The Interior Design program at AUD is modeled on best practices as put forth by the Council for Interior Design Accreditation and the National Association of Schools of Art and Design.
CHALLENGING AND REWARDING PROFESSION INVOLVING CREATIVITY
A Message from the Chair

A professional Interior Designer’s responsibilities extend far beyond creating the aesthetics of an interior space. With education, training, and in some cases, examination, a professional Interior Designer performs a variety of tasks and roles, all the while ensuring that the safety, health and wellbeing of the public is intact.

It is a challenging and rewarding profession involving creativity, collaboration, and coordination with consultants. It is also a profession where there are many tangents that one could pursue; it is a solid foundation for many careers within the building and construction industry.

At AUD, we are educating students to become highly qualified career-oriented Interior Design graduates able to integrate art, design, technology and business practice, with the skills and knowledge to produce highly functional and aesthetically appealing interior environments. In addition, the program enforces ethical values in regards to the profession and ethnic and cultural diversity, as well as environmental considerations.

The Interior Design program at AUD is modeled on best practices as put forth by the Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA) and the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD). Course work specific to the BFA degree includes Foundation courses (studio), Design Core lectures, and Professional Elective courses. Coursework builds upon itself as students gain an understanding of all the responsibilities that can fall to an Interior Designer, as well as understanding current best practices within the profession. There is an internship requirement for graduation, to ensure that students begin to practice what they have learned at AUD.

The Interior Design program at AUD is taught by a diverse group of faculty. They bring with them many years of practical professional experiences, as well as cultural diversity. Faculty maintain connections with the design industry in Dubai, and students are the beneficiaries of guest lectures and field trips. Faculty are frequently asked to present at regional design conferences or to moderate panels; this develops new connections and networking opportunities that benefit students.

Dubai is an ideal place to study design, as the building and construction growth here is unprecedented. Students have access to a plethora of design consultancies, suppliers and manufacturers, and local trade shows and conferences.

So why Interior Design at AUD? Because we offer students a CIDA and NASAD accredited program, taught by experienced faculty, in a great location.

Kristin Lee,
Chair, and Associate Professor of Interior Design
About the B.F.A. in Interior Design

Program Mission
The Interior Design Program at the American University in Dubai produces a highly qualified career-oriented graduate who is able to integrate art, design, technology and business practice, with the skills and knowledge to produce highly functional and aesthetically appealing interior environments. In addition, the program enforces ethical values in regards to the profession and ethnic and cultural diversity, as well as environmental considerations.

Program Goals
The B.F.A. in Interior Design prepares graduates who have:

• Learned cutting edge techniques by maintaining close ties with current design practices and industries;

• Developed the necessary skills to be competitive in the global marketplace;

• Developed high ethical values vis-à-vis the profession, cultural diversity, and environmental considerations; and,

• Acquired high oral and graphic communication skills.
Program Learning Outcomes

Students graduating from the B.F.A. in Interior Design will be able to:

• Demonstrate an integrated method in designing interiors and space planning;

• Discuss architectural conceptual design, history and theory by relating styles, movements and philosophies to interior design;

• Design interiors that acknowledge and integrate the human, sociocultural and economic aspects at the local, regional and global levels;

• Demonstrate the ability to produce, analyze and present interior design by communicating clearly and effectively in oral, writing and graphical forms as well as advanced digital software and media;

• Effectively apply technical skills in the areas of building materials, technologies, interior detailing, lighting, textiles and building codes to design aesthetically appealing and environmentally responsive interiors; and,

• Produce design that demonstrates understanding of administrative, financial, legal issues as they relate to the practice of the profession of Interior Design and observe ethical standards.
I was then an eager student who always wanted to learn more. It is true that ‘you get what you ask for’ and that is what I did! All thanks to the supportive faculty of AUD, I was able to nurture my learning and develop my potential. They have been so supportive even after I graduated 6 years ago. From being tutors to being industry colleagues and mentors whenever I need assistance, I do not hesitate to reach out to them.

**Title/Current Company:**
Senior Interior Designer at SAY Studio
Knowing that this was always a career that was meant for me, I did not have the right tools and critical thinking methods as well as the references to express myself as a creative. My professors at the American University in Dubai not only fed my creative energy and taught me all that I need to know to become the designer I always wanted to be, but also gave me the confidence to understand what kind of creative I am able to be, and what I can offer to the market as well as the world. The ID program at AUD truly was enriching, competitive and diverse. Working closely with people from all over the world, and learning directly from professionals in the design industry were experiences that truly set the bar very high for me post-graduation. I am very thankful for the experience I had at the Interior Design Department, it was a life changing journey.

