

Explore relationships between humans  
and the designed environment

# interior design



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Explore the relationships between humans and their designed environments with internationally recognized faculty and your graduate student peers!

The opportunities and resources available at a major university located in an urban setting are further enhanced by state of the art computer labs, human dimensioning lab, the Goldstein Museum of Design, and the online design resource [InformeDesign®](#).

**The Design Graduate Program**  
may be the perfect educational fit for you!

# Graduate Study in Interior Design

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**Who:** The Graduate Program of Design is a multidisciplinary program comprised of four formal tracks, one of which is Interior Design.

Graduate study in interior design emphasizes the theory, research, and specialized practice components of design as applied to people's health, safety, and welfare in the interior environment, including culture, sustainability, and issues facing design education. Advances in theoretical knowledge and study of the interactions of humans in interior environments prepare students for teaching and research positions as well as design specializations within the profession.

Experience in interior design practice is preferred prior to applying to the program.

**What:** Focusing on Interior Design research issues during your graduate work will deepen your knowledge of the relationships between people and the built environment. Coursework and research experiences combine to further your understanding of how interior spaces support or hinder people's physical, social, or psychological needs by contributing to their health, safety, and welfare.

**Why:** A graduate education in Interior Design prepares you to be a critical consumer of research or a critical contributor to research as a design practitioner, researcher, or educator. Design is inherently interdisciplinary; we have many design disciplines and resources available at the University of Minnesota that will support your study. Your educational experience will be further enhanced by the dedicated and active research faculty, the Goldstein Museum of Design, and the online design research resource InformeDesign®. Located in the Twin Cities, the program also benefits from a diverse cultural setting and a strong local design community that provides you with opportunities for both research and practice collaborations.

**Where:** Design Graduate Program  
240 McNeal Hall, 1985 Buford Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55108-6136

Contact for information/admissions assistance:  
Charleen Klarquist  
612-626-1219  
dhagradingo@che.umn.edu

**When:** Application Deadline is January 15

**How:** See enclosed Application Information checklist for details.

Would you like to take a graduate level course prior to applying for admission?  
Departmental contact for registration is Charleen Klarquist at 612-626-1219.

# Graduate Faculty in the Interior Design Track

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**ASOJO, ABIMBOLA**, Associate Professor

*office: 488 McNeal Hall phone: 612-624-3271 e-mail: aasojo@umn.edu*

Scholarly Interests:

- Cross-Cultural Design
- Computing and Design
- Architectural Lighting Design
- Global Design Issues
- African Architecture

**DENISE GUERIN**, Professor

*office: 497 McNeal Hall phone: 612-626-1257 e-mail: dguerin@umn.edu*

Scholarly Interests:

- Design and Human Behavior
- Post-Occupancy Evaluation of Sustainable Environments
- Development of the Interior Design Profession

**TASOULLA HADJIYANNI**, Associate Professor

*office: 491 McNeal Hall phone: 612-626-1245 e-mail: thadjiya@umn.edu*

Scholarly Interests:

- Residential Environments
- Cultural Aspects of Space
- Identity Construction
- Displacement
- Globalization

**CAREN MARTIN**, Associate Professor & Executive Director of InformeDesign®

*office: 490 McNeal Hall phone: 612-624-5318 e-mail: cmartin@umn.edu*

Scholarly Interests:

- Evidence-Based Design
- Body of Knowledge
- Professionalization
- Public Opinion
- InformeDesign®

**STEPHANIE WATSON ZOLLINGER**, Associate Professor

*office: 485 McNeal Hall phone: 612-624-3205 e-mail: szolling@umn.edu*

Scholarly Interests:

- Interior Design
- Regional and Vernacular Interiors
- Design Education
- Interior Design Learning
- Culture and Design in England, France, Italy

# Graduate Courses Relevant to Interior Design

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**DES 5165. Design and Globalization.** (3 cr)

Movement of people, products, and ideas. Challenges brought by differences among us.

**DES 5168. Evidence Based Design.** (3 cr)

The meaning of “evidence-based design” (EBD) as it is currently understood as well as the adoption of EBD by design practitioners across different disciplines, such as interior design, architecture, landscape architecture, graphic design, and apparel design.

**IDes 5170. Topics.** (1-4 cr)

In-depth investigation of a single specific topic, announced in advance.

**DES 5185. Human Factors in Design.** (3.0 cr)

Theories/methods that influence the assessment of physical, social, and psychological human factors. Development of user needs with application to designed products that interact with human body.

**DES 5196. Field Study: National/International.** (1-10 cr)

Faculty-directed field study in a national or international setting.

**DES 8102. Quantitative Research Methods.** (3 cr)

Quantitative research methods for issues related to humans, their behaviors, and everyday living in the designed environment.

**DES 8103. Qualitative and Mixed Methods Research.** (3 cr)

Assessment of field research methods relevant to research regarding material culture. Relationship of selected research problem (and its theoretical framework) to practical problems of fieldwork. Rationale and plan for appropriate field methods of data collection.

**DES 8112. Design Theory and Criticism.** (3 cr)

Students establish a framework for criticism by examining various theories used in design disciplines, study existing designed environments to explain the designer's purpose, identify problem-solving processes, and describe interaction between humans and design. Field investigations.

**DES 8113. Teaching and Assessment.** (4 cr)

Educational processes/methods used in design studio/lecture courses. Learning styles, best practices for grading, alternative methods of critique, interacting with students, active learning strategies, teaching with technology. Lecture (3 cr), practicum (1 cr).

**DES 8114. Design Studio.** (4 cr)

Advanced problem analysis and design solution.

