

**PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION AND CURRICULUM MAP
FOR INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE**



1. Programme title	Interior Architecture
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3. Teaching institution	AKTO Art and Design (Athens, Thessalonica)
4. Details of accreditation by professional/statutory/regulatory body	
5. Final qualification	BA (Hons) Degree
6. Year of validation	2015
Year of amendment	2021
7. Language of study	Greek
8. Mode of study	Full-time & Part time
9. Criteria for admission to the programme	
<p>One can enroll in the course if they have creative thinking or a talent and have a love for the field. For their enrolment those interested in the course have to apply via a special AKTO form, they must have completed secondary education and they must attend an interview with the Head of the course. It is possible for one to enroll without having completed secondary education if they are judged to be an exceptional talent, provided that they have completed their 17th year of age. In all cases the interested party presents a portfolio to the Head of the course. In no case can one be enrolled in the course if they are not 17 years of age and they have not completed the 9-year compulsory education. As the programme is taught in Greek, Greek language requirements for foreign applicants are of a B2 level. There are no maximum age limit.</p>	
10. Aims of the programme	
<p>Learning in art and design, as per Subject benchmark statement, develops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the capacity to be creative • an aesthetic sensibility • intellectual enquiry • skills in team working • an appreciation of diversity • the ability to conduct research in a variety of modes • the quality of reflecting on one's own learning and development • the capacity to work independently, determining one's own future learning needs. <p>The Programme views the two functions-architecture and design-in close dialogue, interrelated and deriving one from the other.</p> <p>The course aims to prepare professionals of a high standard and competency to deal with issues of Interior Architecture and design in an original and critical manner. It will enable you to observe, identify and solve problems, make critical and reflective judgements, develop rational and analytical skills, and an ability to generate alternatives.</p> <p>You will engage with appropriate related theories within global, historical, contemporary and cultural settings and develop your own critical disposition in relation to Interior Architecture. The programme combines the conceptual, theoretical and the practical and enhances your experiential, activity and enquiry-based learning. Ultimately, you will be able to contribute to both the cultural development and the economic well-being of the individual and of society.</p>	

The Programme aims to provide you with solid knowledge of the principles and historical developments of the architectural discipline, construction methods and techniques, materials for both small and large scale constructions, contextual awareness but also an awareness of the design discipline, its methods and other specializations. It will also equip you with a broad range of practical skills to enable you to serve in any sector of space design and/or construction and material industry at an international level as you will have knowledge and ability to contribute to the work of larger teams, collaborating with related disciplines.

It places great emphasis on the methodology of composition, substantiated with specific choices and manipulations and equips you with interdisciplinary knowledge for presentation and promotion, as such managing Design in a global manner. It will enhance your verbal and written communication skills, and your ability to present original solutions based on international practices. You will have a complete academic experience, as teaching methods are not exhausted within the boundaries of the class.

A range of transferable skills is incorporated into the programme, so as to assist you in achieving a successful career and constantly develop as artists and professionals. Independence of thought, originality of ideas and professionalism, are the key parameters that are enhanced through both the curriculum and the organized complementary activities that form the educational experience within the programme.

11. Programme outcomes - the programme offers opportunities for students to achieve and demonstrate the following learning outcomes.

<p>A. Knowledge and understanding of: On completion of this programme, successful students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evidence critical engagement on a broad range of relevant theories and analyse the historical dimensions Art, Architecture and Design. 2. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of professional Contemporary Design practice within the broader ethical, socio-economic and cultural context. 3. Evidence a capacity to be creative in combining knowledge and understanding of a broad range of Interior Architecture and Design principles, materials, techniques and media. 4. Articulate and synthesize knowledge and understanding of the methods used for Research methodology, both scholarly and applied. 5. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the factors affecting professional practice, including related disciplines and interdisciplinary approaches. 	<p>Teaching/learning methods Students develop knowledge and understanding through doing, study and reading, listening, constructing, practice and creating.</p> <p>Assessment Student's knowledge and understanding is assessed by creative coursework, written assignments and unseen exams.</p>
<p>B. Cognitive skills On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate an ability to analyse information and experiences, integrate theory and practice, and extend their learning in different contextual frameworks. 2. Demonstrate proficiency in undertaking and presenting research, interpreting texts, recognizing problems, determining correlations and evaluating findings. 	<p>Teaching/learning methods Students develop cognitive skills through participation in seminars, research projects, creative work, written assignments.</p> <p>Assessment Students' cognitive skills are assessed through creative coursework, presentations to staff and students as well as through written assignments.</p>

