

Interior Decorating

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

This program is recognized by CDECA (Canadian Decorators' Association) and the Nova Scotia Interior Decorators' Association (NSIDA). Students receive membership in NSIDA on enrollment.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

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

PREREQUISITES

If a student does not have Grade 12 or equivalent, he/she must achieve a score of 12 on the Wonderlic Test.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

A student must complete all requirements of the Student Success Strategies, Career Planning and Preparation modules, the Field Placement requirements, as well as meeting the attendance requirements as outlined by the Department of Labour and Advanced Education throughout the duration of his/her program.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Course	Hours
Student Success Strategies	20
Software Lab: Computer Fundamentals	40
Software Lab: Word Fundamentals	20
Software Lab: Excel Fundamentals	20
Elements and Principles of Decorating – Theory	240
Elements and Principles of Decorating –Practical	280
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 (without breaks)	60
TOTAL WEEKS (maximum* scheduled breaks)	66

*Number of break weeks depends on student start date

**Work terms/internships are scheduled for a minimum of 20 hours per week, but the total number of hours worked and the timing of hours scheduled are at the discretion of the employer/host to a maximum of 40 hours per week.

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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Student Success Strategies

Instructor Led

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. Students will be evaluated through a variety of assignments, projects, presentations, quizzes and exams in addition to their participation throughout the course.

Software Lab: Computer Fundamentals

Instructor Facilitated

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 OS usage, and complete hands-on training exercises in business-standard software applications, including Microsoft Outlook and Microsoft Word. Keyboarding skills are also honed via daily keyboarding exercises and drills. Students will be evaluated through a variety of assignments, projects, quizzes and exams in addition to their participation throughout the course.

Software Lab – Word Fundamentals

Instructor Facilitated

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. Students will be evaluated through a variety of assignments, projects, quizzes and exams in addition to their participation throughout the course.

Software Lab – Excel Fundamentals

Instructor Facilitated

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. Students will be evaluated through a variety of assignments, projects, quizzes and exams in addition to their participation throughout the course.

Elements and Principles of Decorating - Theory

The elements and principles of design are essential in creating a pleasing decor. In this multi-themed module students will learn to use space, line, form, texture, and colour to create an environment that is comfortable, attractive and appropriate for its purpose. Students will study interior design and design fundamentals, elements and principals of design and the influence of colour as well as building and construction systems and associated codes, lighting, electrical, and communication concerns. Also examined will be space planning, matching furnishings to rooms and rooms to buildings, furnishings, fabrics, accessories, textiles and background elements, as well as specific treatments for floors, ceilings, walls, doors, windows and fireplaces. Students will be evaluated through a variety of assignments, projects, presentations, quizzes and exams in addition to their participation throughout the course.

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Elements and Principles of Decorating – Practical

Instructor Led

This multi-faceted module complements the design theory and history modules and provides students with opportunity for practical application of theory. Students are exposed to local decorating supply stores and their products and to people working in the decorating industry as field trips are integral to this module. Students will apply elements and principals of design to creating case studies, clip files, design board projects, client presentations and floor plan layouts (living/dining rooms, master bedroom, and child's bedroom). Also discussed is the history of furniture and decoration. This module allows significant additions to student portfolios. Students will be evaluated through a variety of assignments, projects, and presentations in addition to their participation throughout the course.

History of Interior Decorating and Furniture

Instructor Led

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. Students will be evaluated through a variety of assignments, projects, presentations, quizzes and exams in addition to their participation throughout the course.

Floral Decorating

Instructor Led

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. Students will be evaluated through a variety of assignments, projects, quizzes and exams in addition to their participation throughout the course.

Introduction to Free-Hand Drawing

Instructor Led

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. Students will be evaluated through a variety of assignments, projects, and presentations in addition to their participation throughout the course.

Introduction to Computer Aided Drafting

Instructor Led

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. Students will be evaluated through a variety of assignments, projects, and quizzes in addition to their participation throughout the course.

AutoCAD LT for Interior Decorating

Instructor Led

Picking up where Introduction to Computer Aided Drafting finishes, this module introduces AutoCAD LT for Interior Decorating (CAD) using AutoCAD LT. 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. Students will be evaluated through a variety of assignments, projects, quizzes and exams in addition to their participation throughout the course.

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Marketing for Interior Decorators

Instructor Led

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. Students will be evaluated through a variety of assignments, and projects in addition to their participation throughout the course.

Entrepreneurial Studies

Instructor Led

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. Students will be evaluated through a variety of assignments and projects in addition to their participation throughout the course.

Career Planning and Preparation Level I

Instructor Led

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.

An introduction to Occupational Health and Safety will also be discussed, specifically the definition of occupational health and safety; an individual's safety rights; responsibilities under Nova Scotia law; hazard identification and control; WHMIS, First Aid and fire safety requirements. Students will be evaluated through a variety of assignments, projects, and quizzes in addition to their participation throughout the course.

Career Planning and Preparation Level II

Instructor Led

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. Students will be evaluated through a variety of assignments, projects, and quizzes in addition to their participation throughout the course.

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