

DESIGN, HOUSING AND MERCHANDISING

The mission of the Department of Design, Housing and Merchandising (DHM) is to be recognized leaders in Technology and Sustainable Design in partnership with industry and community. Three undergraduate options are available: fashion (apparel) design and production, interior design, and fashion merchandising. Each option requires a summer internship between the junior and senior years.

Students in apparel design and production are preparing for careers in the apparel and sewn products industries. The program emphasizes the integration of design principles, construction methods, consumer preferences and mass production strategies. Coursework includes principles of design, anthropometrics and pattern grading, apparel assembly and production, draping techniques, methods of mass production, quality assurance, properties and performance evaluation of textiles, patternmaking, computer-aided design and technology, entrepreneurship, and a required internship to acquire apparel design industry experience. The American Apparel and Footwear Association (AAFA) Education Foundation has endorsed the undergraduate curricula, making OSU one of only 13 schools in North America recognized with an AAFA-approved apparel program. Career opportunities include apparel designer, technical designer, product development manager, accessory designer, patternmaker, textile designer, sourcing manager, quality assurance manager, production manager and apparel engineer.

Students in interior design are preparing for careers as professionals who assist businesses and families in planning and solving problems relative to the function and quality of interior living and working environments. Coursework includes fundamentals of design, design analysis, ergonomics, concept development, space planning and programming, universal design principles, computer-aided design (CAD) and related aspects of environmental design. Students must pass the Proficiency Review Process at the end of their freshman year to be accepted into the professional level interior design program. Upon acceptance, students are expected to have their own laptop computer with sufficient capacity for graphics software used in the profession. Career opportunities include professional practice in interior design and architectural firms, lighting, design, facility management, historic restoration and preservation and product design and sales management. The undergraduate interior design program is accredited by the Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA) and the program has achieved national ranking by the publication Design Intelligence.

The fashion merchandising program prepares students for careers at every level of the fashion industry: Analytic analysis, retail buying, wholesaling product lines to retailers, product development, trend forecasting, managers, visual merchandisers as well as auxiliary industries including fashion journalism, event planning and logistics. Coursework includes retailing, merchandise planning and analysis, sustainable design, visual merchandising and communication, market analysis, quality assurance, retail technology and global sourcing. Merchandising graduates are in high demand among retailers, manufacturers, product developers, supply chain and sourcing managers and designers.

Students in all three options will develop business management, communication, creative problem solving and administrative skills.

Minors are available in both fashion merchandising and fashion design and production.

Admission Requirements

Transfer students must meet the following minimum retention GPA requirements in order to be admitted to the DHM undergraduate program:

Total Hours Attempted	Minimum GPA required
Less than 31 hours	2.00
31-45 hours	2.25
Over 45 hours	2.50