Dear Interior Design Students,

Please take one minute to fill out this form. We greatly appreciate all responses!

Would you prefer our department and degree name to be:

Interior Architecture and Design

Interior Design

Please briefly explain your above answer:

Your answer



What is your studio year?

First Year

Second Year

Third Year

Fourth Year

Submit

**Responses**

112 responses to 195 surveys = 56.4% response rate

(survey sent Friday afternoon 3/5/2021. Responses recorded noon 3/8/2021)

**110 selected Interior Architecture and Design - 98%**

**2 selected Interior Design – 2%**

First Year responses – 30/53, 56.6% response rate

29 Interior Architecture and Design

1 Interior Design

Second Year responses – 20/52, 38.5% response rate

19 Interior Architecture and Design

1 Interior Design

Third Year responses – 47/63, 74.6% response rate

47 Interior Architecture and Design

0 Interior Design

Fourth Year responses – 15/27, 55.6% response rate

15 Interior Architecture and Design

0 Interior Design

First Year Comments: (black = Interior Architecture and Design, red = Interior Design)

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| From personal experience I have noticed that “Interior Design” is often mistaken for “Interior  Decoration” which although is a part of what this degree encompasses it does not give justice  to the degree we are pursuing. Since we are so closely related to architecture I believe this  title change will help to fully explain what this department is about for the interest of future  students as well as going into the work field. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| That name gives a more accurate description of what we do, people tend to assume things  incorrectly about interior design. | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| I feel like this degree is very architecture focused, more than most interior design degrees. The  transparency in the title of this will help some people understand that they will be gaining a ton of  architectural knowledge too. | | | | | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| In the few months I've been a part of the interior design program at UARK, It's become very  apparent that we do much more than design interiors through adding furniture. We're creating  entire spaces, making the outer shell or the architecture of buildings, plus practically every teacher  in the Interior Design program has a degree in Architecture. By changing the name of our  department and degree I believe it will not only better encompass what students do in this  program (aka freshman know what they're signing up for) but will additionally bring more respect  to our work |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| when people hear that i’m doing “interior design” they mostly think about picking out furniture/paint  colors/hardware, etc. more along the lines of interior decorating. i think “interior architecture & design”  more accurately explains the work we do. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Our program is heavily architecture based, especially in the first year so that should be acknowledged  in the title |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| It sounds more professional |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| I feel like since the architecture is first and more people know about architecture that they don't know  recognize the interior design part of our program | Only first year to want to keep the name the same. | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| I feel as though "Interior Architecture and Design" does a better job of capturing the education that  is received with the major. I think that "Interior design" as a degree name correlates more to the  thought of moving objects around inside a preconstructed space, whereas "Interior Architecture and  Design" implies the creation and construction of spaces. Furthermore, If the name was changed to  "Interior Architecture and Design" students would have a better idea of what material they would be  studying from the beginning and better encompasses the degree. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| I feel like we do a lot of work that deals with architectural elements instead of just design. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| I prefer this because we deal a lot with & have close ties to the architecture major as well as cover  a lot of similar topics and enroll in the same courses. I also think that having it worded like that  sounds more true to the education we receive as a whole based on the requirements needed to  graduate & when applying for a job it seems more accurate to the learning we have endured. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| It sounds more expansive |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| We deserve to be called more than designer |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| i like interior architecture and design because it is more formal and it doesn’t leave out the students  studying architecture not just interior design |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| It sounds smarter |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| I am an interior design major, but I think by adding interior architecture to it, it will make it more inclusive  to the other specialties within this specific field/major. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| I think interior architecture and design helps clearly state what the major is really about. A lot of people  go into an interior design major thinking it’s interior decorating, but with this name it is more clear that there  are many architectural attributes to the degree. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| We don’t only take design into consideration, we also think about architecture. It would make sense to have  architecture in the name |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| I feel as though when telling people what my major is, they assume that I do decorating. I think if the name  was changed, that would reflect the work that we put in. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| We need more in our title |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Because we learn about interior architecture |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| We are much more than a designer |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Because we learn about interior architecture |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Interior Design tends to get confused with Interior Decoration |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| I don't really have a big reason, just that whenever people ask me what my major is and I say Interior Design,  they respond in a couple ways ranging from "oh that's so cool you should decorate my house one day" or "I bet  your dorm room is really cute." And it would be cool if the response was a little different and I think changing the  name could have that effect. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| I think the name of the department should be Interior Architecture and Design because it gives all of the parts.  Interior Design had many elements combined to create the meaning "Interior Design" and I really think recognizing  the Architectural side of it really puts it on a higher level. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| think it gives a better understanding of what the program involves- some people don't seem to know that there i  s a difference between interior design and interior decorating. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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Second Year Comments:

