

Module code	IND417	Level	4
Module title	Reading Spaces		
Status	Core		
Teaching Period	Autumn		
Courses on which the module is taught	BA (Hons) Architecture BA (Hons) Interior Design		
Prerequisite modules	None		
Notional learning hours	200	Credit value	20
		ECTS Credits	10
Field trips?	This module includes compulsory study trips and site visits within London. Students are responsible for local travel costs; most exhibition entrance fees and other activities will be covered by the course.		
Additional costs	Students must purchase essential materials and equipment, including sketchbooks, journals, drawing tools, and model-making supplies. Basic model-making resources will be provided in limited quantities; students are encouraged to source additional materials independently.		
Content notes	None		

1. Module description

In this module, you will explore fundamental architecture and interior design principles and how these underpin the creation of meaningful and appropriate three-dimensional environments. You will learn to reflect on your work through creative research and critical thinking to communicate your ideas.

You will engage with historic and contemporary spaces through looking closely and imaginatively to develop a rich design vocabulary. This module will enable you to situate your own work within a contemporary context through recognising perspectives and experiences of spaces. This will be done by developing methods of looking, writing and drawing, to build your skills of observation, investigation and communication.

The module provides intensive introductory techniques in drawing, representation and presentation, helping you to communicate your architecture and interior design proposals. You will become familiar with design terminology and to effectively communicate to multiple audiences by delivering accurate and evocative representations of spaces.

2. Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this module, you will be able to:

Communication (MLO 05)

Communicate your understanding of spatial representation, using visual, oral and written means, in multicultural and international settings within familiar and well-defined contexts.

Discipline Skills (MLO 08)

Use established design knowledge, drawing and modelling techniques, and digital and analogue tools to communicate representations of spaces and design proposals.

Interdisciplinary Perspectives (MLO9): Identify and contrast approaches to spatial observation, investigation and communication methods across interiors, architecture and other disciplines.

Human and Environmental Impact (MLO 10)

Explore the impact of the design of historic and contemporary spaces have on people and on the environment.

3. Learning and teaching methods, and reasonable adjustments

The module focuses on experiential and active learning within theoretical and technical sessions running in parallel. The majority of this work will be undertaken as independent directed learning and is supported by micro-lectures demonstrations, studio time and tutorials.

Interior and architecture history and theory sessions introduce key topics through a micro-lecture series and you will explore themes through group work, seminars and visits. Activities include writing, discussion and primary and secondary architectural and spatial readings. You will sketch and analyse observations from visual presentations and visits to spaces to develop critical and creative research and analysis skills. You will research, reflect and analyse the historical development of spaces, archiving your lecture notes, drawings and other activities in a journal which becomes your record of the module and part of the assessment.

Technical sessions introduce two-dimensional visual communication skills used within the architecture and interior design industry. There is an emphasis to represent existing spaces and design ideas with clarity and accuracy. Supervised studio activities will support you through demonstrations and activities to develop technical skills. You will be introduced to a range of communication skills methods through micro-lectures and practical workshops. You will produce a portfolio containing analogue and digital representation techniques including orthographic and perspective drawing, survey information and digital visualisation for assessment. These skills are integrated into your studio design work to enhance your understanding of the design process.

Collaborative activities are incorporated within the module through shared discussions, group-based exercises, and peer engagement, enabling you to test ideas collectively, share perspectives, and support your individual learning. You will have several opportunities to present your work and to get peer and tutor feedback on your progress at regular intervals during the module, as well as a mid-term review with faculty, students and guest critiques (where appropriate).

Learning hours			200
Directed learning			72
Workshops/ classes/ seminars/ lead events	Supervision	Studio time	Other
48		24	
Guided/Self-guided learning			128

Students seeking reasonable adjustments should consult the current Disability Policy:

<https://www.regents.ac.uk/policies>

4. Assessments and weighting, reasonable adjustment, and feedback methods

Assessment component 1: Journal (40%)

Indicative effort: 1000 words or equivalent +/-10%.

Submit an illustrated research journal that explores a selection of material covered in the module over the semester showing engagement and reflection on micro-lectures, reading and site visits. Your journal should include notes, analysis and illustrations of your observations of the buildings, spaces and objects observed on the module and culminate in a reflective entry.

Assessment component 2: Project Work (60%)

Indicative effort: 18 - 24 pages at A3 or equivalent.

Submit a carefully considered project work document which includes a series of analogue and digital drawings and representations covered in the weekly sessions. Such material includes orthographic and perspective drawing, survey information and digital visualisation.

Mapping of assessment tasks:

Assessment components	MLO5	MLO8	MLO9	ML10
Journal	X			X
Project Work		X	X	

The above assessment components are summative. Students will have the opportunity for formative assessment and feedback before each summative assessment.

5. Indicative resources

History and Theory

Bachelard, G (1994). *The Poetics of Space*, Boston: Beacon Press. (Available as eBook)

Brooker, G. (2025) *The Story of the Interior: How we have shaped rooms and how they shape us*, London: Thames and Hudson.

Ching, F.D.K. (2011). *A Visual Dictionary of Architecture*. New York: John Wiley & Sons.

Sparke, P. et al (eds.) (2009). *Designing the Modern Interior: From the Victorians to Today*. Oxford: Berg Publishers.

Weston, R (2010). *Plans, Sections and Elevations: Key Buildings of the Twentieth Century. 2nd edn*. London: Laurence King.

Communication Skills

Ching, F.D.K. (2023) *Architectural Graphics*. 7th edn. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.

Gorman, A. & Delaney, Miriam. (2022) *Studio Craft & Technique for Architects*, Second Edition, London: Laurence King Publishing. (Available as eBook)

Kingsley, D. (2020) *Hand drafting for Interior Design*. New York: Bloomsbury Publishing. (Available as eBook)

Plunkett, D (2014). *Drawing for Interior Design*. 2nd Ed. London: Laurence King.

Travis, S (2015). *Sketching for Architecture and Interior Design*. London: Laurence King. (Available as eBook)