Bachelor of Interior Architecture

WHAT DO STUDENTS LEARN?
The foundation of your skills and knowledge will come from lecture and seminar courses on graphic communication; history and theory; building technology; and business. Through studio courses, you’ll put this learning into practice as you develop design solutions for diverse users incorporating both conceptual and real problems that address new construction, adaptive reuse, and community needs, informed by the principles of Universal Design and sustainability. All of this culminates in a capstone seminar that 1) integrates the knowledge that you’ve accumulated, and 2) allows you to channel that knowledge into a discipline-specific project under close faculty guidance.

WHAT DO GRADUATES GO ON TO DO?
Upon graduating, you might choose to start your career in a vast array of industries, including but not limited to design and architecture, furniture design, in-house corporate design, textile design, and manufacturing.

The Chatham interior architecture program was most recently accredited by the Council for Interior Design (CIDA) in 2017.
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.

**PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

- Grow your practice through field experiences at inspiring destinations including a weeklong residency at Frank Lloyd Wright’s iconic Fallingwater.
- 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 of its commitment to and accomplishments in sustainability.
- Chatham Eastside, where our interior architecture program’s state-of-the-art classroom, studio, and exhibition spaces reside, is recognized as a LEED Silver renovation project that manifests sustainable design practices, use of recycled materials, and energy-efficient lighting to create a green academic and social space in an urban setting.
- Because our program is CIDA-accredited, upon graduation our students are able to sit for the IDFX exam, which is the first section of the NCIDQ exam. For more information, visit www.cidq.org
- It is possible to complete the BIA in three years by adhering to a demanding course load. While this path may not fit the needs of all students, those who are interested are invited to discuss this option with the program director.

**INTEGRATED DEGREE PROGRAM**

Qualified students can add one year to their undergraduate experience and earn a Master of Science in Interior Architecture degree that will provide them with career paths in their chosen design typology as well as prepare students for design management, academia, or advanced graduate studies. This option saves students both time and money.
SAMPLE COURSES

IAR316 Portfolio
This course explores color theories, psychology of color and light, typology, and compositional layout relative to interior design presentation, communication and development. Through a variety of media, techniques and applications of visual composition skills are applied to architectural interiors and exterior context.

IAR105 Environment and Behavior
This course introduces students to significant theories concerning the interaction of people and interior architecture. Emphasis is placed on shared human needs and differences based on age, culture, gender, and occupation.

IAR231 Green & Sustainable Design
Global issues of energy use, resource depletion, and indoor air quality have promoted design professionals to re-evaluate design and construction processes. This course provides students with the knowledge of the US Green Building Council (USGBC) and Environmental Design (LEED) certification system to promote environmentally responsible design.

INTERNSHIPS
Each student is required to complete at least one internship. Students in the BIA program have interned at companies and organizations including:
- Anthropologie
- Artemis Construction & Design LLC
- Barone, Murtha, Shonberg & White
- Nancy Hoff Barsotti Interior Design
- CJ Interior Design Studio
- City of Pittsburgh Department of City Planning, Zoning Division
- Continental Office Environments Inc.
- Davin Interiors, L.L.C.
- Denham-Vitalie Design Assoc.
- Drew Designs
- Eastman Tribe
- Emerald Art Glass
- Rachel Farley Interiors
- FISHER ARCHitecture
- Franklin Interiors
- Green Building Alliance
- Kolano Design
- LGA Partners (formerly Lami Grubb Architects, LP)
- Luxe
- Mavrovic Architects PC
- National Woodwork
- Officeplan/Bulldog Office Products
- Perkins Eastman
- Renaissance 3 Architects (r3a)
- Savoy Interior Design LLC
- Stantec (formerly Burt Hill)
- Strada
- Studio I Architectural Lighting
- Studio One Design
- TDA (ThenDesign Architecture)
- TH Trade (division of Today's Home)
- Le Tapisseur
- Typhoon Lighting
- Weisshouse

www.chatham.edu/interior/curriculum.cfm
“A solid interior design education yields practitioners who protect and enhance the health, safety, and well-being of humankind. Our programs are also aligned with current issues such as global awareness, community engagement, and sustainable design. The outcome is graduates who are technically savvy and broad thinking designers. This is what sets us apart.”

— KYRA TUCKER, program director/chair of interior architecture