FAQ

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Frequently Asked Question

for

International Students

EXECUTIVE MASTERS IN INTERIOR DESIGN PROGRAMME
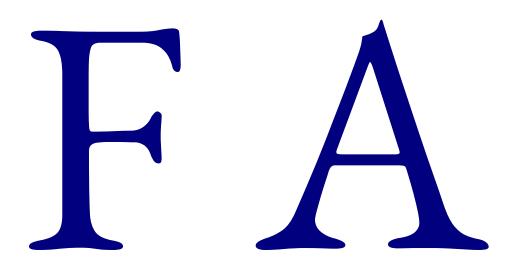
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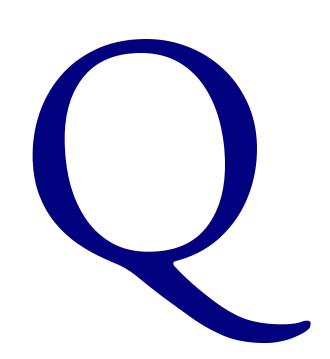& Department of Architecture.
Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife

2024-2025

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Frequently Asked Question

EXECUTIVE MASTERS IN INTERIOR DESIGN PROGRAMME

Department of Architecture
Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife

2024-2025

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FAQs for Admission

Q | **Who is an international Student?**

A

A student is classified as International on any one of the following:
1. If the student lives outside Nigeria.
2. If the student lives in Nigeria but is not a Nigerian citizen.
3. If the student is living outside of Nigeria and planning to apply to the fully online Masters in Interior Design programme.

Q | **Is there a separate application for international applicants?**

A

Yes. International students use a separate icon on the web page.

Q | **Do I need to prove my English Language Proficiency?**

A

Yes. If you did not complete your Higher Education (undergraduate degree) in English, you will have to prove English proficiency by submitting your IELTS or TOEFL scores of not more than 2yrs ago. The minimum TOEFL acceptable score is 80 and the minimum IELTS acceptable score is 6.0

Q | **How do I show English proficiency once I apply?**

A

If you did not complete your Higher Education (undergraduate degree) in English, upload your IELTS or TOEFL scores along with your application documents.

Q | **How are international students evaluated?**

A

If you have attended a secondary school and/or university outside of Nigeria, regardless of your citizenship, you must have an international credential evaluation completed; this is not the same as a transcript. The processing of International Credential Evaluations takes 2-4 weeks. Please allow sufficient time for processing as the evaluation must be received by the application deadline.

International Credential Evaluations must contain the following:

- course by course evaluation
- a grade point average calculation

A high school official or testing center must submit your official documents (transcripts, mark sheets, certificates, examination results, etc.) directly to the evaluation provider.

The evaluations must be sent to the The Executive Masters in Interior Design (mid@oaucdl.edu.ng) directly from any of the services listed below. Please note that evaluations sent directly from counselors are not accepted.

- Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE)
- International Education Evaluations (IEE)
- Josef Silny & Associates, Inc.
- World Education Services (WES)

Q Where should I send my official transcripts and examination results?

A All documents are to be uploaded to the application portal which you click on the https://www.oaucdl.edu.ng/site/mid/

Q When is the deadline to send my application materials?

A The deadline for Jan 2025 admission is November 15, 2024

Q When will I receive my application decision?

A Application decisions will be received within 30 days of the submission of all application documents.

Q | **What is the programme about?**

A

The Master of Interior Design programme is aimed at producing industry-ready interior design professionals. It is a professional Masters. The programme will develop knowledge and professional skills in the design, spatial planning, colour, lighting, materials and technology, and adaptive re-use of interior spaces for a variety of interior spaces and building types. The programme is highly practical and it is designed for persons seeking to fulfil a lifelong dream of becoming interior design professionals.

Q | **Who is it targeted at?**

A

The program is targeted at those who want to SPECIALIZE in or CHANGE Careers to Interior Design and

1. Have a University or 4-year college Bachelor's degree
2. Have a HND

Q Who is eligible for admission?

An Applicant for admission to the EMID programme shall be:

1. a graduate of a four year college or university with degrees in Architecture or any discipline in the Environmental Design and Management fields, or

2. a graduate of a four year college or university with degrees in other disciplines apart from the Environmental Design and Management fields and who has had at least 3 years post qualification experience in a design firm, or a related industry may be considered for admission upon satisfactorily passing an admission examination administered by the Department.

3. All applicants shall normally possess a minimum of Second Class Degree (or CGPA of more than 2.5 on a grade point of 1-5) to be eligible for admission.

4. In special cases, applicants with Lower CGPAs may be considered upon satisfactorily passing a prescribed examination by the Department.

A

Q What if I do not have any design background?

We assess design background using the student's transcript. Design background means the applicant has done at least one design related course at an undergraduate level. A student without any design background would have to have relevant work experience in a design/building related organization for at least 3 years after graduation to qualify for admission.

A

Q Do I need to know how to draw?

A Yes. Basic drawing skills, especially the ability to use a 3D drawing software are needed.

Q What if I do not have any drawing skills or 3D software skills?

A If you do not have any drawing skills, you will need to take an additional drawing course for 3 weeks before the first semester begins. This will be at an additional cost as stipulated in the fees. It will be taught virtually.

Q What other competencies must I have?

A Every student is expected to be computer literate in Microsoft Word Office package and Social Media such as Whatsapp and online meeting platform like Zoom and Google Meet.

Q | **What working experience do I need before applying?**

A

A minimum of three years working experience is required for applicants who do not have degrees in Architecture or Environmental Design disciplines. No working experience is required for those with undergraduate degrees in Architecture or Environmental Design disciplines.