**DES 8164. Innovation Theory and Analysis.** (3 cr)

Theories and factors that influence adoption and diffusion of designed products. Methodologies used in analysis of diffusion process.

**DES 8166. Material Culture and Design.** (3 cr)

Artifacts, from Goldstein collections, as material culture.

**IDes 8180. Professional Seminar.** (1-2 cr)

Professional development issues and trends.

**DES 8181. Research Ethics.** (1 cr)

Overview of ethical concerns/questions in conducting/disseminating research. Mentoring relationships, use of human subjects, data handling, plagiarism, authorship, publishing, research funding, social responsibility of researchers, code of conduct.

**GDes 8361. Color, Design, and Human Perception.** (3 cr)

Perceptual and psychological aspects of color and design. Human factors of color variables and design strategies that can enhance human experience of, and interaction with, color.

# Design Graduate Program: Application Checklist

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Application materials required by the **Graduate School** are submitted online, at this url:  
[http://www.grad.umn.edu/prospective\\_students/apply\\_online.html](http://www.grad.umn.edu/prospective_students/apply_online.html)

- Electronic application for admission, including
  - Application
  - Personal Statement of your academic and professional goals for the degree desired (1-2 pages)
  - Letters of recommendation written by three individuals who can judge your academic performance and promise as a graduate student
  - All transcripts
  - Application fee

Application materials required by the **Program** should be collected by the prospective student and submitted to the following e-mail address:

[cklarqui@umn.edu](mailto:cklarqui@umn.edu)

- .pdf file of Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores. Please request that ETS send scores to the University of Minnesota. Examination should be taken a minimum of five weeks prior to the application deadline. Applications received without GRE scores are considered incomplete.
- Portfolio, consisting of 15-20 examples of current work in .pdf file format; link to a Web site is acceptable.
- .pdf file of Writing sample, for those applying for the Ph.D.
- Applicants whose native language is not English submit a .pdf file of official scores from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). Scores are to be sent to the University of Minnesota.

***Application Deadline***                      January 15

Allow sufficient time for processing your application. Review occurs once each year, directly following the January 15<sup>th</sup> deadline. The program's review process takes from four to six weeks once the application is complete. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed. Please note that the Design Graduate Program deadline precedes Graduate School deadlines.

Graduate Assistantship Applications should be completed for consideration for the following academic year.

**Application for Graduate Assistantship**  
**Department of**  
**Design, Housing, & Apparel**

**COLLEGE OF DESIGN**  

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**UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA**

Admission to the Graduate School is required for award of departmental graduate assistantships.

We do not guarantee the availability of assistantships in the department, but we do work to fund as many graduate students as possible at no less than a 25% 9-month appointment. Factors taken into consideration in determining assistantships include departmental needs, funding available, student expertise, and, for our current students, timely progress towards their degrees.

**PERSONAL DATA**

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last or Family

First

Middle

Current Address \_\_\_\_\_

Number and Street

City

State

Zip Code

Permanent Address \_\_\_\_\_

Number and Street

City

State

Zip Code

Country of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Country of Citizenship \_\_\_\_\_

State of Legal Residence \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Current: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**DEGREE OBJECTIVE**

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Major Field \_\_\_\_\_ Design \_\_\_\_\_ Track \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed Minor/Related Field \_\_\_\_\_ Degree Sought \_\_\_\_\_

**ASSISTANTSHIP PREFERENCES**

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Please indicate the category of support for which you wish to be considered; if more than one applies, please rank your preferences.

Teaching Assistantship

Research Assistantship

Administrative Fellowship

**COMPUTER SOFTWARE EXPERIENCE**

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Design \_\_\_\_\_

Statistical \_\_\_\_\_

Platform (PC, Mac) \_\_\_\_\_

**EDUCATION**

Names of Colleges & Graduate Schools	Graduation Date	Degree Granted	Major

**STANDARDIZED TEST SCORES**

GRE: \_\_\_\_\_  
Verbal    Quantitative    Analytical

TOEFL (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

**RELEVANT EXPERIENCE FOR ASSISTANTSHIP (Education and/or Work)**

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**EQUAL OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT:** The University of Minnesota is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, or sexual orientation. In adhering to this policy, the University abides by the Minnesota Human Rights Act, Minnesota Statute Ch.363; by the Federal Civil Rights Act, 420 S.C.20000e; by the requirements of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; by Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; by the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990; by Executive Order 11246, as amended; by 38 U.S.C. 2012, the Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Assistance Act of 1972, as amended; and by other applicable statutes and regulations relating to equality or opportunity.



# Information

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## ***Useful Web sites:***

### University of Minnesota Graduate School

Home Page: <http://www.grad.umn.edu/>  
Prospective Students: [http://www.grad.umn.edu/prospective\\_students/](http://www.grad.umn.edu/prospective_students/)  
Graduate School Catalog: <http://www.grad.umn.edu/catalog/index.html>  
Application Site: [http://www.grad.umn.edu/prospective\\_students/apply\\_online.html](http://www.grad.umn.edu/prospective_students/apply_online.html)

### Department of Design, Housing, & Apparel

Home Page: <http://dha.design.umn.edu>

### Graduate Record Examination (GRE)

Home Page: <http://www.gre.org/ttindex.html>  
Test Preparation: <http://www.gre.org/pracmats.html#gentest>  
Test Centers: <http://www.gre.org/codelst.html#centers>

## ***Contact Information:***

Design Graduate Program  
240 McNeal Hall, 1985 Buford Avenue  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul, MN 55108-6136  
[dhagrad@umn.edu](mailto:dhagrad@umn.edu)  
612-626-1219

**COLLEGE OF DESIGN** UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

The University of Minnesota is an Equal Opportunity Educator and Employer.