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| An interior designer can be confused with interior decorator to consumers while interior architecture implies  that steps were taken to be elevated beyond a decorator; because interior design is just as important as  architecture. | | | | | |
| Everyone thinks I came to school to study decor, and I hate explaining it every time. Interior architecture  is much more straightforward. | | | |  |  |
| Since our program here includes so much of an architectural basis rather than an art centered program, it  would only make sense to include that. | | | | |  |
| I believe adding "architecture and design" gives more insight to what we do as students!! I would absolutely  love this | | | |  |  |
| During our years at the school we focus on both architectural aspects that effect the interior as well as the  design of materials, layout, etc. the term encompasses more of what we do and will relay it better to future  employers |  |  |  |  |  |
| During our years at the school we focus on both architectural aspects that effect the interior as well as the  design of materials, layout, etc. the term encompasses more of what we do and will relay it better to future  employers |  |  |  |  |  |
| I feel as though a lot of people mistake us for decorators and while that is a tiny part of the job, it isn’t the  main work that we focus on. We know so much more besides what colors look good together. We create  spaces that people feel comfortable in and come back to over and over again. |  |  |  |  |  |
| In recent years interior decorating has become very popular. Sometimes people fail to recognize that interior  design and interior decorating are two different things. I think changing the department to interior architecture  and design would help differentiate between the two. I also believe Interior Architecture better suits the work  we do. (: |  |  |  |  |  |
| When I bring up the major “interior design” people often confuse that with interior decorating which is not  what the major entails. I think it would give a better description |  |  |  |  |  |
| Implementing "architecture" into the title makes it feel more inclusive and specific. It also helps to distinguish  interior design from interior decorating as those two are confused often. |  |  |  |  |  |
| I find that “Interior Design” usually makes people think of interior decorators and the architecture and design  added will clarify this. |  |  |  |  |  |
| It lets people who don’t know the difference between interior designers and interior decorators by specifying  architecture is involved in what we do. Architecture is a big factor of what we do so it being in the name makes  sense. |  |  |  |  |  |
| We do much more than design |  |  |  |  |  |
| We are just as part of the architecture program |  |  |  |  |  |
| We can definitely use the extra name to our work |  |  |  |  |  |
| I feel it’s gives more incite into what actually goes into our degree. People who don’t know think it’s  decorating when it’s much more complex. |  |  |  |  |  |
| I feel like we do so much more in depth structural and technical work that covers much more than what people  believe design to be. There is a sort of stigma that comes with respect attached to Architecture, and I would  appreciate that recognition for our program. |  |  |  |  |  |
| it sounds better |  |  |  |  |  |
| I would rather the degree name be specific | The only second year to want to keep the name the same | | |  |  |
| Sounds sophisticated  Third Year Comments: |  |  |  |  |  |