<p>3. Exhibit skills in generating concepts, setting design parameters and goals, determining action sequences, in response to set briefs and/or as self-initiated activity.</p> <p>4. Present evidence that demonstrates an ability to analyse and criticize completed work, benefit from critical judgements and contribute to relevant debates.</p>	
<p>C. Practical skills</p> <p>On completion of this programme, successful students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Select and make appropriate use of a variety of Interior Architecture and Design methods, techniques and materials, and apply them creatively and imaginatively. 2. Select, apply and manage the appropriate research methodologies in order to investigate a topic. 3. Demonstrate competency and proficiency in using software for innovative Architecture and digital design. 4. Manage all stages of an individually executed project in the field of Interior Architecture and Design, adopting a man-centered approach. 5. Communicate original design solutions, demonstrating awareness of subject related and contextual issues affecting Interior Architecture. 	<p>Teaching/learning methods</p> <p>Students develop practical skills through exercises, studio practice, creative project work, research assignments, participation in seminars.</p> <p>Assessment</p> <p>Students' practical skills are assessed through creative coursework, creative projects, practical examinations.</p>
<p>D. Graduate skills</p> <p>On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to demonstrate:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organisational and time management skills. 2. Communication, teamwork and presentation skills. 3. Investigation, research and problem solving skills. 4. Information technology skills. 5. Personal and career development skills. 	<p>Teaching/learning methods</p> <p>Students develop graduate skills through their creative project work, participation in seminars, presentations, written assignments, studio practice and both written and practical examinations.</p> <p>Assessment</p> <p>Students' key skills are assessed through creative coursework, presentations and both written and practical examinations.</p>
<p>12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)</p>	
<p>12. 1 Overall structure of the programme</p> <p>The course is studied over three years (6 semesters) full-time and study is undertaken in three levels (one for each year of study). A part-time mode is also offered, whereby students complete the course in 8 semesters (Level 4 is completed in the first year of studies, Level 5 is completed in the second year of studies and Level 6 is completed in the third and fourth year of studies). 100% of the course is College-based. The course is arranged in 15 week semesters. There are 13 study weeks per semester. The course is divided into study units called modules. Each level has an equivalent of 120 credits.</p> <p>Levels 4 and 5: Each module has a credit value of 20 credits. Each 20-credit module represents approximately 180 hours of student learning, endeavor and assessment.</p> <p>Level 6: There are two modules with a credit value of 30 credits respectively in semester 5 and one module with a credit value of 60 in semester 6, which is the main project.</p> <p>Upon successful completion of the third level of studies, students receive the BA award.</p> <p>Details of each module can be found in the module descriptors below.</p>	

12.2 Levels and modules	
Level 4	
COMPULSORY	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take all of the following: Interior Architecture I Design Innovation I Design Studio Interior Architecture II Interior Design I Design Theory I	120 credits are required for progression to the next level of study.
Level 5	
COMPULSORY	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take the following: Interior Architecture III Interior Design II Design Theory II Interior Architecture IV Interior Design III Design Theory III	120 credits are required for progression to the next level of study.
Level 6	
COMPULSORY	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take the following: Interior Architecture Research Project Interior Architecture V Main Project	120 credits are required for successful completion of the academic year and a total of 360 credits are required in order for students to graduate.
12.3 Non-compensatable modules	
Module level	Module code
Compensation is not permitted in any module	
13. A curriculum map relating learning outcomes to modules	
See Curriculum Map attached.	
14. Information about assessment regulations	
Detailed information about assessment regulations that apply to the programme can be found in the handbook (Also see AKTO Regulations at http://akto.gr/κανονισμός-σπουδών). In general, students must pass all components of each module, in order to complete the module successfully.	
15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support	
Not applicable	
16. Future careers	
The Careers Office looks after the professional provision of AKTO graduates. Various companies who have job vacancies contact it. By advising the student records and academic staff, it promotes, in line of priority, the most capable students. It also deals with graduate requests for employment and holds several reference material and information on professional requirements and employment opportunities. Graduates of this programme normally start their career as assistants in architectural offices, enter already existing family companies in the broader sector, develop their own design offices or work as independent professionals. Some are employed by construction companies or commercial companies within the broad sector, dealing with materials, furniture, lightning etc.	

