hotel attached to the International Space Station and the redesign of transport interchanges in collaboration with Transport for London.

Entry requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GPA of 2.75 or above (out of 4.0) or equivalent • Acceptance is dependent upon review of a portfolio. See https://www.kingston.ac.uk/visitingstudents/studyabroad/applying/ for information about portfolio details.
Pre-requisites	Level 5: successful completion of introductory (level 4) interior design study/practice.
Taught at	Knights Park campus

Study Option 1 = Whole Year
Study Option 2 = Autumn
Study Option 3 = Spring

Key to Module Descriptors	
Suitability of Module for Students for study option:	
1	Indicates module is suitable for students visiting KU on Study Option 1 (Whole Year)
2	Indicates module is suitable for students visiting KU on Study Option 2 (Autumn)
3	Indicates module is suitable for students visiting KU on Study Option 3 (Spring)

Notes:

1. All modules are at undergraduate level only.
2. Students enrolled on Study Option 1 are required to study the entire module.
3. Within each level, all modules are interlinked and students would thus have to be enrolled in all 4 modules. **Taking an individual Interior Design (IR) module is therefore not possible.**
4. Whilst the University makes every effort to ensure that this information is correct at the time of updating (April 2023), it cannot accept responsibility for omissions or subsequent changes. Module availability and content may be subject to change, as part of the University's policy of continuous improvement and development.
5. Details of assessment for students enrolled on either Study Option 2 or 3 where provided are indicative only and may also be subject to change as part of the above policy.

Module Code	Module Title	Suitability
LEVEL 5 (INTERMEDIATE)		
IR5100	Interior Practice	1, 2, 3
IR5101	Interior Context 1: Building Stories	1, 2, 3
IR5102	Interior Context 2: Fabricated Heritage	1, 3
HA5108	Critical Issues in Interior Design: Research & Practice	1, 2, 3

Study Option 1 = Whole Year
Study Option 2 = Autumn
Study Option 3 = Spring

LEVEL 5 – INTERMEDIATE

Module Code	IR5100
Module Title	Interior Practice
Level	5
Prerequisites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Successful completion of introductory interior design at university level • Acceptance is dependent upon review of a portfolio
Credits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full Year: 8 (US) 15 (ECTS) • Single Semester: this module runs across the full academic year. Its individual assessment weighting across the autumn and spring semesters may vary each year in line with the overall level 5 module delivery programme. • For study options 2 or 3, students will complete 16 US/30 ECTS of study across all three modules overall regardless of individual module weighting.
Suitability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study Options 1 or 2 or 3. • MUST BE STUDIED WITH IR5101/IR5102 and HA5108
Content	<p>The aim of this module is to give students an insight into professional practice issues and scenarios closely associated with interior design. The main areas covered centre on selection and specification and project management. It is understood that one of the roles of the interior designer is to select and specify furniture, fixtures and equipment (FFE) as well as lighting, colour and finishes. These choices naturally have a huge impact on interior space and need to reflect a sensitivity and appropriateness to context. It is also understood that considerable effort has been made to formalise the practice of interior design and bring it closer in line with recognised professional practice procedure, notably exemplified by architecture. The practice of interior design is considered across the spectrum.</p> <p>Curriculum Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Studio-based design project brief(s), industry collaborations exploring industrial product • Research into the industry market place for specialist interior product • Group work and collaboration • Standard project management procedure (aligned with RIBA work stages). • Professionalism and practice <p>➤ Autumn Semester (indicative only):</p>

Study Option 1 = Whole Year
Study Option 2 = Autumn
Study Option 3 = Spring

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	<p>students undertake a detailed precedent study of an 'Adaptive Reuse' project.</p> <p>➤ Spring Semester (indicative only): The focus is on expanding students' 'material vocabulary'. Exploring methods to translate concepts, values and meanings into material palettes and then learning about intelligent ways to use materials sustainably.</p>
Teaching	Studio based projects and workshops
Assessment	<p>Study Option 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • studio projects submitted at the end of spring semester (100%) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Industry Map, Face Chart & Road Map (25%) ○ Material Stories (75%) <p>Study Option 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • studio projects submitted at the end of the autumn semester (100%) <p>Study Option 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • studio projects submitted at end of spring semester (100%)
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Module Code	IR5101
Module Title	Interior Context 1: Building Stories
Level	5
Prerequisites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Successful completion of introductory interior design at university level • Acceptance is dependent upon review of a portfolio
Credits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full Year: 8 (US) 15 (ECTS) • Single Semester: this module runs across the full academic year. Its individual assessment weighting across the autumn and spring semesters may vary each year in line with the overall level 5 module delivery programme. • For study options 2 or 3, students will complete 16 US/30 ECTS of study across all three modules overall regardless of individual module weighting.

