why you belong here

If you are intrigued by how people interact with their environment, are motivated to blend creativity and technical aspects to achieve profound and impactful results, and desire a career where no day is ever the same, then you belong in this program.

At Chatham, we view interior architecture with a holistic design approach that encompasses all of the factors that influence the design of interior spaces, including human behavior, aesthetics and building technology.

Our Bachelor of Interior Architecture is a Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA) accredited program that will prepare you to excel in a variety of interior design careers, teach you to be an engaged steward of the environment, and encourage you to provide lasting contributions to our global society.

what you can expect

Chatham University’s three-year undergraduate interior architecture program is fast paced but requires no summer study, which allows you to enjoy more opportunities for internships, study abroad, and employment. Many of your studio courses will incorporate field projects to give you real-world experience in completing designs. Elective courses in art, art history, business, and environmental studies will further broaden your base of knowledge and appreciation for interior architecture.

This program will immerse you in a holistic curriculum that integrates architectural and design theory with ethical, responsible, and entrepreneurial best practices. As part of Chatham’s commitment to environmental sustainability, you will be equipped with practical knowledge and experience in sustainable design across both residential and commercial projects that include health care, retail, hospitality, and corporate design.
what you will learn

As a student of interior architecture, lecture and seminar courses on graphic communication, history and theory, building technology, and business will build the foundation of your skills and knowledge. Your studio courses will allow you to put this learning into practice as you work on a variety of building types and develop design solutions for diverse users incorporating both conceptual and real problems that address new construction, adaptive reuse, and community needs. All of this culminates in a capstone seminar. This seminar does two things: It integrates the knowledge that you’ve accumulated, and it allows you to channel that knowledge into a discipline-specific project under close faculty guidance.

where it will take you

While still in our program, you will acquire firsthand interior design experience and strengthen your environmental awareness and stewardship through one of many local and global internship opportunities and environmental community service experiences.

Upon graduating, you might choose to start your career in design and architecture, furniture design, in-house corporate design, textile design, or manufacturing. Or you could take advantage of our one-year master’s program. In the time it takes most students to earn a bachelor’s, you could also have an advanced degree that will prepare you for a career in design management, academia, or advanced graduate studies.

learn more

Read faculty bios, browse course descriptions, and apply for scholarships at chatham.edu/interior.

“I impress upon my students that they should make every moment count. Their time in the program will go by quickly and the world expects much of them.”

— Kathleen Sullivan, assistant professor in interior architecture

“My goal is to prepare students with both the necessary technical skills and behaviors of critical thinking that will enable success in their professional lives.”

— Gregory Galford, assistant professor in interior architecture

trending now

• In 2010, Chatham University’s interior architecture program received the Leadership award from the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) Pennsylvania West chapter in recognition for its commitment to and accomplishments in sustainability.

• Chatham’s Eastside campus, where our interior architecture program’s state-of-the-art classroom and studio spaces reside, is a LEED-Silver renovation project that uses sustainable design practices, recycled materials, and energy-efficient lighting to create academic and social space within a green, urban environment.

chatham university

Office of Admission
Woodland Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15232
800-837-1290 or 412-365-1825
admission@chatham.edu
chatham.edu/interior