

Department of Interior Architecture

FALL 2024

MISSION

To advance the interior design profession through teaching, service, scholarship, and creative activities focused on the generation and application of knowledge. These activities concentrate on interior architectural practices that promote the well-being of individuals within local, regional, and international communities.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Students

147 Graduate Students

30 Lower Division	2% Asian*
67 Upper Division	10% Black or African-American*
50 Grad I	66% Hispanic*
	8% Nonresident Alien*
	1% Not Reported*
	15% White*

Faculty

17 Faculty

7 Full-Time	9% Black or African-American*
10Adjunct	64% Hispanic/Latino*
2 Administrative	9% Not Reported*
	18% White*

*self-reported

DEGREE PROGRAMS

Graduate Level

Master of Interior Architecture (MIA)
Master in Arts in Healthcare Design (MAIA)

324 degrees conferred **since 2012.**

HIGHLIGHTS

One out of five national programs with STEM designation (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math)

Flexible and integrated curriculum involving three graduate degree tracks

Academic Partnerships (Joint studios with HKS, Perkins + Will, University of Genoa Nautical program, Gensler, RedBull & American Social)

Signature programs - Only program in the country with a certificate in Cruise Ship and Super Yacht design (CSSY) ; 1 of 25 programs in the nation with a program in healthcare design

Unique Study Abroad programs in Europe (Bauhaus, Genoa)

State of the art facilities (RDF Lab, Fab Lab, Print Lab, and iCAVE)

Minority-majority student body with growing number of international students

Local partnerships with studio reviewers, advisory board

Dynamic location with easy access to industry leaders, diverse design professionals, and adjuncts + exposure to multiple building typologies to study and draw inspiration

Upcoming Human Factors Lab for Healthcare Design and Hospitality Design to provide value-added education for evidence-based design.

VISION

Cultivate an educational ethos that engages the culturally-rich setting of Miami and creates humane, sustainable and responsible design environments.

RANKINGS

#16-22 School of Architecture - QS | WorldUniversity Rankings, Public Universities, North America; #2 in Florida (2022)

7 Interior Architecture - Best Value Schools among Interior Design Programs in the nation based on degree-specific ROIs (2021)

#1 Hispanics Top 100 Producers of Minority Graduate Degrees, Architecture + Related Services Diverse Issues in Higher Education | All Minorities (#1), African Americans (#5) (2019)

SCHOLARSHIP & CREATIVE ACTIVITY

Award-winning faculty:
FIU Top Scholar Award, Rothfield, 2020

Scholarship:
Book Publication, Multi-Skilled Designer, Routledge, D'souza, 2022
Special Issues on Technology, Journal of Int. Design, D'souza 2022
Book Chapter, What Design is Not, Taylor & Francis, D'souza 2022

Grant funding from national organizations:
American Society of Interior Designers Foundation, D'souza

National/International Conference Presentations:
13th Design Thinking Research Symp., Haifa, Israel, D'souza, 2022
53rd Environment Design Research Association, D'souza, 2022
Annual Interior Design Educators Council, D'souza, 2020
Cruise Ship Industry Leaders Conference, Pappano & D'souza, 2021

Interdisciplinary research collaborations within FIU (Hospitality, Physical Therapy, DRC, Landscape Architecture)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

33 year of hosting the Annual Festival of Trees fundraising event which attracts 900 members of South Florida design community annually and has raised more than \$4,00,000 in scholarship funds and programs

Annual D3E Student Conference and Career Fair attracting 35 design firms and vendors

FIU by Design Project with North Miami Beach Police Department Restroom/ Shower renovation, RedBull Trailer and RedBull/AmSo Bar

Feasibility Planning lead with Roberto Rovira for "Creating a living Truth and Reconciliation Rosewood Museum (TRRM) Rosewood, Florida." Kalai Mathee (PI). Proposal to Mellon Foundation and Green Foundation

Approximately \$10,000 in services and student stipends