Study Option 1 = Whole Year
Study Option 2 = Autumn
Study Option 3 = Spring

Suitability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study Options 1 or 2 or 3 • MUST BE STUDIED WITH IR5100, IR5102 and HA5108 (for study option 1), IR5100 and HA5108 (for study option 2)
Content	<p>The aim of this module is to explore interior contexts in greater breadth and detail through practical project work. The module is a natural continuation of an introductory level (level 4) Design Process module. It is intended to expand outlook and increase awareness of theoretical positioning and recognises that the most engaging and resonant projects do not occur in isolation as hermetic events, but recognise their context and communicate viewpoint contributing to broader subject and topical discussion. A number of diverse attitudes and approaches with clear parameters are offered according to context e.g. social, commercial, cultural, environmental, political. Students explore these through practical project work, synthesising all previous learning in the process and contextualising their personal design vision and ambition.</p> <p>The aims are to develop understanding of key concerns of interior design; namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threshold: the transitional space between inside and outside and between rooms within an interior. • Circulation: spaces of movement; corridors, hallways, staircases and lifts. • Context: the relationship between the existing building and the new intervention; the relationship between past uses (chapel) and new uses (theater); the relationship of the interior and its urban context. <p>and build upon existing knowledge and skills regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The design process • Drawing and model-making • Professionalism <p>There are six stages for the project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the Brief • Concept • The Site and its Context • Concept Development • Design Resolution • Portfolio
Teaching	Studio-based projects and workshops, together with seminars, subject-specific talks and guest lectures.
Assessment	Study Option 1:

Study Option 1 = Whole Year
Study Option 2 = Autumn
Study Option 3 = Spring

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> studio projects submitted at the end of spring semester (100%)
	<p>Study Option 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> studio projects submitted at the end of the autumn semester (100%)
	<p>Study Option 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> studio projects submitted at the end of spring semester (100%)
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Module Code	IR5102
Module Title	Interior Context 2: Fabricated Heritage
Level	5
Prerequisites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Successful completion of introductory interior design at university level Acceptance is dependent upon review of a portfolio
Credits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full Year: 8 (US) 15 (ECTS) This module is taught entirely within the spring semester. For study options 2 or 3, students will complete 16 US/30 ECTS of study across all three modules overall regardless of individual module weighting.
Suitability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study Options 1 or 3 MUST BE STUDIED WITH IR5100, IR5101 and HA5108 (if study option 1), IR5100 and HA5108 (if study option 3)
Content	<p>The aim of this module is to extend a natural continuation of <i>IR5101 Interior Context 1</i>. It further expands student outlook and awareness of theoretical positioning. The module offers greater flexibility of choice to students who may, in agreement with tutors, either continue to develop a position previously established in Interior Context 1 (refining and editing previous material and undertaking new research and study as necessary) or embark upon design investigations within a new range of set or self-initiated contexts.</p>

Study Option 1 = Whole Year
Study Option 2 = Autumn
Study Option 3 = Spring

	<p>The module consolidates the role of practical design experimentation and making as a key element of the design process. Students are encouraged to explore and utilise industry networks and contacts outside the Faculty to expand their knowledge and outlook, lending their work rigour and credibility. The module is undertaken with a conscious focus on detail design consideration (object, component, element) explored at a larger scale (1:1 is encouraged).</p> <p>➤ Curriculum Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Studio-based design projects, live and competition briefs within specific set and / or self-initiated contextual parameters. • Research methods and evaluation techniques • Personal viewpoint development • Project visits/field trips, lectures, seminars and subject specific talks by a range of design practitioners and experts from associated fields • Positioning portfolio of project work • Verbal, physical and digital presentations of work
Teaching	Studio-based projects and workshops, together with seminars, subject-specific talks and guest lectures.
Assessment	<p>Study Option 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • studio projects submitted at the end of spring semester (100%)
	<p>Study Option 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Studio projects submitted at the end of the autumn semester (100%)
	<p>Study Option 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • studio projects submitted at the end of spring semester (100%)
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Module Code	HA5108
Module Title	Critical Issues in Interior Design: Research & Practice
Level	5
Prerequisites	Prior study of interior design
Credits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full Year: 8 (US) 15 (ECTS) • single semester: 4 (US) 7.5 (ECTS)

Study Option 1 = Whole Year
Study Option 2 = Autumn
Study Option 3 = Spring

Suitability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open to suitably qualified Study Abroad/International Exchange/Erasmus students enrolled at KU for Study Options 1 or 2 or 3. • MUST BE STUDIED WITH OTHER IR5* MODULES
Content	<p>This module builds on the historical and thematic content introduced at Level 4 and emphasises the theorisation of interior design practice.</p> <p>A series of lectures, seminars, workshops, tutorials, screenings and visits informs and supports students' own emerging research interests and the development of independent visual and academic research skills that cross history/theory and design practice. Lectures and seminars will deepen critical and theoretical engagement with contemporary issues in interior design.</p> <p>Seminar tasks & assessments are carefully designed to foreground projects that support the location of interior design as a discipline. Research methodologies are introduced through case studies & practical activities that reflect the issues explored through the module's content.</p> <p>➤ Autumn Semester:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading and Observing the Interior • Semiotics: Signs, meaning, commodities • Leisure • Identity & Representation: Gender & the body • Identity & Representation: Race, colonialism & postcolonialism • Taste, Class • Globalisation • Sustainability <p>➤ Spring Semester:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Methods • Senses and the Interior • Health and the Interior • Foucault, Discourse & the Production of Knowledge • Ways of Looking: Object and Image Analysis • Research Methods • Developing the Journal / Journal Report
Teaching	Weekly two-hour lectures and seminars
Assessment	<p>Study Option 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,500-word essay (50%)

Study Option 1 = Whole Year
Study Option 2 = Autumn
Study Option 3 = Spring

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research portfolio – research journal and dissertation proposal (50%)
	<p>Study Option 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,500-word essay (100%)
	<p>Study Option 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • research portfolio (100%)
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