COURSE SPECIFICATION

MA Interior Architecture and Design

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Course Title	MA Interior Architecture and Design
Final Award	MA
Exit Awards	MA
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	P2924FTC P2924PTC
Mode of study	Full time, Part time
Mode of delivery	Campus
Normal length of course	September intake - 1 year full time, 2 years part time January intake - 17 months full time
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	September 2024 intake onwards
Awarding Body	University of Portsmouth
Teaching Institution	University of Portsmouth
Faculty	Creative and Cultural Industries
School/Department/Subject Group	School of Architecture, Art and Design
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	https://www.port.ac.uk/about-us/structure-and-governance/organisational-structure/faculty-of-creative-and-cultural-industries/school-of-architecture-art-and-design
Course webpage including entry criteria	https://www.port.ac.uk/study/courses/postgraduate-taught/ma-interior-architecture-and-design
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	N/A
Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level	Level 7

This course specification provides a summary of the main features of the course, identifies the aims and learning outcomes of the course, the teaching, learning and assessment methods used by teaching staff, and the reference points used to inform the curriculum.

This information is therefore useful to potential students to help them choose the right course of study, to current students on the course and to staff teaching and administering the course.

Further detailed information on the individual modules within the course may be found in the relevant module descriptors and the Course Handbook provided to students on enrolment.

Please refer to the Course and Module Catalogue for further information on the course structure and modules.

Educational aims of the course

- Foster an enquiring spirit, intellectual curiosity, and a diversity of creativity in students; these coupled with the development of their own learning skills will enable students to reflect on and affect the direction of their future creative lives and their own development needs.
- Provide self-determined study opportunities for students. These, whilst monitored and challenged by staff, aim to empower students with a confidence in their own theoretical position and creative abilities that will sustain them in their professional future.
- Both contribute to our position within the Faculty of Creative and Cultural Industries, by developing programmes that will offer other students in the Faculty a better understanding of the discipline of interior design and possibilities for exchanges of ideas; and benefit from our proximity to other disciplines related to the built environment by seeking collaboration with staff and students that will foster the development of skills and research in the work of our students.
- Equip graduates with transferable skills such as problem solving, decision making, communication, and teamwork, necessary for lifelong learning and flexibility in the context of changing labour markets.
- Provide students with the skills and knowledge required to maximise career and postgraduate study opportunities.
- Foster in students a concern for the conservation of the Earth's resources through the development of appropriate formal and technical responses to global issues such as climate change, and the developing debate and knowledge on how to respond.
- Provide, through postgraduate opportunities, studies of specialist areas of the curriculum that are of current interest to students, staff, and the profession; and which may lead to later opportunities in terms of research and higher degrees.
- Provide an opportunity to engage in work-based learning through a coherent programme of study.
- Ensure that the programme complements and dovetails, where necessary, with our Master of Architecture programme, which is accreditation by ARB/RIBA.

Course Learning Outcomes and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies

The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) sets out a national framework of qualification levels, and the associated standards of achievement are found in their Framework for Higher Education Qualifications document.

The Course Learning Outcomes for this course are outlined in the tables below.

A. Knowledge and understanding of:			
LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
A1	The social, political, economic and professional context, in relation to the specialism and current climate emergency.	Lectures, seminars, studio	Formative: Tutorials and reviews Summative: Critically reflective blog, and through practice research design projects.
A2	The needs and aspirations of building users: designing with communities, people, materials, human and non-human and the impact of these on the built environment.	Lectures, seminars, studio	Formative: Tutorials and reviews Summative: Critically reflective blog, and through practice research design projects.
A3	The need to critically review precedents and practices relevant to the function, organisation, material and technological strategy of proposals; the need to appraise and prepare briefs of diverse scales and types, to define client and user requirements and their appropriateness to site, situation and context; the contributions of designers and co-professionals to the formulation of the brief, and the methods of investigation used in its preparation. An understanding that space making is multi vocal.	Lectures, seminars, studio	Formative: Tutorials and reviews Summative: Critically reflective blog, and through practice research design projects.
A4	The critical contextual, historical, conceptual and ethical dimensions of interior architecture. Critically engage with representational theories and practices and their relationship to issues of equality, diversity and inclusion. engage with alternative histories within architectural and interior practice.	Lectures, seminars, studio	Formative: Tutorials and reviews Summative: Critically reflective blog, and through practice research design projects.

B. Cognitive (Intellectual or Thinking) skills, able to:			
LO number	**Learning outcome**	**Learning and Teaching methods**	**Assessment methods**
B1	Evaluate information, both visual and textual, and draw critical conclusions that display methodological and theoretical rigour and formulate independent judgements, and articulate reasoned arguments through reflection review and evaluation.	Lectures, seminars, studio workshops	Formative: Tutorials and reviews Critically reflective blog, and through practice research design projects.
B2	Engage in current matters of care and concern, intergenerational needs, human and non-human occupants, and ways of lightly inhabiting the planet through research led design: plan, iterate or implement and report on a programme of original research.	Lectures, seminars, studio workshops	Formative: Tutorials and reviews Critically reflective blog, and through practice research design projects.
B3	Engage in the current climate emergency through theoretical and practical debate at the forefront of the area of the interior design/architecture discipline.	Lectures, seminars, studio workshops	Formative: Tutorials and reviews Critically reflective blog, and through practice research design projects.