Title/Current Company:
Founder & Design Director at Studio Meshary AlNassar
Studying my BFA in Interior Design at AUD has been a rewarding experience. As a student growing to become active in the creative field, the dynamic and multicultural environment at AUD has been extremely valuable. Being educated by trained professors providing an insightful program with great dedication, students are mentored in a mind-opening and interactive way. The involvement and exposure to the Dubai design industry that AUD puts forward is a big learning school for anyone passionate about becoming a designer while truly grasping the practicalities that come with the field. I believe one of the strongest key elements AUD offers is a collaborative framework with professors and students from so many different backgrounds; it goes without saying that such environment gives many new perspectives of interpreting and solving any design exercise.

**Title/Current Company:**
Interior Designer at Stickman Tribe

"JULIE BLONDEEL"
Interior design is a journey of exploration and passion. AUD allows you to immerse yourself in the field by introducing many aspects of interior design that open a world of new possibilities and fuel your passion through the experience. While working in the professional world, I have realized that you have to have the quality to not just think out of the box but act out of it, and the professors encourage you with that. They challenge you to achieve more and surpass your limits. My experience at AUD made me love design and enjoy my work through an innovative lens.

Title/Current Company:
Interior Designer at TwentyOne06
My experience at AUD really helped me to get out of my shell and evolve as a designer. The professors really pushed us to reach our highest potential and produce the best quality of work. What I loved most about the Interior Design program here was the industry exposure we received from leading designers through guest lectures, Coffee Mornings, critique sessions and multiple other events.

**Title/Current Company:**
Junior Interior Designer at Interspace Interior Design
PROUD MOMENTS
AUD Students Placed Second in Interior Design Educators Council (IDEC) 2021 Student Design Challenge

The annual IDEC Student Design Competition is a top students competition involving the major design universities; the 2021 competition involved 31 design schools for 86 entries; 81 undergraduate and 5 graduate. The 2021 competition focused on the design a resource facility for veterans. The students researched the issues many veterans face as well as how design can help to create a healing environment.

The project Scar was created by AUD students Joelle Kassapoglou, Zeina Younis, Malak Ghoneim and Wesam Zaki. Their project was awarded Second Place Undergraduate Winner, and First Place
Wheel Chair Accessible
AUD Student Receives Internship as Prize for the Herman Miller Resilient Student Design Challenge 2020

The challenge focused on the investigation and design of an efficient and flexible furniture system station for designers, architects and students in design and architecture, suitable for home-based use, office-based use or academia-based use. This encouraged students to utilize their design skills and challenged them to reach creative heights. Student Abdallah Al Alawadi received an internship with the award-winning Roar Design consultancy for his project Peggable.
AUD Students won the 2020 HOTEL Regeneration Challenge II Edition in collaboration with Rotana Hotels

The design atelier challenged the student’s creativity to envision an innovative concept design for the “design hotel system” of the future. For the second edition, the students worked on the F&B area of Al Bandar Rotana Hotel in Dubai, developing a project focusing on flexible spaces, offering diversification, well-being, technology, sustainability, and preferences of millennials.

First place winners were Dyala Alken and Salma Mohamed for their project Lifera; second place winners were Joelle Kassapoglou and Samar Mouazen for their project The Glitch, and third place went to Hiba Basree for her project Rolling Tones.
Julie Blondeel
Interior designer,
Stickman Tribe

Zahra Chowdhry
Junior designer
TwentyOne06
AUD Graduates featured on Commercial Interior Design (CID) 2020 Design Power 50 List in the category of Young Talent

Interior Design graduates Zahra Chowdhry (BFA ID, 2019) and Julie Blondeel (BFA ID 2019) were both recognized as
AUD Students have furniture pieces manufactured by Interiors Furniture Company, Dubai

AUD collaborated with Interiors Furniture, a furniture company carrying furniture lines of the highest level of craftsmanship, in spring 2019. The collaboration was a unique experience for our students, first of all to discover their international brands by well-known designers, then creating a piece of furniture according to a very specific and strict brief, and finally building the winning design at their workshop under their supervision with innovative materials and finishes. Interiors selected two pieces to work together: Galite mirror by student Zein al Nashed and Sandyscor wall mounted console by Soukaina Ouilali.
AUD Graduate Won the 2018 Young Interior Designer of the Year Trophy at the Commercial Interior Design Awards

Rasha Al-Tekreeti (BFA ID, 2015) beat out seven other finalists, won the recognition for being a valuable asset to her company and for her unique design language.
# Course sequencing

The Bachelor of Fine Arts in Interior Design is a 124 credit-hour, four-year program

## General Option

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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- **IDES 471** (Internship)
- **PROF ELE** (Professional Elective)
Hospitality Design Concentration Option

The Concentration allows students to explore the hospitality field and also requires different subject areas in order to understand and develop knowledge of the topic in all its aspects.

