

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 + 8-week accelerated)				
CIAR	6300	6	Studio 3 Graduate (8-week)	core studio
CIAR	6325	3	Interior Design History + Culture(6-week)	support lecture
CIAR	6350	3	Sustainability + the Built Environment (6-week)	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	support lecture
CIAR	6550	3	Structures + Building Systems	support studio

60 CREDITS TOTAL

additional program requirements

-- attend Annual Interior Architecture Lecture [held once per academic year]

-- each semester, attend either a First Friday or an ALUM event

-First Friday: bring a project and/or portfolio for professional feedback [select from two per semester]

-ALUM: hear from IA alumni as they share their work experience [select from two per semester]

optional MFA courses

CIAR 6560 Selected Topics (these can be one-off electives or the IA short term study abroad program)

CIAR 6570 Independent Study (akin to an honors course; proposed topic must be approved by faculty member)

notes

-- core studios meet 9 hours/week, support studios meet 4-1/2 hours/week, and support lectures meet 2-1/2 hours/week

-- the program consists of 5 core studios, 6 support studios, and 4 support lectures