

## Historic Interior and Design (A005291)

**Course size** *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

**Credits 5.0**

**Study time 150 h**

**Course offerings in academic year 2025-2026**

A (semester 2)

Dutch

Gent

**Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026**

Sterckx, Marjan

LW17

lecturer-in-charge

**Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026**

[Bachelor of Arts in Art History, Musicology and Theatre Studies](#)

**crdts**

5

**offering**

A

[Bachelor of Science in Engineering: Architecture](#)

5

A

[Master of Science in Engineering: Architecture](#)

5

A

[Master of Science in Industrial Design Engineering Technology](#)

5

A

[Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Art History, Musicology and Theatre Studies](#)

5

A

[Elective Set Art Studies](#)

5

A

**Teaching languages**

Dutch

**Keywords**

Interior design history and theory, Design history, History of decorative/applied arts, Furniture history, Fashion

**Position of the course**

This basic course wants to provide a basic knowledge and insight into the history and theory of the interior and design in western Europe.

**Contents**

The course provides an overview of the history of the interior, design and crafts in Western Europe from the Middle Ages until now. The course proposes an integral approach, focusing on the design, function and meaning of the interior and the applied arts. It deals with aspects such as living habits, floor- and wall coverings, furniture, utensils and decorative objects. The emphasis is on the domestic interior and the period after c. 1750. Attention is also paid to theoretical and methodological aspects, and to the history and topicality of this field of study.

**Initial competences**

- Basic knowledge of the history of the fine arts and architecture
- Passive knowledge of French, English and German

**Final competences**

- 1 To have a basic knowledge and insight into the history and theory of interiors and design/ crafts.
- 2 To have a basic knowledge and insight into the history and actual relevance of the discipline of interior and design history, and its methods.
- 3 To be able to recognize and situate the main historical styles.
- 4 Develop attention and sensibility for this matter and its related problems in daily life (e.g. sustainability, heritage,...).

**Conditions for credit contract**

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned

in 'Starting Competences'

### Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

### Teaching methods

Seminar, Excursion, Lecture

### Extra information on the teaching methods

- Lectures: richly illustrated (combination of live lectures and videolectures)
- Seminars: on the basis of the teaching material and the reader
- Excursion: guided group visit and independent visit to historic houses, exhibition(s), museum collection(s)

### Study material

None

### References

Hazel Conway, *Design History: a Student's Handbook* (Routledge, 1995).  
Charlotte Fiell & Peter Fiell, *The Story of Design* (Carlton, 2013).  
Willemijn C. Fock, ed., *Het Nederlandse Interieur in Beeld 1600-1900* (Zwolle, 2001).  
John Heskett, *Industriële vormgeving* (Sun, 2003).  
Jeannie Ireland, *History of Interior Design* (Bloomsbury Academic, 2008).  
Catherine McDermott, *Design: The Key Concepts* (Taylor & Francis, 2007).  
Judith Miller, *Decorative Arts* (Dorling Kindersley Ltd, 2006).  
John Pile, en Judith Gura, *A History of Interior Design* (Laurence King, 2013).  
Katarina Serulus & Javier Gimeno Martinez, *Panorama. A History of Modern Design in Belgium* (ADAM-CFC Editions, 2017).  
The course information document includes a selective bibliography.

### Course content-related study coaching

Before, during and after the lessons, questions can be asked.

### Assessment moments

end-of-term assessment

### Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Oral assessment

### Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Oral assessment

### Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

### Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

### Extra information on the examination methods

Oral exam with written preparation: questions that test knowledge, insight and applicability, using text and visuals, based on the entire course programme, required reading and excursions.

### Calculation of the examination mark

Oral exam: 100%

### Facilities for Working Students

1. Student attendance during educational activities is not obligatory but advised
2. Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
3. Alternative time for feedback

For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy or see <https://www.ugent.be/student/nl/administratie/flexibel-studeren>