Interior Decorating

Eastern College

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The Interior Decorating program is designed to provide students with comprehensive training for a career in the field of interior decorating and planning for both residential and commercial environments. Through this program, students will learn to analyze client needs and effectively create decorating plans for both the home and office using AutoCAD LT. In addition to studies in the applied areas of interior decorating, students will learn the fundamentals of the business of interior decorating, leading to opportunities for self-employment in this exciting field. This training will also provide graduates with the skills to start their own interior decorating business.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Eastern College's Interior Decorating diploma program is recognized by CDECA (Canadian Decorators' Association).

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Successful graduates may obtain employment as Interior Decorator Consultants in the Retail/Commercial and Residential fields.

PREREQUISITES

Grade 12 or equivalent or mature student status

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

A student must obtain an overall grade, in each module of at least 70% in order to graduate and receive a diploma. A student must complete all requirements of Student Success Strategies as well as the Field Placement requirements.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Course	Hours
Student Success Strategies	20
Software Lab: Computer Fundamentals	40
Software Lab: Word Fundamentals	20
Software Lab: Excel Fundamentals	20
Elements & Principles of Decorating: Theory I	80
Elements & Principles of Decorating: Theory II	80
Elements & Principles of Decorating: Theory III	80
Elements & Principles of Decorating: Practical I	80
Elements & Principles of Decorating: Practical II	80
Elements & Principles of Decorating: Practical III	120
History of Interior Decorating and Furniture	100
Floral Decorating	40
Introduction to Free-Hand Drawing	40
Introduction to Computer Aided Drafting	40
AutoCAD LT for Interior Decorating	80
Marketing for Interior Decorators	40
Entrepreneurial Studies	40
Career Planning and Preparation Level I	20
Career Planning and Preparation Level II	20
Field Placement	8 Weeks
TOTAL WEEKS	**60**

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MODULE DESCRIPTIONS

Student Success Strategies

In this orientation module, emphasis is placed on thinking about achieving success from Day One. This module stresses the importance of developing non-technical skills to enhance personal, academic, and career success. This includes understanding learning styles and honing practical study skills, such as memory, reading, note-and test-taking techniques. Personal exercises will focus on teamwork, decision making and problem solving skills, setting SMART goals and maintaining a positive attitude; techniques for managing change, stress and conflict will also be explored.

Software Lab: Computer Fundamentals

Through a combination of theory and hands-on-practice, this module examines the role and use of the computer in today's workplace. Emphasis is placed on those computers outfitted with the Microsoft Windows operating system. Students will review basic computer concepts, Windows 7 usage, and complete hands-on training exercises in business-standard software applications, including Internet Explorer, Microsoft Outlook, and Microsoft Word. Keyboarding skills are also honed via daily keyboarding exercises and drills.

Software Lab – Word Fundamentals

This course consists on online training and assessment in Microsoft Word, and builds on the skills first introduced in Computer Fundamentals. Focus is on basic Word Processing skills, with emphasis on formatting text and paragraphs, inserting and modifying tables, inserting and modifying pictures, header and footer content, and page set-up features.

Software Lab – Excel Fundamentals

This course consists on online training and assessment in Microsoft Excel. Focus is on spreadsheet basics, with emphasis on creating, formatting and printing worksheets, creating formulas, sorting and filtering data, creating and modifying charts, and using basic mathematical and logical functions.

Elements and Principles of Decorating – Theory I

This module is designed to give students an understanding of the profession. Students will learn about the history of the interior design, interior decorating, as well as current interior design/decorating procedures.

Elements and Principles of Decorating – Theory II

This module is designed to explore the aspects of design related to Lighting, Electrical, and Communications; Space Planning: Furnishings to Rooms; Space Planning: Rooms to Buildings; Furniture and Accessories; and Textiles. Students learn to read floor plans and think and visualize in three dimensions (3-D). They will review the multitude of selections available to decorators for furniture, accessories, and textiles.

Elements and Principles of Decorating – Theory III

Students will review options available for background elements of interior decorating. They will learn to evaluate design choices based on the goals of interior decorating introduced in Theory I and II.

Elements and Principles of Decorating – Practical I

This module complements the decorating theory and history subjects and provides students with practical application of theory and skills developed. Students are also exposed to local decorating supply stores and their products, and to people working in the decorating industry.

