



Level 6 Module Descriptions

Design Studio 5: Generator

A key aspect of interior architecture and design involves the use of design to adapt, transform and improve existing buildings and spaces through enabling new uses and experiences.

In this module, you will investigate how interior architecture and design can take on a truly transformational role by undertaking the design of a residential property in line with the requirements set by a specific client.

For the brief, you are asked to design an environment based on food; for example, a noodle bar, cheesemonger or chocolatier. You will develop your own project proposal, research and development programme which will typically include three elements: a research investigation and analysis, a process of experimentation and testing, and an outline design proposal. Your project development proposal should be suitable to be taken through to detailed design development, resolution, and communication.

Critical and Cultural Studies L6: Degree Essay/Report (Design)

Designers are informed practitioners who engage critically with their discipline, its history, ideas which inform it, and how it is likely to evolve in the future. This module will enable you to conduct an in-depth study of an aspect of design culture of your choosing with the emphasis on the analysis of appropriate social, cultural, economic, technical, historical and aesthetic issues relevant to your chosen topic and creative work.

In this module, you will be able to bring your own interests into your work. Your independent research will be supported through discussion with your peers in the forums and other support materials. You will also develop skills in research, organisation and planning and critical analysis.

The assessed element of this module consists of a 6,000 word essay or negotiated equivalent.

Technology 3: Contemporary Technologies

This module aims to extend your knowledge and understanding of technical principles and methods which inform design development. It will provide the opportunity for self-initiated exploration of thematic cutting edge technologies relating to spatial practices explored in the studio projects. The aim is to encourage you to creatively engage with building technology and environmental considerations as part of an emergent design process.

In the brief you are asked to design a stool, a table or a light which exploits the digital fabrication techniques of laser or CNC cutting. Your aim must be to minimise waste and employ minimal fixings or adhesive to assemble the design.

Professional Development 2: Professional Practice and Employability

Throughout the module you will acquire the self promotion and marketing skills necessary to establish contacts, work experience, and employment within the interior architecture and design industry. In addition, this module will introduce you to legislation, tax issues, and grants; all factors that should be considered if you're thinking about pursuing a career as a freelance designer, business owner, or if you're looking towards international employment.

As part of your assessment, you will carry out selected research to identify and analyse three potential employers and employment opportunities within the interior architecture and design industry. You will also develop a design manifesto which will incorporate completed work from the module that expresses your creative skills and visions, and will promote your identity to a professional audience. Your manifesto will also provide evidence of your professional knowledge and the key principles of design practice, and will demonstrate the role of legislation and regulation in the design industry, and how the role of a professional designer meets these challenges.

Design Studio 6: Augment

This module focuses on the development of a personal major project that is closely connected with design research and technological investigations. The project on this module will be a significant part of your portfolio and is intended to indicate your readiness for professional practice or postgraduate study.

At this level of study you will be expected to demonstrate an independent and professional approach to your project, in terms of time and project management and the presentation of your work at the conclusion of the module.

You are asked to develop specific approaches to agreed design problems for a self-selected site(s). The given design problems are intended to encourage an experimental approach to the process of inquiry into interior architecture and design. Your chosen sites should be of sufficient complexity to enable you to fully demonstrate your ability to integrate the different aspects of designing across practical, professional, and expressive requirements. The resultant portfolio of work should allow you to market yourself and enhance your potential to secure future employment.