Emeris

Bachelor of Arts in Interior Design



Vega School

3 Years Full-Time | NQF Level 7
360 Credits | SAQA ID: 87306 | BAID0701

- Durban North*
- Sandton
- Cape Town City
- Pretoria

Qualification Description

The Bachelor of Arts in Interior Design degree has specifically been designed to meet the requirements of the challenging and expanding fields of Interior Design such as corporate, retail, hospitality, exhibition and residential design. This qualification provides students with a clear understanding of three-dimensional design analysis, scale/ proportion, spatial sequence and other architectural components.

Students are encouraged to develop a thorough and imaginative approach to creative problem solving in the context of any human environment. Lateral design approaches are developed in which briefs are solved at a variety of levels and with an integrated experimental approach to problem solving. Design briefs encourage students to engage with design influences such as: economics, ergonomics, anthropometrics, sustainability, inclusivity, cultural influences, social context and location. Students will also be introduced to ideation and visualisation techniques, the interior design process, research, theories, perspectives and history of interior design, interior design construction and detailing, material studies, professional practice and computer- aided design (CAD) and building information management (BIM) tools presently used in design practice.

Who Is This Qualification Aimed At?

This qualification is aimed at students who wish to formalise and develop their creative and technical design skills. The programme prepares graduates for diverse career opportunities across the interior design industry and related creative sectors. Graduates may pursue roles in residential and commercial interior design, hospitality and leisure design, corporate and office space planning, retail and exhibition design, healthcare and educational facility design, and event and set design.

CONTACT FULL-TIME

*The qualification is accredited by the CHE but awaiting registration by the Department of Higher Education and Training.

Admission Requirements

Minimum Admission Requirements		English	Maths/HG	Math Lit/SG/ Technical Maths	Notes
	NSC: Bachelor's Degree pass with	50%	40% or	60%	A minimum of 30% in LoLT on NSC/ SC(a) **OR** with a min. of 33.3% on SC
	NC(V): Bachelor's Degree pass with	60%	50% or	60%	
	SC: Endorsement with	50%	40% or	60%	
	SC(a): Bachelor pass with		40% or	60%	
	International	An USAf Exemption Certificate is required and meeting the relevant Maths and English requirements.			
	A cognate Higher Certificate or cognate 240 credit Diploma OR an Advanced Certificate OR 360 credit Diploma or Degree may satisfy the minimum admission requirements to degree studies.				If discipline not cognate at least 20% of credits must be academic literacy or numeracy related.

Alternative Admission		NSC	Notes
Should the English requirement not be met at NSC Grade 12 then entrance may be granted if the requirement is met based on the Grade 11 final English mark.	English	40-49%	If 50% min in final Grade 11 results was achieved.

Should you have any other school leaving qualification not mentioned above, please reach out to a Student Advisor.

Scan the QR Code to learn more about Alternate Admission requirements for:
RPL | Mature Age Exemptions | USAf International Students | One module outstanding from a Higher Certificate

Curriculum Outline

The curriculum is designed to provide students with a structured progression through core disciplines, fostering both theoretical understanding and applied competence across key areas of study.

The core disciplines included in this programme are:

Modules	Module Purpose
Interior Design 1-3	The Interior Design major equips students with a strong theoretical foundation, advanced technical skills, and creative problem-solving abilities to design innovative, functional, and sustainable interior spaces. From understanding the principles of the design process and user-centred design to specifying materials and integrating sustainable solutions, students develop the expertise needed to address increasingly complex design challenges.
Interior Design Construction 1-3	The Interior Design Construction stream equips Interior Design students with the knowledge, skills, and precision required to translate design concepts into fully realised, buildable spaces. Students progress from learning basic building construction principles and national building regulations to mastering advanced technical drawing, detailing, and specification skills. They develop expertise in materials, finishes, and building services, ensuring design solutions meet functional, psychological, and physiological user needs.
Interior Design Technology	The technology modules equips students with the technical expertise to create and present professional interior design drawings, documentation, and 3D visuals using industry-standard CAD, BIM , communication and rendering software.
Interior Design Professional Practice	These modules prepare students for the realities of working in the Interior Design industry, from concept development to project completion. Students gain insight into the South African professional landscape, learning the processes, standards, and client interactions involved in delivering a complete design solution. They also develop entrepreneurial skills, exploring how to identify opportunities, evaluate ideas, and establish a successful interior design business.

Please note: Emeris does not require a portfolio as part of the application process to study design. That's because our primary focus is on how our students think and how collaborative they are as creative solution seekers. The development of an industry-ready portfolio becomes a core focus once you enrol and engage hands-on with any one of our design programmes. You are welcome to make an appointment with your campus Student Advisor if you are not sure which design course would suit you best.