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Elements and Principles of Decorating – Practical II

This module is designed to give the student hands-on practice and training for designing interior rooms of homes. It allows the student to take into account every aspect necessary to determine what is required to make changes to a room and also to know what questions are needed to ask the client regarding changes made to the room. This module also introduces the student to various field trips to local buildings to see hands-on what products are offered to the Interior Decorating profession and to see how buildings have changed over the years.

Elements and Principles of Decorating – Practical III

This module is designed to give the student extensive knowledge on how to prepare design boards for different aspects of a home or business, i.e. Living room, dining room, etc. The students will visit various local vendors to get an insight on how a room should look. Preparing a portfolio will also be utilized to give students experience with local employers and get a view of what people are looking for in decorating or renovating their home or business.

History of Interior Decorating and Furniture

This module provides the students with an historical overview of the development of interior design and furniture and how it impacts the development of current trends in the decorating field. Students learn the evolution of space planning, interior architecture, decorative detail and furniture design. The following periods are covered: Egypt 3200-341 BC, Greece 500-30 BC; Rome 504 BC-AD 476; Middle Ages 1150-1550; Italian, French, and English Renaissance 1460-1660; Italian, French and English Baroque 1600-1701; French Rococo 1700-1760.

Floral Decorating

This module is designed to provide students with an understanding of the fundamentals of floral design. They will learn to apply design principles to floral arrangements and to select suitable arrangements to enhance décor. Highlights include design form, styles and techniques, principles of decorating with flowers, and plants and plant care.

Introduction to Free-Hand Drawing

Students will develop basic skills in freehand drawing and understand the application of freehand drawing to the field of interior decorating. This module provides a general introduction to materials and tools, proportion, spatial depth and shading techniques, using perspective on interior drawings, line, shape, value, and texture, as well as interior decorating specific techniques of drawing furniture styles and drawing a floor plan to scale.

Introduction to Computer Aided Drafting

This module introduces Computer Aided Drafting (CAD) using AutoCAD LT. There is a presentation of basic CAD operations through lecture and demonstration, followed by training with extensive hands-on, in-class drawing exercise sessions in a computer lab and the application of CAD operations in the creation of two-dimensional drawings.

AutoCAD LT for Interior Decorating

Picking up where Introduction to Computer Aided Drafting finishes, this module introduces AutoCAD LT for Interior Decorating (CAD). There is a presentation of intermediate level CAD operations through lecture and demonstration, followed by training with extensive hands-on, in-class drawing exercise sessions in a computer lab and the application of CAD operations in the creation of two-dimensional drawings.

Marketing for Interior Decorators

Students will gain a better understanding of the marketing function and marketing plans as related to small business within the interior decorating/design field. Students will have a better understanding of the various tools at their disposal to help successfully promote their business.

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Entrepreneurial Studies

For many interior decorators, success in the field can be realized through self-employment. There are many foundation skills needed to be successful as an independent businessperson or as a co-owner of a business enterprise. This module will introduce learners to those skills and information, including an introduction to entrepreneurship, different forms of business, accounting for business and preparing a professional business plan.

Career Planning and Preparation Level I

This module introduces tools for planning and preparing for a successful job search, so that students can maintain a career-focused approach throughout their education program. Students will learn about the "Hidden" Job Market and ways to access it in their upcoming job search, how to research opportunities and network for industry contacts, and use appropriate etiquette when communicating with prospective employers. Students will identify their personal skills, values and preferences for the workplace, begin preparation of a professional resume and references, and organize proof documents for their career portfolio. Class discussions on various self-management topics introduced in Student Success Strategies will round out this module, which is a pre-requisite for Career Planning and Preparation - Level II.

Career Planning and Preparation Level II

This module continues to build on the concepts and skills introduced in Career Planning and Preparation - Level I. Students will learn how to conduct an effective job search and identify various methods of applying for work with today's technology. Students will create a personal list of "Top Employers" and target current industry opportunities, while finalizing their professional resume, portfolio and career correspondence. Students will learn to identify the different types and forms of interviews, practice responding to typical questions, and practice follow-up, evaluation and negotiation techniques they can use to ensure success. Self-management topics from Career Planning and Preparation - Level I will be reviewed, with a focus towards on-the-job success in both learner placements and post-graduate employment.

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