



ART 242: Spatial Exploration

Fort Hays State University
School of Visual & Performing Arts
Department of Art & Design - Interior Design Program

1. COURSE INFORMATION

- Course Name: ART 242 Spatial Exploration
- Credit Hours: 3
- Semester and Year: Fall 2026
- Location of Class: AD 106
- Class Time: Tuesday/Thursday, 12:00 pm – 2:45 pm
- Course Prerequisites: N/A

2. INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

2.1. Instructor Contact Information

- Name: Colin Schmidtberger
- Title: Assistant Professor of Interior Design/ Gallery Director, Moss-Thorns & Patricia A. Schmidt Galleries
- Office Location: Schmidt Foundation Center for Art & Design Room 113
- Office Hours: MW 10:30-12:45 PM or by appointment
- Email Address: cjschmidtberger3@fhsu.edu
- Phone Number: (785) 628-5829

2.2. Contact Procedure and Policy: Students are welcome to e-mail or schedule an appointment to meet during office hours. I will do my best to answer emails within 24 hours.

2.3. About the Instructor:

- Education and Teaching Background:
 - MFA in Interior Design – Brenau University
 - Graduate Certificate in Planning and Design of Healthcare Environments – Ball State University
 - MLS in Art – Fort Hays State University
 - BFA in Interior Design – Fort Hays State University
 - Certificate of Construction Management Technology – Fort Hays State University
- Teaching background:
 - **2025 – Present**; Assistant Professor of Interior Design & Director of the Moss-Thorns Gallery of Art & Patricia A. Schmidt Gallery Lobby – Art & Design, Fort Hays State University



- **2019 – 2025**; Instructor of Interior Design & Director of the Moss-Thorns Gallery of Art & Patricia A. Schmidt Gallery Lobby – Art & Design, Fort Hays State University
- **2018 – 2019**; Adjunct Instructor – Art & Design, Fort Hays State University
- **2017 – 2018**; Graduate Teaching Assistant – Art & Design, Fort Hays State University

2.4. Graduate Teaching Assistant or Department Secretary Contact Information (if applicable)

- Name: Lauren Sargent
- Title: Administrative Assistant
- Office Location: CAD 119
- Office Hours: M–F 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
- Email Address: lsargent@fhsu.edu or Art&Design@fhsu.edu
- Phone Number: (785) 628-4247

3. TEXTBOOK AND COURSE MATERIALS

3.1. Required Textbook(s):

- *Architecture: Form, Space, and Order*, Francis D. K. Ching, Wiley; 5 edition (April 18, 2023), **ISBN-10**: 1119853370 **ISBN-13**: 978-1119853374

3.2. Supplementary Book(s) and Article(s):

- *Architectural Graphics*, Francis D.K. Ching, Van Nostrand Reinhold, **ISBN-10**: 111903566X, **ISBN-13**: 978-1119035664
- *Perspective for Interior Designers: Simplified Techniques for Geometric and Freehand Drawing*, John F. Pile, **ISBN-10**: 9780823040087, **ISBN-13**: 978-0823040087
- *Sketching and Rendering for Interior Spaces: Practical Techniques for Professional Results*, Ivo Drpic, **ISBN-10**: 0823048543, **ISBN-13**: 978-0823048540
- *From Line to Design: Design Graphics Communication*, Scott Vandyke, **ISBN-10**: 0442001134, **ISBN-13**: 978-0442001131
- *Drawing and Designing with Confidence: A Step-by-Step Guide*, Mike W. Lin, **ISBN-10**: 9780471283904, **ISBN-13**: 978-0471283904
- *Design Drawing*, Francis D.K. Ching, Steven P. Juroszek, **ISBN-10**: 1119508592, **ISBN-13**: 978-1119508595
- *Drawing: a Creative Process*, Francis D.K. Ching, **ISBN-10**: 9780471289685, **ISBN-13**: 978-0471289685
- Handouts given when necessary.

3.3. Required Materials:

- Bring your own: Sketchbook, T-Square, Drawing Board (22"x25" minimum), Architectural Scale Ruler, Graphite Pencil Set, Inking Pens.
- Other materials are given to students through Lab Fees.
- Small outside purchases may be required to finish projects.
- Recommended to have a tackle box/bag to hold all supplies.



