

GW INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE: IA MFA

The IA MFA Program is for students who excelled in their undergraduate studies and received a Bachelor Degree in a subject *other than* interior design and architecture. The MFA IA program is a rigorous, five-semester 60-credit curriculum that takes two years to complete, starting in the fall semester *only*. It is the only program in the nation's capital that is accredited by the **Council for Interior Design Accreditation**.

With a focus on **conceptual thinking and the design process**, students are exposed to many design methods and tools that encourage them to push the boundaries of creativity. Furthermore, the studio-based MFA is a terminal degree; this also allows for teaching at the college/university level in that it is equivalent to a PhD in another field.

semester	course #	credits	title	type
first year				
fall				
CIAR	6100	6	Studio 1 Graduate	core studio
CIAR	6125	3	Graphic Communications	support studio
CIAR	6150	3	Sketching Architecture + Design	support studio
spring				
CIAR	6200	6	Studio 2 Graduate	core studio
CIAR	6225	3	Interior Materials + Color Theory	support lecture
CIAR	6250	3	Digital Drafting + Modeling	support studio
summer (6-week accelerated)				
CIAR	6300	6	Studio 3 Graduate	core studio
CIAR	6325	3	Case Studies: Bauhaus to Bilbao	support lecture
CIAR	6350	3	Sustainability + the Built Environment	support lecture
second year				
fall				
CIAR	6400	6	Studio 4 Graduate	core studio
CIAR	6425	3	Lighting + Acoustics	support lecture
CIAR	6450	3	Research Seminar for Studio 5	support studio
spring				
CIAR	6500	6	Studio 5 Graduate	core studio
CIAR	6525	3	Practicum + Internship	support lecture
CIAR	6550	3	Structures + Building Systems	support studio

60 CREDITS TOTAL

Internship requirement

All students are required to complete a 120-hour internship. Students must be enrolled in the first semester of IA before the internship begins, and it must be completed before the end of their final semester. The internship is a part of the MFA Practicum + Internship course and will count toward the final grade in that class.

optional course

CIAR 6560 3 Selected Topics (reserved for IA short term summer study abroad)

MFA students also participate in three programs

- 1] MFA Design Dialogue Series (all semesters)
- 2] MFA Pedagogy Workshops (Studio 2, 3 and 4)
- 3] MFA Mentorship to BFA Students (2nd year)

Core studios meet 9 hours/week, support studios meet 4-1/2 hours/week, and support lectures meet 2-1/2 hours/week. The IA Program consists of 5 core studios, 6 support studios, and 4 support lectures.