C. Practical (Professional or Subject) skills, able to:			
LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
C1	Develop a range of making and writing practices to engage with innovative ways to creatively develop means of communicating to a range of professional and audiences; (including sketching, modelling, digital and electronic techniques) to represent the testing, analysis and critical appraisal of complex proposals and their resolution.	Lectures, seminars, studio workshops	Formative: Tutorials and reviews Summative: Critically reflective blog and coursework through design projects.
C2	Demonstrate proficiency in observation, embodied engagement, investigation, enquiry, visualisation and/or making; develop ideas through to outcomes that confirm the student's ability to select the performativity of materials, processes and environments.	Lectures, seminars, studio workshops	Formative: Tutorials and reviews Summative: Critically reflective blog and coursework through design projects.
C3	As part of critical practice and visual thinking: to locate and evaluate evidence from a wide range of primary and secondary sources (visual, oral, textual) and interpret it in relation to current issues of sustainability/climate change and ecological emergency; to evaluate a range of different methodologies and approaches within the subject and to produce well-structured and relevant arguments supported by visual, textual or other evidence as appropriate.	Lectures, seminars, studio workshops	Formative: Tutorials and reviews Summative: Critically reflective blog and coursework through design projects.
C4	Situate the practice of interiors within key critical spatial contexts and apply appropriate theoretical positions to projects, demonstrating a reflective and critical approach.	Lectures, seminars, studio workshops	Formative: Tutorials and reviews Summative: Critically reflective blog and coursework through design projects.
C5	Identify and manage individual learning needs so as to prepare for and maintain professional standards commensurate with qualification.	Lectures, seminars, studio workshops	Formative: Tutorials and reviews Summative: Critically reflective blog and coursework

			through design projects.

D. Transferrable (Graduate and Employability) skills, able to:			
LO number	**Learning outcome**	**Learning and Teaching methods**	**Assessment methods**
D1	Work autonomously in a self-directed manner, managing and appraising their own working practices thereby developing as a reflective practitioner and an independent learner.	Lectures, seminars, studio workshops	Formative: Tutorials and reviews Critically reflective blog, and through practice research design projects.
D2	Demonstrate mature understanding of the relationship within a multidisciplinary context of this specialism to other specialist areas of expertise.	Lectures, seminars, studio workshops	Formative: Tutorials and reviews Critically reflective blog, and through practice research design projects.
D3	Work as part of a team.	Lectures, seminars, studio workshops	Formative: Tutorials and reviews Critically reflective blog, and through practice research design projects.
D4	Manage independent study.	Lectures, seminars, studio workshops	Formative: Tutorials and reviews Critically reflective blog, and through practice research design projects.

Academic Regulations

The current University of Portsmouth Academic Regulations: Examination & Assessment Regulations will apply to this course.

Support for Student Learning

The University of Portsmouth provides a comprehensive range of support services for students throughout their course, details of which are available at the MyPort student portal.

In addition to these University support services this course also provides:

CCI Creative Careers: Support to add degree-related and relevant work experience for CV building including a work placement year, summer or short internships and part-time work.

CCI Creative Skills: One to one support sessions and group tutorials in creative software and skills relevant to CCI courses and future careers.

CCI Academic Skills: Access to resources to support learning strategies and techniques through one to one tutorials or group workshops.

CCI Student Support Advisor: Help to find appropriate academic, pastoral or practical support.

Specialist equipment and facilities relevant to the course.

Evaluation and Enhancement of Standards and Quality in Learning and Teaching

The University of Portsmouth undertakes comprehensive monitoring, review and evaluation of courses within clearly assigned staff responsibilities. Student feedback is a key feature in these evaluations, as represented in our Policy for Listening to and Responding to the Student Voice where you can also find further information.

Reference Points

The course and outcomes have been developed taking account of:

- University of Portsmouth Curriculum Framework Specification
- University of Portsmouth Vision
- Office for Students Conditions of Registration
- University of Portsmouth Code of Practice for Work-based and Placement Learning
- Quality Assurance Agency UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- Quality Assurance Agency Qualification Characteristic Statements
- Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement for **Architecture, Art and Design and History of Art, Architecture and Design**
- Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
- Requirements of Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Bodies: **N/A**
- Vocational and professional experience, scholarship and research expertise of the University of Portsmouth's academic members of staff
- National Occupational Standards

Changes to your course/modules

The University of Portsmouth has checked the information provided in this Course Specification and will endeavour to deliver this course in keeping with this Course Specification. However, changes to the course may sometimes be required arising from annual monitoring, student feedback, and the review and update of modules and courses.

Where this activity leads to significant changes to modules and courses there will be prior consultation with students and others, wherever possible, and the University of Portsmouth will take all reasonable steps to minimise disruption to students.

It is also possible that the University of Portsmouth may not be able to offer a module or course for reasons outside of its control, for example, due to the absence of a member of staff or low student registration numbers. Where this is the case, the University of Portsmouth will endeavour to inform applicants and students as soon as possible, and where appropriate, will facilitate the transfer of affected students to another suitable course.

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