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* Only one HUMN ELE required.
** Only one ISST ELE required.
Facilities

The Department maintains several well-equipped and advanced computer labs and lounges. Hardware is updated or upgraded on an annual basis and is powerful enough to handle intense computational processes from 2D graphics, to 3D modeling and rendering to 4D animations and walkthroughs. Software versions are also kept up to date annually.

Wi-Fi access to the Internet is available throughout campus. Scanning, projectors, printing and large format plotting are all available in-house.

A dedicated and knowledgeable IT Services team helps keep all computing resources running smoothly and helps with troubleshooting personal laptops.

The university’s model and furniture-making workshop and lighting lab is available on campus. The Design Center serves to engage faculty and students in research and outreach to the Interior Design community at large.
Engagement

The Department connects with the Interior Design community in multiple ways. Guest lecturers, field trips, portfolio reviews, and coffee mornings with industry leaders all have the same goal of providing students access to the local market. Faculty members are active in the community, as well, and frequently moderate and speak on panels at local conferences.

Likewise, AUD invites alumni back to speak with students about their experiences and offer tips and strategies to current students on internships and what to expect after graduation.
The Interior Design Advisory Board includes the following members:

**The members are:**

- **Mr. Stacy Stewart,**  
  *Regional Director MENA, Herman Miller*

- **Ms. Sara Al Sharif,**  
  *Interior Designer, HBA*

- **Ms. Hilda Impey,**  
  *Creative Director, Hilda Impey Studio*

- **Ms. Maria Sobh,**  
  *Co-Founder/Chief Design & Creation Officer & COO, The Concept*

- **Ms. Farida Al Awadhi,**  
  *President/Director, Association of Professional Interior Designers (APID)/ CINMAR Design*

- **Mr. Faisal Al Raisi,**  
  *Acting COO, Etihad Esco, Etihad Energy Services Company*

- **Ms Diane Thorsen,**  
  *Design Director/Principal, Gensler*

- **Ms. Sejal Patel,**  
  *Designer, Kristina Zanic Design Consultants*

- **Mr. Christian Merieau,**  
  *Managing Director / Partner, MMAC Design Association*

- **Ms. Esra Lemmens,**  
  *Owner, The Esra Lemmens Agency*
School of Architecture, Art and Design at AUD is a Certiport Authorized Testing Center. Certiport certification solutions are used to administer the Autodesk® Certified User certification exams.

The Faculty of Interior Design are members of the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA).

The Faculty of Interior Design are members of the Interior Design Educators Council (IDEC).

The Faculty of Interior Design are members of the American Institute of Architects (AIA).

The Faculty of Interior Design are members of the Association of Professional Interior Designers (APID).

The Interior Design program leading to the Bachelor of Fine Arts is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD).

The Faculty of Interior Design are members of the Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA).
Admissions Checklist

Please make sure that the following items are included with your application. Your admission will depend on the receipt of all required documents throughout the review of your application.

Official English translations of all supporting educational documents must be submitted. Translations must be literal (i.e., word-for-word).

• A completed online Application for Admission.
• An official, attested high school/secondary school transcript (academic record) covering the last three years.
• High school Diploma.
• Equivalency letter from the UAE Ministry of Education.
• Official test scores: TOEFL®/ Academic IELTS™/ EmSAT and SAT®.
• Army exemption letter for all UAE nationals.

*Specific exemptions apply

Financial Requirements

• Non-refundable application fee of AED 420.

Additional details and the online application are available online: www.aud.edu
The School of Architecture, Art and Design prepares graduates in the fields of Architecture, Interior Design, and Visual Communication to immerse into the profession and attain international standards of excellence. The School promotes critical thinking, creativity, cultural diversity, professional ethical values and environmental awareness.

**ADMISSIONS AT AUD**

The Mission of the Office of Admissions is to admit to AUD’s degree programs students who possess appropriate credentials and the demonstrated capacity and potential to successfully complete the educational programs provided by the university and meaningfully participate in the total educational experience offered by AUD.

The Admissions Office consists of a professional team that assists prospective students gain accessibility to opportunities in higher education. The Admissions team is held to a high level of integrity and is charged with providing quality service and accurate information to all students.

**AUD ADMISSIONS OFFICE**

P. O. Box 28282, Dubai, UAE  
T. +971 4 399 9000  
admissions@aud.edu  
www.aud.edu

**ACCREDITED IN THE UAE & THE USA**

AUD is officially licensed by the U.A.E. Ministry of Education – Higher Education Affairs (MOE-HEA) The Ministry has accredited the university’s undergraduate and graduate programs, in addition to Certificate programs in Middle Eastern Studies and Professional Teaching.

AUD is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award Baccalaureate and Master’s degree levels. Questions about the accreditation of AUD may be directed in writing to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097 USA, by calling +1 (404) 679-4500, or by using information available on SACSCOC’s website (www.sacscoc.org).

For specific admissions requirements, please check the AUD Undergraduate Catalog at our website or contact the Admissions Office.