17. Particular support for learning

The Interior Architecture course is a very strong course and has been the largest of all AKTO courses for many years. It is spread in two buildings of AKTO in Athens in close walking distance from each other, as well as the Thessalonica Campus. The students have at their disposal numerous design and drawing studios, lecture rooms, computer studios that are open during the day with continuous supervision in order for students to practice and complete their projects, three libraries in three different buildings that are open 56 hours per week and equipped with photocopying machines and internet stations. They may also use the photographic studios for specific applications. They get a lot of assistance by experienced technical staff and the librarians are also in the position to provide valuable information in regards to various sources of reference. AKTO students operate in a multi-disciplinary environment, meeting students from different courses, coming into contact with their work and attending common activities. AKTO has a strong tradition in establishing and maintaining strong links with the relevant industry, which creates opportunities for students to visit working areas such as publishing companies and printing workshops and, what's even more important, get assigned real projects by various companies while they study, thus gaining experience, participating in exhibitions outside the college, winning prizes and even seeing their work published while they still study. The college also has a tradition in organizing various other activities that enrich student experience, such as educational excursions abroad, conferences, lectures by known professionals etc.

18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system) -**19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)** Art & Design**20. Reference points**

The following reference points were used in designing the programme:

1. Subject Benchmark Statements for Art and Design programmes as issued by the QAA (2015)
2. Descriptors of the National Qualifications framework for Art & Design (2014)
3. Middlesex University regulations (2018-2019)
4. AKTO College mission statement (2013)
5. The framework for higher education qualifications [FHEQ] (2008)

21. Other information**Students also benefit from:**

-Qualifications and expertise of teaching staff: Most members of the programme team have completed university studies, undergraduate and/or postgraduate studies. All of them are practicing professionals with notable experience in the field.

-Educational experience of the teaching staff: all members of staff have substantial educational experience since they have been teaching in advanced levels of undergraduate programmes for a number of years.

-History and experience of the college: AKTO, which is the largest provider in the field of Art & Design education in Greece, has been running successfully a number of undergraduate programmes in the field, validated by Middlesex University since 1992 and a post-graduate course at Master's level since 2003. The college has a long-standing good reputation for the quality of its provision.

-The validation by Middlesex University ensures implementation of all quality factors and procedures officially referring to academic programmes of such standards.

The programme is evaluated and improved in the following ways:

-Student feedback in surveys (end of first semester) and board of studies (once per semester).

-External Examiner arrangements: Future reports on the operation and standards of the BA Level will assist in the evaluation and improvement of the Programme.

-Feedback from the employment market, whereby there is a demand for AKTO graduates by employers, is very positive, and the very good reputation of AKTO graduates in the industry.

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding		Practical skills	
A1	Evidence critical engagement on a broad range of relevant theories and analyse the historical dimensions Art, Architecture and Design.	C1	Select and make appropriate use of a variety of Interior Architecture and Design methods, techniques and materials, and apply them creatively and imaginatively.
A2	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of professional Contemporary Design practice within the broader ethical, socio-economic and cultural context.	C2	Select, apply and manage the appropriate research methodologies in order to investigate a topic.
A3	Evidence a capacity to be creative in combining knowledge and understanding of a broad range of Interior Architecture and Design principles, materials, techniques and media.	C3	Demonstrate competency and proficiency in using software for innovative Architecture and digital design.
A4	Articulate and synthesize knowledge and understanding of the methods used for Research methodology, both scholarly and applied.	C4	Manage all stages of an individually executed project in the field of Interior Architecture and Design, adopting a man-centered approach.
A5	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the factors affecting professional practice, including related disciplines and interdisciplinary approaches.	C5	Communicate original design solutions, demonstrating awareness of subject related and contextual issues affecting Interior Architecture.
Cognitive skills		Graduate Skills	
B1	Demonstrate an ability to analyse information and experiences, integrate theory and practice, and extend their learning in different contextual frameworks.	D1	Organisational and time management skills.
B2	Demonstrate proficiency in undertaking and presenting research, interpreting texts, recognizing problems, determining correlations and evaluating findings.	D2	Communication, teamwork and presentation skills
B3	Exhibit skills in generating concepts, setting design parameters and goals, determining action sequences, in response to set briefs and/or as self-initiated activity.	D3	Investigation, research and problem solving skills.
B4	Present evidence that demonstrates an ability to analyse and criticize completed work, benefit from critical judgements and contribute to relevant debates.	D4	Information technology skills.
		D5	Personal and career development skills.