# Course Specification

## Course Summary Information

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><strong>Course Title</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><strong>BCU Course Code</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><strong>Awarding Institution</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td><strong>Teaching Institution(s)</strong> (if different from point 3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td><strong>Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation</strong> (if applicable)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Course Description

Through encouraging and promoting experiential learning, the MA Interior Architecture and Design course embraces the truth that designing is a creative adventure.

This twelve-month postgraduate course will enable you to form an understanding and appreciation of theoretical, practical and professional issues that are informing the evolution of contemporary interior architecture and design professional practice.

**What's covered in the course?**

On the MA Interior Architecture and Design course you will explore the distinctive qualities associated with the interiors of inhabited architecture.

By looking at the cultural, practical and atmospheric aspects of interiors created by architects, artists and designers, as an innovator you will be able to strategically develop creative interfaces and determine how users will perceive and behave in the spaces that you are conceiving.

Making speculative work is an important aspect of the course. As individuals you will establish your professional identity as autonomous creative practitioners by blending philosophy, artistry and practicality in order to compose an interior design scenario that is future-focused and personally and culturally meaningful. By exploring innovative practices embedded within your own design process, this reflective practice will act as a stimuli for you to challenge existing assumptions about interior design and push the international platform for the profession forwards into new and versatile directions.

A key aspect of the course is that it will encourage a spirit of 'internationalisation', which will contribute to the establishment of a culturally rich, vibrant and diverse learning studio environment. Fostering the ambition of 'lifelong learning', you will create a dynamic continual development plan. This will allow you to draw on the expertise and global networks associated with the institution, reflecting the full spectrum of opportunities that can help you to enrich and
nurture your career. Previous postgraduate students on the course have been employed at leading international architectural practices as architects, interior designers, or as design lecturers in further and higher education institutions, with the pathway to postgraduate Doctoral PhD study also opened up as a result.

### 7 Course Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>7a</th>
<th>Name of Final Award</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Credits Awarded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Master of Arts Interior Architecture and Design</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Master of Arts Interior Architecture and Design with Professional Placement</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>7b</th>
<th>Exit Awards and Credits Awarded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Postgraduate Certificate Interior Architecture and Design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Postgraduate Diploma Interior Architecture and Design</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 8 Derogation from the University Regulations

Not applicable

### 9 Delivery Patterns

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode(s) of Study</th>
<th>Location(s) of Study</th>
<th>Duration of Study</th>
<th>Code(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full Time</td>
<td>City Centre</td>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>PT0805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full Time ‘with Professional Placement’</td>
<td>City Centre (and placement provider)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 10 Entry Requirements

The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at [https://www.bcu.ac.uk/](https://www.bcu.ac.uk/).
# Course Learning Outcomes

## Knowledge and Understanding

1. Evaluate evidence, arguments and assumptions in order to make and present sound judgments within a structured discourse relating to interior architectural culture, theory and design sector.

2. Apply knowledge of the global context of the Interior Architect and the construction industry, and the professional qualities needed for decision making in complex and unpredictable circumstances.

3. Understand how knowledge is advanced through research to produce clear, logically argued and original written work relating to the creative systems that act as drivers in interior architectural culture, theory and design processes.

## Cognitive and Intellectual Skills

4. Generate design proposals using understanding of a body of knowledge, some at the current boundaries of professional practice and the academic discipline of interior architecture and design.

5. Evaluate how designers operate in a studio context, in order to establish learning cultures that test design reasoning and processes.

6. Synthesise interior design literacy skills to explain interior architecture and design thinking, processes and proposals.

## Practical and Professional Skills

7. Determine own strategic ‘Praxis; becoming the designer that owns their own approach, practice and process.

8. Apply a range of communication methods and media to present creative explorations and interior architecture and design proposals clearly and effectively to distinct audiences.

9. Make appropriate judgements and decisions in complex and unpredictable circumstances.

## Key Transferable Skills

10. Operate independently or collaboratively to identify individual learning needs and understand the personal responsibility required to prepare for employment as a creative design practitioner.

11. Communicate to a variety of audiences using appropriate methods and media.
### Course Requirements

#### Level 7:

*In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 140 credits):*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Credit Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARC7445</td>
<td>Design Systems</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARC7443</td>
<td>Appreciative Design Inquiry</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADM7000</td>
<td>Major Project</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete the following SHARED SUBJECT module.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Credit Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARC7444</td>
<td>Design Cultures</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete at least the following OPTIONAL module.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Credit Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARC7459</td>
<td>Co-LAB (Live Project PG):</td>
<td>20</td>
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</table>

#### Level 6:

*In order to qualify for the award of MA Interior Architecture and Design with Professional Placement, a student must successfully complete all of the Level 7 modules listed above as well as the following Level 6 module:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Credit Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PLA6003</td>
<td>Professional Placement</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period: <strong>Trimester 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td>---</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On Exit with these Credits you get the Award: <strong>Postgraduate Certificate</strong></td>
<td><strong>Value: 60 Credits</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This initial stage tackles the context and current conditions that are affecting the Interior Architecture and Design Industry Sector and the impact that this is having on design - commissions, concepts, constraints and communication.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*** Subject Module</td>
<td>*** Course Module</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Design Cultures</strong></td>
<td><strong>Design Systems</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Credits</td>
<td>40 Credits</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period of Reflection, Analysis and Evaluation – Personal Development Planning</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period: <strong>Trimester 2</strong></th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On Exit with these Credits you get the Award: <strong>Postgraduate Diploma</strong></td>
<td><strong>Value: 60 Credits</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The second stage in the year tackles the way that creative and commercial design processes can elevate interior design facilities and spaces to new levels of experience, performance and perception.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*** Subject – ‘Optional’ Module</td>
<td>*** Course Module</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Co.LAB</strong> <em>(Live Project – PG)</em></td>
<td><strong>Appreciative Design Inquiry</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Credits</td>
<td>40 Credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period of Reflection, Analysis and Evaluation – Personal Development Planning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period: <strong>Trimester 3</strong></th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On Exit with these Credits you get the Award: <strong>Master of Arts</strong></td>
<td><strong>Value: 60 Credits</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This final stage in the year allows students to determine a self-generated Signature Brief - a creative interior design project tailored to suit the unique skills, interests and professional or academic aspirations of the MA student.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*** Standard Module</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Final Major Project</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 Credits</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period of Reflection, Analysis and Evaluation – Personal Development Planning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Period: **Trimester 1 (Year 2)**

On Exit with these Credits you get the Award: **Master of Arts**

**Value:** 60 Credits

This optional stage in the year allows students to complete a professional placement.

**Professional Placement**

60 Credits

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### 13 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Overall student **workload** consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- **Scheduled Learning** includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- **Directed Learning** includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- **Private Study** includes preparation for exams

The **balance of assessment** by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, exam and in-person) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by students. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, exam and in-person is shown below.

#### Level 7

**Workload**

**% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Number of Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scheduled Learning</td>
<td>540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directed Learning</td>
<td>630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Study</td>
<td>630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Hours</strong></td>
<td><strong>1800</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Balance of Assessment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Mode</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coursework</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Person</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>