3.4. Technology Requirement:

All students enrolled at Fort Hays State University are expected to have a computer* for use in a variety of university learning experiences. ****On-campus students are expected to have a laptop to ensure mobility.***

TigerTech only provides assistance with accessing and using FHSU hosted systems and University-owned equipment. FHSU does not sell computers and does not provide computer repair for student devices.

Hardware: To meet basic security, networking, and upgrade requirements, your computer should be running Windows 7 (or newer) or Mac OS X (or newer). Ideally, your computer's warranty should be supported by the manufacturer throughout your college career. Chromebooks and iPads are not recommended for use as your primary device due to limited functionality. Ask your instructor or academic department to learn about any specific technology requirements that may apply for each course in which you are enrolled.

ID Department: A personal laptop is not required in the ID department, but if you would like a personal laptop, please reach out to your professor to receive the proper laptop requirements before ordering your laptop. Specifications can also be found on the FHSU website at: ([Laptop Specifications](#))

Software: Enrolled students at FHSU can take advantage of a variety of options to get FREE and/or discounted software for use on personal devices at www.fhsu.edu/tigertech/software/.

If you have any technical issues, contact FHSU TigerTech 785-628-3478, notify the instructor.

3.5. Printer Usage:

There are three printers located in the Art & Design building that are for student use. They are located in AD 101, AD 202, and AD 210.

4. COURSE DESCRIPTION

4.1. FHSU Catalogue Description:

This foundation studio introduces students to three-dimensional spatial design through the exploration of form, structure, and organization. Emphasis is placed on conceptual development, visual composition, and the application of design principles within interior environments.

4.2. Instructor Course Description:

This studio develops students' spatial awareness and design thinking through hands-on exercises in sketching, model-making, and perspective drawing. Projects focus on form, spatial organization, materiality, and the integration of design elements and principles. Through sketching, model-making, and rendering,



students begin to visualize and express interior environments creatively and effectively.

5. COURSE OBJECTIVES

5.1. Course Objectives:

- **Develop spatial awareness** through the exploration of form, structure, and spatial organization in three-dimensional design contexts.
- **Apply elements and principles of design** to create visually and conceptually coherent interior compositions.
- **Enhance visual communication skills** through sketching, diagramming, model-making, perspective drawing, and basic material rendering.
- **Foster design thinking and creativity** through iterative design processes, conceptual development, and critical analysis of spatial relationships.

5.2. Professional Standards:

- Students are required to meet the following CIDA standards:
 - CIDA Professional Standards
 - Standard 8. Design Process Interior designers employ all aspects of the design process to creatively solve a design problem.
 - *Intent: This standard ensures graduates can employ methods of inquiry, data collection, and analysis to appropriately frame design questions. Additionally, graduates should apply problem solving methods throughout the design process to arrive at a comprehensive design solution that incorporates skills and knowledge. Familiarity with effective design processes enables graduates to understand complex problems as a system of interconnected issues.*
 - Student Learning Expectations
 - a) Student work demonstrates the ability to apply space planning techniques throughout the design process.
 - Student work demonstrates the ability to apply knowledge and skills learned to:
 - b) solve progressively complex design problems.
 - f) explore and iterate multiple ideas.
 - g) design creative and effective solutions.
 - h) execute the design process: pre-design, quantitative and qualitative programming, schematic design, and design development.
 - Standard 9. Communication Interior designers are effective communicators.
 - *Intent: This standard ensures that graduates are effective communicators and are able to deliver a compelling presentation visually and verbally, as well as in writing. Design communication also involves the ability to listen to and interpret external information. Effective communication builds a case, promotes validity, and is persuasive in content and style.*
 - Student Learning Expectations Students are able to effectively:



