KONSTFACK - UNIVERSITY OF ARTS, CRAFTS AND DESIGN
Department of Design, Interior Architecture and Visual Communication

COURSE SYLLABUS

Interior Architecture and Furniture Design 4: Common Spaces and Professional Practice

30.0 Credits

Code: IAK225
Established by: 2026-05-11, Prefekt
Valid from: Spring semester 2027 (2027-01-18)
Level within study regulation: First cycle
Subject group: DE1 Design
Disciplinary domain: DE Design 100%
Grading scale: UG Two-grade scale

Course modules
- Module 1: Rethoric, 1.5 Credits
- Module 2: Public Environments, 15.0 Credits
- Module 3: Visualisation, 4.5 Credits
- Module 4: Design-historical reflection, 1.5 Credits
- Module 5: Internship, 7.5 Credits

Main course content

The course focuses on interior architecture in public space and is conducted through projects grounded in professional practice. Students analyze contexts including spatial and existing physical conditions, activities, and user needs, as well as social, organizational, and regulatory requirements. These insights are then translated into a cohesive interior design proposal, supported by relevant drawings and presentation materials. The work includes the design of the relationship between fixed and loose furnishings, the selection of materials and construction methods, and the definition of requirements in dialogue with production processes, with a focus on ergonomics, safety, sustainability, and long-term functionality. Students develop

their ability to visualize, design, and communicate spatial concepts and qualities through visual representations. The course also develops the ability to reflect on the relationship between design, design development, and professional practice, while also practicing fundamental rhetoric and presentation techniques within professional contexts.

Module 1: Rhetoric

This module introduces the fundamentals of practical rhetoric and develops the student's oral communication skills. Students practice engaging in dialogue, constructing arguments, and planning and delivering presentations in various settings, using their own projects in interior architecture and furniture design as a foundation.

Module 2: Shared Spaces

This module focuses on interior architecture in public environments. Students analyze spatial and existing physical conditions such as proportions, materiality, and lighting alongside activities and user needs. Social and organisational structures that influence spatial planning and design are also examined. The work is carried out as a professional-oriented project in dialogue with clients and users. The student develops a cohesive interior design proposal encompassing both fixed and loose furnishings, with a focus on sustainability and functionality, while producing the necessary technical drawings, models, and visual materials. This module trains the student to critically reflect on the relationship between the artistic conceptual process and the design development process, and to develop the ability to maintain coherence between individual components and the whole, in relation to the project brief and the users.

Module 3: Visualization

In this module, the student develops the ability to visualize geometry, materiality, light, and concepts using both digital and analog tools to generate and refine visual media. Drawing on historical and contemporary references from art, photography, architecture, and interior architecture, the student analyzes and contextualizes image-making with a focus on composition, atmosphere, and character. The module also trains the student to design, evaluate, and communicate interiors, and to critically reflect on how spaces, furniture, and objects are represented within the field of interior architecture and furniture design.

Module 4: Reflection on Design History

This module explores how historical design movements within interior architecture and furniture design are integrated into the student's own artistic process and development.

Module 5: Internship

This module introduces the student to professional practice within interior architecture and furniture design. The internship is conducted in collaboration with industry professionals, providing the student with experience in the working methods, processes, and contexts relevant to the profession. The student reports on the internship through a visual and oral presentation and evaluates and reflects upon their experiences and the lessons learned.

Intended learning outcomes

Module 1: Rhetoric

Upon completion of this course module, the student shall:

• demonstrate proficiency in applying fundamental practical rhetoric, engaging in dialogue, constructing arguments, and planning and delivering presentations in various contexts, based on their own projects within interior architecture and furniture design,

• demonstrate the ability to reflect upon their own learning and development in communication.

Module 2: Shared Spaces

Upon completion of this course module, the student shall:

• be able to identify, document, and analyze needs within public space, as well as the spatial, physical, and organizational conditions that influence planning and design,

• demonstrate the ability to plan and execute a coherent project process that results in a professional-standard interior design proposal,

• demonstrate the ability to represent and communicate interior architectural proposals through appropriate drawings, models, and visual media,

• be able to design fixed and loose interior elements for a specific site, in relation to the project brief, the human body, and the space itself, while demonstrating an understanding of spatial organization,

• be able to utilize light as a spatial, functional, and design element within analysis and development,

• demonstrate artistic ability in addressing both individual components and the whole, while reflecting on the relationship between the artistic process and the design/project process,

• be able to compile, present, and critically reflect upon their own project and learning within a broader context, including aspects of sustainability.

Module 3: Visualization

Upon completion of this course module, the student shall:

• be able to use digital and analog tools to visualize geometry, materiality, light, and ideas through visual media,

• be able to analyze and contextualize image-making based on historical and contemporary references from art, photography, architecture, and interior architecture,

• demonstrate proficiency in producing and communicating representations of interiors with regard to composition, atmosphere, and character,

• be able to critically reflect on how spaces, furniture, and objects are represented within interior architecture and furniture design,

• demonstrate an ability to reflect on their own learning in relation to visual design and representation.

Module 4: Reflection on Design History

Upon completion of this course module, the student shall:

• demonstrate an understanding of how historical design movements within interior architecture and furniture design influence their own artistic process.

Module 5: Internship/Professional Practice

Upon completion of this course module, the student shall:

• be able to initiate and carry out an internship or professional practice within interior architecture and furniture design, in collaboration with professionals in the field,

• be able to reflect on and explain how professional working methods and processes influence the design process,

• be able to describe the skills and knowledge required to work within the professional field,

• be able to present, orally and visually, as well as reflect upon and evaluate, experiences gained from their own professional practice.

Entry requirements

General entry requirements and a passing grade in courses totaling at least 45 credits (ECTS) from the first year of the Bachelor's Programme in Interior Architecture and Furniture Design at Konstfack, or equivalent knowledge.

Forms of examination

The final grade is based on:

physical, visual, oral, and written presentation of the completed project;

interim presentations, group discussions, and critique sessions;

discussions regarding the student's individual process during supervision sessions.

The examiner is responsible for establishing grading criteria for the examination and ensuring that these are included in the module description published on Canvas.

A student who has received a failing grade is entitled to five re-examinations for each individual examination, as long as the course is offered, in order to achieve a passing grade. A student who has taken two examinations for a course or part of a course without achieving a passing grade has the right to have another examiner appointed, unless there are specific reasons to the contrary. Such a request must be submitted to the Head of Department.

In the presence of special circumstances, or if adjustments are required for a student who has been granted specific educational support, the examiner may decide to deviate from the examination format specified in the course syllabus, for example, by offering alternative assignments or granting exemptions from mandatory course components. The content, intended learning outcomes, and the expected skills, knowledge, and abilities may not be altered.

Reading list and other study material

Specified in the module description.

Additional information

The department is responsible for ensuring that other essential information, such as detailed teaching methods and grading criteria, is made available to students before the course begins. This course cannot be included in a degree if the student has already completed and passed another course with content that fully or partially overlaps with the content of this course.

Students may request to be examined according to this syllabus a maximum of two times during the two-year period following the date it ceases to be valid.

The course is a compulsory component of the Bachelor's Programme in Interior Architecture and Furniture Design.

Instruction is primarily in Swedish, though instruction in English may also occur.

During the course of the programme, students must have completed a certain number of higher education credits (hp) or specific courses in order to progress to the following semester. The following progression requirements apply to students following this programme syllabus:

• to begin studies in the second year, a passing grade is required in courses corresponding to at least 45 higher education credits (hp);

• to begin studies in the third year, a passing grade is required in courses corresponding to at least 105 higher education credits (hp), of which at least 45 credits must be from the second year.