

DESIGN STUDIES

Design Studies offers multidisciplinary education in design and research of interior design environments, textiles and apparel design, and design as a broader discipline, through participation in formal classroom instruction and ongoing research and scholarly endeavors. Students benefit from a broad-based program and faculty specializing in areas such as design visualization, environment and behavior studies, history of interiors and textiles, interior architecture, material culture, textile and apparel design, and textile science.

Three undergraduate degree majors are offered: Interior Architecture; Textiles and Fashion Design; and Design, Innovation, and Society. The department also offers multiple undergraduate certificates in Design Strategy, Material Cultures Studies, and Textiles and Design. There is also a Human Ecology: Design Studies graduate program, offering both an MFA and PhD degrees.

Student internships in the undergraduate majors augment campus course offerings, providing students with unique learning opportunities in their chosen fields. Design Studies majors have access to many design resources; a computer laboratory equipped to support design work; a digital fabrication lab, textile studios for sewing, weaving, printing, and more; an interior architecture resource room, the Human Ecology Makerspace, the Helen Louise Allen Textile Collection (<https://cdmc.wisc.edu/textiles/helen-louise-allen-textile-collection/>), the Ruth Davis Design Gallery (<https://cdmc.wisc.edu/material-culture/ruth-davis-design-gallery/>), and the Lynn Mecklenburg Textile Gallery (<https://cdmc.wisc.edu/textiles/lynn-mecklenburg-textile-gallery/>). In addition, a strong collaborative environment exists for students and faculty interaction with other departments, institutes, and museums on the campus and other design programs within the state and country.