- b) express ideas and their rationale in oral communication.
- c) express ideas and their rationale in written communication.
- d) express ideas and their rationale developed in the design process through visual media: ideation drawings and sketches.
- **Standard 11. Design Elements and Principles** Interior designers apply elements and principles of design.
- *Intent: This standard ensures graduates are able to apply design elements, principles, and theoretical context to formulate and compose creative and aesthetic solutions.*
 - Student Learning Expectations
 - a) Students understand the elements and principles of design and related theories, including spatial definition and organization.
 - b) Student work demonstrates the ability to explore design solutions through the use of a variety of media.
 - Students effectively apply the elements and principles of design and related theories throughout the interior design curriculum to:
 - c) two-dimensional design solutions.
 - d) three-dimensional design solutions.
- **Standard 12. Light and Color** Interior designers apply the principles and theories of light and color effectively in relation to environmental impact and human wellbeing.
- *Intent: This standard ensures graduates understand the art and science of light and color. Graduates should be able to integrate light and color in the design process to enhance the human experience.*
 - Students understand:
 - b) the principles of natural and artificial lighting design.
 - Student work demonstrates understanding of:
 - f) color principles, theories, systems, and terminology.
 - g) color in relation to materials, textures, light, and form.
 - Student work demonstrates the ability to appropriately:
 - h) select and apply color to support design purposes.
- **Standard 13. Products and Materials** Interior designers complete design solutions that integrate furnishings, products, materials, and finishes.
- *Intent: This standard ensures graduates have the skills and knowledge required to appropriately select and apply manufactured products and custom design elements to a design solution. Graduates should consider the multiple properties of products and materials as well as their aesthetic contribution.*
 - Student work demonstrates understanding of:
 - a) how furnishings, objects, materials, and finishes work together to support the design intent.
 - c) appropriate and responsible product and material choices.



6. TEACHING, LEARNING METHODS, & COURSE STRUCTURE

6.1. Delivery Method: In-person Course

6.2. Instructional Approach: Direct Instruction

6.3. Course Structure: Lectures, projects, and demonstrations.

7. COURSE SCHEDULE

This schedule is tentative and might change during the semester depending on how the course evolves. The content is subject to change depending on students' interests and progress. Students will be notified of the changes through announcements either in the class or at the Blackboard course site. If time is mentioned in the course, it refers to the Central Time Zone.

Module # & Range of Dates for Module	Topics	Reading/Handout	Assignments	Due Date
Module 1/Week 1	Drawing in Perspective		Assignment 1 - Visualizing Perspective	Week 3
Module 1/Week 2	Drawing in Perspective			
Module 2/Week 3	Introduction to the Midterm Project		Midterm Project - Thinking Perspective	Week 7
	Bubble/Zoning Diagrams		Bubble/Zoning Diagrams (Checkpoint 1)	Week 3
	Sketching/Studies		Thumbnail Sketches (Checkpoint 2)	Week 4
Module 2/Week 4	Quiz #1			
	Sketch Studies		Sketch Studies (Checkpoint 3)	Week 4
	Color Studies		Color Studies (Checkpoint 4)	Week 5



Module 2/Week 5	Material/Textile Studies		Material/Textile Studies (Checkpoint 5)	Week 5
	Perspective Drawing/Floor Plan		Final Drawings	Week 7
Module 2/Week 6	Final Presentation Layout/Review			
Module 3/Week 7	Midterm Project Presentation			
	Conceptual Thinking		Assignment 2 - Working Concepts	Week 9
Module 3/Week 8	Quiz #2			
Module 4/Week 9	Introduction to the Final Project		Final Project - Conceptual Design	Week 16
	Sketching		Thumbnail Sketches (Checkpoint 1)	Week 10
Module 4/Week 10	Sketching			
	Sketch Studies		Sketch Studies (Checkpoint 2)	Week 11
Module 4/Week 11	Sketch Studies			
	Color Studies		Color Studies (Checkpoint 3)	Week 12
Module 4/Week 12	Quiz #3			
	Study Models		Study Models (Checkpoint 4)	Week 13



Module 4/Week 13	Scale Model		Scale Model	Week 15
Module 4/Week 14	Scale Model Light Study		Light Study (Checkpoint 5)	Week 15
Module 4/Week 15	Quiz #4 Light Study Final Presentation Layout/Review			
Module 4/Week 16	Final Project Presentation			

8. ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING SCALE

There are 100 percentage points for this course. The grade you earn for this course depends on the total number of points you earn throughout the semester. The assessment methods and grading scale are as follows:

Assessment Methods	How Many	Unit Points	Total Unit Points	Percentage
Assignment	2	40	80	20
Quiz	4	10	40	20
Midterm Project	1	100	100	30
Final Project	1	100	100	30
Total Points				100%

* Additional projects and points may be available throughout the semester



- = A (90% and above) Excellent
- = B (80%–89%) Above Average
- = C (70%–79%) Average
- = D (60%–69%) Below Average
- = U (below 60%) Unsatisfactory

The requirement sheets and rubrics for assessments can be accessed on Blackboard.

