

Considering Interior Design at Kansas State University?

Q: How do I find out more about the Interior Design program at Kansas State University?

A: When you're making a decision as important as where you want to go to college, there is no better way to decide if K-State's Interior Design program is a good fit for you than by visiting in person. We recommend that you try to schedule a visit to Kansas State University sometime during your junior year or early in your senior year of high school.

Visits are set up through the University Admissions Office. You can find more information on how to set up your visit at: <http://consider.k-state.edu/visit/>. When you make your appointment, let the admissions representative know that you also wish to visit the Interior Design program. They will coordinate a meeting with one of our ID student ambassadors who will give you a tour and answer your questions as a prospective student. During your tour, you will have an opportunity to view our facilities and see some of the student work on display. More importantly, you can speak candidly with your student guide and get a feel for what it's like to be a student in our program.

FAQs from New Incoming Freshmen

Q: How do I apply?

A: When you apply to Kansas State University, you need to indicate that you are interested in being considered for admission to the Interior Design Program in the College of Human Ecology. Individuals who have completed applications submitted to the University by February 1 will be in the first round of applications considered for the following Fall semester. If your application is completed after February 1, you will be considered in the next round of interior design admits after your completed application is received by the University and forwarded to ATID. This is the link to the KSU Admission Office web site: <http://consider.k-state.edu/admissions/>.

Q: How does the selective admissions process work?

A: As an incoming freshman, we use the objective measures of your (non-weighted) GPA, ACT/SAT scores, and class rank to determine the best prepared prospective students.

Q: What is the average ACT score for students accepted to the ID program?

A: For the past two years the average ACT score for admitted students has been 24-25. We rarely accept students with ACT scores below 21.

Q: When will I know if I've been selected for admission to the ID program?

A: We typically receive the applications from the KSU Admissions Office on March 15. Our first round of acceptance letters is usually sent out by late March. If you have not been accepted in the first round, you will be placed on a wait list to be considered for later admission if vacancies remain.

Q: Once accepted, when and how do I enroll?

A: Kansas State University orients and enrolls incoming freshmen in the month of June. At that time, we will meet with you and enroll you in both your Interior Design and General Education courses. Enrollment in the ID courses is guaranteed, but we recommend that you participate in the earliest possible June enrollment date to increase your chances of being able to enroll in Gen Ed classes that may have limited availability.

Q: Are there courses that I should take in high school to be better prepared?

A: We do not require any specific high school courses beyond those required by K-State. There are, however, things you can do to strengthen your skills and confidence. Studio art classes can help strengthen your drawing skills and your aesthetic discernment. Familiarity with a wide range of computer applications will also serve you well. Our students tend to use a variety of programs such as Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, etc., in addition to the Computer Aided Design software we teach in our courses.

Our studio courses are very rigorous and, as a result, a full course load of 15 to 16 credit hours can be particularly difficult to manage as a new college student. We recommend that you take courses that will begin to fulfill some of your general education requirements at K-State, freeing up time to concentrate on your design studies. Advanced Placement courses are one way to do this. Another way is to take courses at your local Community College that transfer equivalently to K-State. http://www.k-state.edu/admit/tran_info.html

Q: Is it a good idea to attend a Community College for a year before transferring to K-State and beginning my studies in interior design?

A: The Interior Design curriculum at K-State includes eight *sequential* semesters of studio course work. In other words, once you begin your Interior Design course work, it will take a minimum of eight semesters before completion. It does not accelerate your degree to complete a year of general education before coming to K-State. It may, however, allow you to concentrate on your interior design classes with fewer distractions from other course work.

Q: I've taken AP classes and/or other college level coursework. How do I know how they will transfer and be applied at K-State?

A: The Interior Design faculty does not participate in the process of evaluating your non-interior design coursework. All Advanced Placement courses and other college-level coursework are evaluated by the University as part of the admissions process. They will determine how your work will be applied to fulfill general education or non-restricted elective requirements. You should contact the Admissions Office if you have further questions about that process. <http://consider.k-state.edu/admissions/>

Q: What kinds of scholarships are available to me?

A: We encourage you to take advantage of applying for scholarships as part of your K-State application process. Particularly if you have very high ACT and GPA scores, you should apply as early as possible (the University recommends by November 1) and inquire into the availability of premier scholarships. [The link is: http://consider.k-state.edu/premierscholarships/index.html](http://consider.k-state.edu/premierscholarships/index.html)

The College of Human Ecology also offers some scholarships. <http://www.humec.k-state.edu/future-students/scholarships-for-undergraduates.php>

Q: What kind of computer do I need and when should I buy it?