Q | **What tools do I need to have before starting the course?**

A

You will need to own a computer with appropriate specifications for 3D modelling; preferably a laptop which you may need to bring to classes. You will also need a very good internet access as well as a 3D design modelling software. You will be able to purchase some 3D design modelling software at discounted prices after registration.

Q | **How do I apply for the programme?**

A

Visit the admission portal of the programme https://oaucdl.edu.ng/prog/mid/

Q When is the deadline for admission?

A For the 2025 session, the normal deadline for admission is 15th November 2024. There are limited spaces; so it is important to apply as soon as possible. The deadline will only be extended if there are spaces left.

Q When is the start date?

A The start date of the program is the 30th of January 2025.

Q What support is there for students who have problems registering?

A There is administrative support for all students who are unable to personally process their documents. The names and numbers of are found in the Contact us section of the website https://www.oaucdl.edu.ng/site/mid/

Q   **How long is the programme?**

A

The programme is for 3 academic semesters or eighteen months.

Q   **How much is the tuition?**

A

The tuition fees can be found on the programme website https://www.oaucdl.edu.ng/site/mid/ . Check the Tuition and Fees icon.

Q   **What additional costs am I likely to incur?**

A

The additional costs to the student will be for
Tests to be taken to verify 3D software and Microsoft package competency
Training for those who need 3D drawing skills
Tests for candidates with special cases for admission
All students will require a laptop, modelling software and internet access.
Check the Tuition and Fees for the Optional fees.
https://www.oaucdl.edu.ng/site/mid/

Q Will I have the skills to be an Interior designer when I complete the programme?

A Yes. A student who completes the programme will have the skills required to practice as an interior designer. The student will be able to

1. Produce interior designs drawings using AI based 3D software
2. Analyze and Design Interior lighting for spaces
3. Analyze the quality of any interior Design project
4. Communicate concepts and design solutions for interior projects.
5. Design any interior space like a professional interior designer.
6. Use colour to create a variety of interior experiences
7. Relate professionally with clients, vendors and other building professionals.

Q What will I learn?

A It is expected that at the end of the programme, you will demonstrate a rich comprehension of the history, design, theories, procedures, ethics and issues in the design and construction of a variety of interior spaces.

You will also possess the ability to identify key problems in interiors and apply knowledge learnt in the programme to design and create interior spaces for human performance and wellbeing.

Finally, you will demonstrate professionalism in all issues associated with the design of interior environments and be able to work independently and in teams.

Q What is the programme delivery like?

A The programme is designed with the working professional in mind. It is designed as a fully online course: this means that every interaction will be virtual. You will have the option to either attend virtual classes synchronously and listen to the recorded lectures at your convenient time. However, specific synchronous sessions will be highlighted on the time table and it will usually be a Friday.

Q Is it a part-time or full time programme?

A The programme is a full-time programme. It is NOT a part-time programme. So it is expected that the student will put in the required amount of time to succeed. However, you may work while being enrolled in this program.

Q How much time will I have to devote to this course each week?

A It is intense. In addition to the lecture times, a student will need to devote about an extra 18-20 hours weekly for assignments or studio work. Every online class will have a practical content or an assignment which will be usually due within a week.

Q What is the programme time-table like?

A Fridays and Saturdays will be for live/synchronous lectures. However, the student will also have access to all lectures and may watch at his/her convenience. Each Semester's timetable will be made available to the student at least a week to the beginning of each semester.

Q What is the structure of the programme like?

A The programme is approved as a list of courses in the program document. However, these courses are delivered in eleven modules https://www.oaucdl.edu.ng/site/mid/ The modules are described in detail here.

Q Are the programme courses taught at specific times, or can I learn at my own pace?

A The courses are typically asynchronous, which means learners access and study content anytime. However, there may be synchronous virtual lectures with faculty and teaching assistants, which students may need to attend in real time.

Q Can I take an exam at any time, or is there a time for taking exams/tests?

A Exam/Test schedules vary from course to course. In general, exams are open for a period of time, during which students can take the exam.

Q How much practical content will the programme have?

A The course is very practical, interactive, and project based. Projects and field trips are key components of the programme. Teamwork is also introduced in both studio and other assignments.

Q Who are the tutors going to be?

A Tutors are coming from a wide variety of countries. Professional Interior Designers from Nigeria, USA, South Africa and Saudi Arabia are going to teach the courses. All tutors have a lot of experience in the areas of their expertise.

Q What learning resources are available for the student?

The student will be given access and links of books, e-books, videos and links to resources to facilitate his/her learning for the different courses. **A**

Q How will the courses be assessed?

Continuous assessment is the main means of assessment in the programme. This will be done through projects, tests, quizzes, discussions, class presentations and attendance. **A**

Q Is the course accredited locally or internationally?

Local accrediting organizations do not yet exist, but the programme is recognized by the Interior Association of Nigeria (IDAN). The process for accreditation with CIDA (Council of Interior Design Association) would begin in a few years. The department is working to ensure that international accreditation standards are met. **A**

What are the conditions for the award of a degree of Masters in Interior Design?

A

To be eligible for the award of a Masters degree in Interior Design all students are expected to have passed all the courses with a minimum of 50% in each course. If the student gets less than 50% in one or two courses, he/she will have to repeat these courses in the make -up time or in the next available semesters. For the make-up period, or another semester, a student will have to pay the necessary fees. Check the tuition and fees section.

If however, a student fails more than two courses in a semester, the student will be required to repeat the whole semester. If the student fails to repeat the failed semester, the student will be withdrawn from the programme.

Q

What degree will I receive if successful?

A

If successful, the student will be awarded a Masters' certificate of the Obafemi Awolowo University. The certificate will read 'Master of Interior Design, Obafemi Awolowo University'. The degree you receive will be identical to one earned in a face-face program. There will not be an "online" designation on certificates awarded to students who completed their degree programme online.