9. STUDENT HELP RESOURCES

Students have access to academic services, technical support, and student services at Fort Hays State University. You can find the resources online at [FHSU Blackboard Student Tutorials](#)

For more information, you can contact TigerTech at 785-628-3478 or [FHSU TigerTech](#)

10. COURSE POLICIES

10.1. Class Attendance:

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of every class period.

Attendance is mandatory. **A maximum of 3 absences (unexcused) will be allowed. For every absence over 3, there will be 5 percentage points reduction in the final grade.**

Within the initial **5 minutes** of class, students are marked **present**; however, **after 5 minutes**, they are considered **late** (with two late instances equating to one absence). If a student arrives **20 minutes or later** into the class, they are allowed to attend, but will be registered as **absent**.

In the event of illness or the inability to attend class, please notify me via email (cjschmidtberger3@fhsu.edu) or by calling 785.628.5829. For formal notification to all instructors, contact Student Affairs at (785) 628-4276. A doctor's note or medical report is the only acceptable documentation for a formal exception to class attendance.

Responsibility for making up missed class time lies with the student, including obtaining notes or assignments if provided.

For excused absences on the day an assignment is due, the submission deadline is extended to the following day. However, for unexcused absences, the assignment must still be submitted the next day, accompanied by a deduction of one letter grade. I encourage you to exchange phone numbers with your classmates to facilitate better communication.

10.2. Class Participation:

Participation in class discussions and activities is required.



10.3. Assignment Due Date:

Unless otherwise noted, projects and exercises will be due at the beginning of the class period for which they are assigned. **If the deadline is not met, 5 percentage points will be deducted from the project each day past the deadline.** The project **WILL NOT** be accepted after one week.

10.4. Procedures for Assignment Submission:

Assignments will be turned in either in person or on BlackBoard.

All assignment files turned in on BlackBoard should follow this layout:

FHSU_Course Number & Section_Semester Initial & Year_Assignment
Name_Student First Initial & Last Name

Example: FHSU_ART242A_F2026_Assignment 01_CSchmidtberger

10.5. Test Make-ups:

If an exam cannot be taken on the date given it will need to be taken beforehand if possible. If not, then it will be taken as soon as possible. It is the student's responsibility to discuss with the instructor about exam make-ups before the exam day.

10.6. Bonus Points or Extra Credit:

None

10.7. Collaboration Procedures:

In the event of a group project, every team member must actively engage in the project, contribute ideas, and collaborate effectively as part of the team.

10.8. Netiquette:

N/A

10.9. AI:

Students can use AI-generated texts on assignments in this course if instructor permission is obtained in advance and the content generated is properly cited.

Unless permitted to use AI tools, each student is expected to complete each assignment without substantive assistance from others, including AI.

Unauthorized or suspected unauthorized use of AI will be subject to the FHSU Academic Honesty Policy and may result in a 0 for the assignment, failure of the course, and, if warranted, expulsion from FHSU.

11. UNIVERSITY POLICIES

11.1. [Academic Honesty](#)

11.2. [Attendance](#)

11.3. [Withdrawal](#)



11.4. [Student Accessibility Services](#)

11.5. [Health and Wellness Services](#)

11.6. [Title IX Policy](#) : FHSU is committed to fostering a safe and productive learning environment. Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex, gender, and gender identity are Civil Rights offenses subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, etc. This includes all types of gender and relationship violence, sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, domestic and dating violence, and stalking. If you wish to report an incident or have questions about school policies and procedures regarding Title IX issues, please contact Laurie Larrick, University Compliance Officer and the FHSU Title IX Coordinator, at lelarrick@fhsu.edu or (785) 628-4175. The Compliance Officer can help connect you to campus and outside resources, discuss all of your reporting options, and assist with any concerns you may have.

11.7. [Career Services](#)

11.8. [Technology Services](#)