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| Interior design has a stigma with interior decorator |  |
| It more fully encompasses all that we do |  |
| There's a stigma behind the name of "interior design" that makes people take us less seriously that we work for. Interior Architecture and Deign fully ecompasses the work that we do. | |
| Most people think interior design is just decorating when it's basically interior architecture | |
| Obviously, I love pursuing an interior design degree. Yet, the term almost seems a little degrading? Does that make sense? For example, when I tell people my degree, they immediately say, “that’s so fun! I love decorating.” Which I understand is a part of the career, yet it sells us short. We are in a school with Architecture and Landscape Architecture, yet we are called interior design... landscape is not called landscape design. If they were called that I would almost assume they studied placement of plants plants in a garden, not mastermind massive parks and create incredible landscapes to help the earth etc. This is super informal, but I hope you get what I’m saying. |  |
| Interior design is often disrespected and it gets exhausting constantly having to explain what we do. | |
| We learn more scultpural and architectural principles of interiors. We design the interior architecture as well as the overall design of color, furniture, etc. I think our studios are very architecturally based and less decorative. | |
| A lot of what we do is architectural and the name interior design is thought of more like just decorating. Interior architecture gives a nod to what we actually do | |
| I feel that it accurately represents all of what we are taught to craft |  |
| Interior architecutre is a better reflection of what we are learning and being trained to do | |
| Many people think of Interior designers as “decorators”, as we know we do much more than that. The word Architect carry’s a lot of weight and respect. While to many, interior design does not and for the amount of work we put in. The designs we create is way more than just putting some furniture in a space. |  |
| I think it would further clarify what we do to people with little knowledge of the design field |  |
| Reflects more clearly on what we do |  |
| Our projects entail interacting with existing architecture while also making new architecture. Plus, interior design gives the idea of interior decoration. Interior architecture gives a better idea of what we actually do — not only decorating, but space design, architecture/structure, and finishes. It gives us more credit for what we actually accomplish in studio. |  |
| Interior design gets confused with interior decorators and with architecture in the name it sounds more official and we would probably gain more respect from others |  |
| Many often associate interior design with interior decorating. I think it would be easier for others to understand if our department is named interior architecture and design, rather than interior design. |  |
| Interior architecture and design better correlates with the architectural detailing that takes place in this major. “Interior design” alone doesn’t suggest the importance of the architecture that is being used to create an experience within the interior. |  |
| I believe that this program covers more than just the design of the space. We learn about building systems and architecture just as much as we are studying the design and space planning. |  |
| I think that our program is more diverse and in depth that just interior design. Our program covers building codes, structure, plumbing, materials, etc and architecture does the same thing. There is also a stereotype that interior design is only for people to pick out pretty furniture and pillows. I think the name change will shed some light that that is not the case. There is so much more that we learn and a name change will showcase our skills and knowledge more accurately. |  |
| I feel like it better describes the major and will also result in more respect for the students from their peers, honestly. It has in my experience, at least |  |
| Though part of the reason may be a bit shallow, it’s true. One, Interior Architecture and Design is much more encompassing and accurate to the information and skills we are learning here at Fay Jones. And two, when you tell people your major is Interior Design they just think it’s fabrics, pillows, and paints and I just end up saying Interior Architecture and Design anyway. I’m a proud Interior Design major, just want more people to put some respect in it. |  |
| We create and sculpt architecture on the interior, not just decide where furniture should go and what materials to use. |  |
| I feel like we do a lot of work that deals with architectural elements instead of just design. |  |
| Interior design is a term that is most often misunderstood and looked down upon. For those who are not in the program, interior design is a fun and creative degree where we pick out paint colors and furniture. What they do not know is that we learn and do so much more than that. Our degree is founded on architectural principles that we learn from day one. We learn about construction processes and how to create construction documents as well, which makes our major very architecturally based. We just focus on the interior of the space instead of the exterior or structure.  We design the interior architecture of spaces. The name makes complete sense AND describes more clearly what we truly do as designers. |  |
| I spent time studying both degrees. I studied for 3 semesters in architecture and now, I am in my 3rd semester of Interior design. There is a certain level of respect that the average person commonly assigns to a person that is studying architecture. Fay Jones does a great job of pushing interior students to think about structure, environmental impact, and effect on communities. Lots of schools do not require their interior students to develope the skills that we have in our toolbox upon graduation. Personally I have found that most people outside of the design world see the ID degree as "picking out pillows" or "making pinterest boards". They don't understand that we have the same process and skills that an architect does, just like landscape architects as well. |  |
| Many often associate interior design with interior decorating. I think it would be easier for others to understand if our department is named interior architecture and design, rather than interior design. |  |
| Our degree encompasses more than just design aspects |  |
|  |  |
| We are much more than designer! We are problem solver!!! We help create design to a new extent |  |
|  |  |
| this profession and major is much more involved and vigorous than the title of an interior designer / decorator which people often mistake us for. We are architecture students that deserve this title and recognition for all the work we do. |  |
| People outside of the Interior Design program often think of it as the easy career path, requiring little work. Architects have a more well established reputation, which comes with a level of respect that Interior Designers do not always receive. |  |
| I think that interior design is easily mistaken to incoming freshman as interior decoration. |  |
| I think we should call it that because we do similar stuff to architecture. |  |
| This better describes what we do in the school when we design the interior. This would make us have to explain less of what we do and just tell people what our degree is. I’m tired of my family and friends not understanding what I do. |  |
| It sounds better |  |
| Interior design gets confused with interior decorators and with architecture in the name it sounds more official and we would probably gain more respect from others |  |
| I believe that we put in the same amount of work as the architecture students and should get the same amount of credit as them! We do interior an exterior design so I believe we should hold the name architecture in our title. |  |
| I often feel like the work we do deserves to have a representing name and we should not be treated as we are less than that. |  |
| Defines what we do in a better title |  |
| I think that it better defines the curriculum and represents the major in a better way. In addition, to an outsider it makes it sound more professional and makes the connotation less of "interior decorating." |  |
| I feel that it accurately represents all of what we are taught to craft |  |
| sounds more professional and more accurately describes the program |  |
| Interior Design is so much more than what people think it is. We don't just pick out paint colors or cute pillows to throw on your couch, as designers we create the heart and soul of an interior. As an Interior Design student, I feel that I would be taken more seriously later on in my career if I were able to call myself an "interior architect". |  |