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Emeris is registered with the Department of Higher Education and Training as a private higher education institution under the Higher Education Act, 1997 (reg. No. 2007/HE07/002).

Please note, details are correct at the time of publication.

Curriculum Structure

Year 1							
Semester 1				Semester 2			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits	Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
CRDE5111	Creative Development 1	5	15	HTRA5122	History of Architecture and Design 1	5	15
DEST5111	Design Studies 1	5	15	IDVI5122	Ideation and Visualisation 1B	5	15
IDVI5121	Ideation and Visualisation 1A	5	15	INTD5132	Interior Design 1B	5	15
INTD5131	Interior Design 1A	5	15	IDCO5112	Interior Design Construction 1	5	15
Year 2							
Semester 3				Semester 4			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits	Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
DEST6211	Design Studies 2	6	15	CSID6212	Contextual Studies for Interior Design 2	6	15
INTD6231	Interior Design 2A	6	15	INTD6232	Interior Design 2B	6	15
IDCO6211	Interior Design Construction 2A	6	15	IDCO6212	Interior Design Construction 2B	6	15
INDT6221	Interior Design Technology 2A	6	15	INDT6222	Interior Design Technology 2B	6	15
Year 3							
Semester 5				Semester 6			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits	Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
INTD7331	Interior Design 3A	7	15	CSID7312	Contextual Studies in Interior Design 3	7	15
IDCO7311	Interior Design Construction 3A	7	15	INTD7332	Interior Design 3B	7	15
IDPP7311	Interior Design Professional Practice 3A	7	15	IDCO7312	Interior Design Construction 3B	7	15
IRDE7311	Introduction to Design Research	7	15	IDPP7312	Interior Design Professional Practice 3B	7	15

Further Study Pathways

The successful completion of the Bachelor of Arts in Interior Design degree enables you to progress into the Bachelor of Arts Honours in Interior Design qualification delivered at Emeris, subject to meeting the admission requirements.

Career Opportunities

- Corporate Designer
- Retail Designer
- Hospitality Designer
- Residential Designer
- Exhibition Designer

Timetables

This qualification is aimed at students who wish to complete full-time face-to-face studies for the duration of their qualification. This means that students are expected to be available Mon-Fri 8:00 - 17:00 throughout the day for class in the academic year depending on how the timetable is structured.

Students must also note that timetables remain subject to change throughout the academic year.

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System and Software Requirements

Minimum Computer/Laptop Specifications:

- OS - Windows 11 *
- Processor (CPU) - Intel Core i5 / Ultra 5 or better / AMD Ryzen 5 or better Ram - 16GB (Should be upgradable to 32GB)
- GPU - Nvidia RTX 4000 OR 5000 Series with a minimum of 8GB of VRAM
- Storage Space - 1TB NVME SSD or larger

Recommended Computer/Laptop Specifications (For future proofing):

- OS - Windows 11 *
- Processor (CPU) - Intel Core i5 / Ultra 5 or better / AMD Ryzen 5 or better
- Ram - 16GB (Should be upgradable to 32GB)
- GPU - Nvidia RTX 4000 OR 5000 Series with a minimum of 8GB of VRAM
- Storage Space - 1TB NVME SSD or larger

***PLEASE NOTE** that a laptop with a Windows Operating System is preferable, as most 3D modelling software is not Mac Native and does not perform reliably on IOS. Always review the official software system requirements before purchasing a device.

Additional Requirements:

- Wireless Mouse (It is not possible to achieve fine selections and very small moves required for using design software with a trackpad. Using a trackpad also puts tremendous unnecessary strain on shoulder and hand muscles which can be detrimental in the long term.)
- Reliable internet connection (we recommend 5-10 GB of data per month),
- Your own device with at least Windows 11 (Microsoft Office 365 is available as a free download for students), and Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge or Firefox.

SOFTWARE USED IN FIRST YEAR (SEMESTER 2)**:**

- SketchUp Pro (Student packages available annually)

SOFTWARE USED IN SECOND AND THIRD YEAR:

- Adobe Photoshop, Adobe InDesign, SketchUp Pro (Student packages available annually)
- Autodesk AutoCAD and Revit (free student packages available for educational use)
- Rendering software: Choose D5, Enscape, Lumion, Twinmotion or similar (free or student packages available annually)

Graduation and Completion Requirements for This Qualification

In order to be awarded this qualification, you must have achieved a minimum final year mark of fifty percent (50%) for all 24 modules in the curriculum.

As a contact student, this qualification is structured to be completed over 3 years. The maximum time for completing a qualification full-time is double the minimum time associated with the qualification, and for part-time an additional year is allowed.

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Apply Online

After your application is submitted, we will review your documentation and provide an outcome regarding your chosen study.

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