A: We update our computer requirements each spring and a full description is located at <http://www.humec.k-state.edu/atid/id-computer-requirements.php>. HOWEVER, we strongly recommend that you wait until the beginning of your second year before purchasing your computer. Buying a computer at the beginning of your second year gives it a better chance of lasting through your fourth year. You will not need any advanced computer software (AutoCad, etc.) until your second year of study in our program. During your first year in the ID program, you might consider using the University computers available in the libraries, 24/7 university computer labs, and in living facilities with a portable external hard drive or a few thumb drives to manage your files.

Q: How much does it cost to provide supplies and equipment for studios?

A: While this figure is going to change from year to year, you will find below a budget figure (based on 2009 costs) for your computer, software, studio equipment and interior design course textbooks. (The costs associated with other courses required for a Bachelor of Science in Interior Design are not included, however the University provides information about costs at the following URL: <http://consider.k-state.edu/tuitionandcosts/>) Supplies for class/studio projects such as presentation boards, printing costs, materials for model construction, etc., can vary dramatically depending on your choices, project assignments, and changes in the curriculum from year to year. We encourage the reuse of leftover materials and things that would otherwise be recycled or waste whenever possible. Faculty actively salvages useable materials and makes them available to our students.

2009 costs for required ID courses used for future budgeting purposes only:

1st Year:

Equipment Kit: \$250.00
Books: \$227.00 (new)

2nd Year:

Computer: 2009-2010 Specifications: \$1200 (Dell), \$1850 (Mac)
Software: Microsoft Office \$80.00
Adobe CS 4 – Design Standard CS4 \$249.00
Autodesk CAD – Autocad@2010 Education SV (61 months term) \$159.95
Books: \$480.00 (new)

3rd Year:

Books: \$ 90.00 (new)

4th Year:

No new books or software required for required ID courses

FAQs from K-State Students Who Want to Change Majors to Interior Design/Non-K-State College Students Who Want to Transfer to K-State and Major in Interior Design (with no previous Interior Design coursework completed).

Q: I'm considering changing my major to Interior Design. How do I learn more so that I can make an informed decision?

A: The Interior Design program has several student ambassadors who give tours and answer questions for prospective students. You can set up a visit by calling the University Admissions office – see the following website for specific information: <http://consider.k-state.edu/visit/scheduling.htm>. We've found that students who know more about the interior design program and profession of interior design are more likely to be sure about their choice to become an ID student. What we do in our curriculum and what interior designers do in practice is not what you see in the media—HGTV, movies, etc. A visit with one of our student ambassadors can answer a lot of questions.

Q: What do I need to do to change my major to Interior Design?

A: The Interior Design program in the College of Human Ecology has a selective admissions process – so you won't be able to simply change your major. Application forms are available in the ATID Department offices at 225 Justin Hall. We use several measures to evaluate your preparation and potential for success in our program. As part of the admissions process, you will be asked to submit an essay and a transcript of your college grades thus far. It may be helpful for you to know that when we look at your K-State GPA, we evaluate the grades in light of the difficulty of the courses. Please submit your completed application by February 1 in order to be admitted to the 1st year class in the fall.

FAQs from External Transfers to K-State with some Interior Design course work completed at a previous institution/Internal K-State transfers with some course work completed in the College of Architecture, Planning and Design.

Q: I am hoping to transfer to the College of Human Ecology's interior design program and would like to request consideration for placement beyond the first semester of the program. What do I need to do in order to do so?

A: You will need to work directly with the Program Coordinator of the Interior Design program in order to facilitate this process –call 785-532-6993 to reach the ID Program Coordinator. The application process is the same as what is described above for internal transfers as you will be requested to submit a transcript and an essay. You will also be required to submit a portfolio including course syllabi, project statements, and work you've done in the courses you're hoping substitute for required ID courses. What we need to see is what you have and have not learned so far. There is no automatic equivalency.

While all accredited ID programs must meet certain content expectations, no two program curricula are alike in how they organize the content into courses. The first year curriculum in our program has been designed to focus on what we consider to be the foundational concepts that are most critical. Although you may have skills that are found in higher-level studios within our curriculum, you may still be placed within the first year if your previous work does not demonstrate the knowledge and skills we consider fundamental.