Fourth Year Comments:

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| More Accurate |
| It gives us more credibility. People think interior designers are deocrators but interior architecute is more serious. |
| I feel that the line is so blurred between architecture and design and based on job applications the two are used interchangeable so it makes sense. I think that it better encompasses the work that we do in studios. |
| The words "intertior design" lead others to believe we are more closely related to interior decration compared to architecture. |
| Changing the department and degree name to Interior Architecture and Design would greatly benefit the interior design students. Right now when I tell someone that I am a Interior Design student they think I pick out pillows and wall colors and don’t take me seriously. Most people (even some of the architecture students) don’t know what all an Interior Designer does and thinks that our job is so easy.  Where in reality we are designing the whole inside of a building from space planning to the fine details.  The name Interior Architecture and Design seems more fitting to what all we do as students and professionals. |
| Many courses are the same as in software. Doing projects with classmates in architecture, I feel that we all the same. We will do what they will, and we will do what they will not. |
| This title gives the degree a more elevated and respected claim that just "interior design" lacks. It also elevates the aspect that we worked hard to receive this degree and are not just an untrained/not licensed interior decorator claiming to be an "interior designer" |
| I hate explaining to people that I do more than pick out pillows |
|  |
| The title “architecture” commands more respect. The main stream media frames interior design as only decorating and it is so much more! Because our program has a heavy influence from architecture, I think having that in the program title gives more clarity to what we do as designers. Side note: My cousin went to Univ. of Tenn. for interior design and the name was changed to interior architecture during her time there, and her perception was one of receiving more respect. |
| our curriculum focused heavily on architecture and spatial layouts not picking colors or pieces to fill a space. We have building systems knowledge and follow a similar degree plan as architecture in forming fundamental design skills. The first exposure to Interior Design I received at Fay Jones was during my second year, not the first. Up until that point every project worked on in studio and other classes required for the curriculum were focused on architecture or landscape architecture. After one of my first Architectural History classes I asked the professor what information we would be learning specifically about interior design and he said that we "needed to know about architecture first because of its importance to interior design." So if our curriculum and history is so intertwined I believe the degree title should reflect it. Between students and even some staff, there is a lack of respect for Interior Design because our title doesn't encompass everything we are taught at Fay Jones. By changing to Interior Architecture and Design there will be more equality and acceptance between disciplines |
| more accurate |
| The title “architecture” commands more respect. The main stream media frames interior design as only decorating and it is so much more! Because our program has a heavy influence from architecture, I think having that in the program title gives more clarity to what we do as designers. Side note: My cousin went to Univ. of Tenn. for interior design and the name was changed to interior architecture during her time there, and her perception was one of receiving more respect. |
| some people do not take our department seriously unless we add architecture or we actually show them what we do |