EXCELSIOR COLLEGE

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CENTER FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

RESIDENTIAL INTERIOR DESIGNER

120 Hours/12 Months/Instructor-Facilitated
Course Code: **CPD114**

OVERVIEW

Are you looking for a career where you can put your creativity and planning skills to good use? If so, this program will give you the basic skills and background you need to start working as a residential interior designer.

First, you'll find out what it's like to work as a residential interior designer for a day, and you'll see what qualities it takes to become successful in this business. You'll also learn the cornerstones of good design, such as proportion, balance, and rhythm, and discover how to plan spaces that are both beautiful and functional.

You will learn about the history of design styles and furnishings, finding out what our contemporary design aesthetic owes to the Ancient Egyptians, Greeks, and Romans. You'll also explore historical design styles that people still love today. If Modernism speaks to you more than the columns of classical Rome, don't worry—you'll get familiar with 20th-century styles and contemporary movements, too.

Building off your understanding of design basics and history, you'll have a chance to investigate the various elements of interior design: materials, color, textiles, lighting, and accessories. You'll discover how you can combine these elements to create any type of atmosphere that your clients desire.

Finally, you'll get a glimpse into the excitement of running your own design business. You'll find helpful information on establishing your business, networking with contractors and vendors, marketing, meeting with clients, and managing projects in an ethical, professional way.

Throughout the program, you'll discover useful documents and exercises to help you practice your skills and put them to use. Your work will culminate in your very first interior design project: a floor plan and complete design concept for a family room. By the end of the program, you'll be ready to seek out your first clients and help them transform their interiors into satisfying spaces.

In addition, upon completion of this program, you will be eligible to take the Residential Interior Designer Exam (RIDE) through the Designer Society of America (DSA). You'll also receive a free one-year DSA membership, and you may be able to participate in an optional 40-hour internship through DSA (where available) if you meet eligibility requirements.

OBJECTIVES

By completing the program, you will:

- Understand what a residential interior designer does.
- Be familiar with major design styles and movements throughout history.

- Know how to manipulate the basic elements involved in residential interior design projects.
- Understand the steps required to work as a residential interior designer and start your own design business.
- Have experience creating a design concept and floor plan.

OUTLINE

- Getting Started
  - Exploring a Career in Residential Interior Design
  - Design Basics
  - Space Planning
- History of Styles and Furnishings
  - History of Styles and Furnishings, Part I: Prehistoric Times to the Middle Ages
  - History of Styles and Furnishings, Part II: The Renaissance to the 20th Century
  - History of Styles and Furnishings, Part III: Modernism, Non-European Influences, and Furniture Styles
- Elements of Design
  - Materials
  - Color
  - Textiles
  - Lighting Fundamentals
  - Accents and Accessories
- Working as a Residential Interior Designer
  - Industry Regulations
  - Putting It All Together

MATERIALS INCLUDED

- *Interior Design*
- Free one-year membership in the Designer Society of America

COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS

- PC (Windows XP/Vista/7) or Mac (OS X or later)
- Digital camera and knowledge of how to download digital photos to your computer
- Internet connection (high-speed recommended)
- Adobe Flash Player and Adobe Acrobat Reader

INSTRUCTOR BIO

Natasha Lima-Younts has worked in the field of interior design for more than 20 years. She graduated from Bauder Design College, where she studied both clothing design and interior design. She went on to found Gables Interiors in Miami, Florida, in 1991. In 2006, she moved to Albany, Georgia, and founded Gables Plantation Designs. Her work has been featured in magazines including *Florida Architecture* and *Spectacular Homes*, as well as on *The View* with Barbara Walters. She was also chosen as a "Designer for the Stars" for seven years in a row in Miami. In 1999, she founded the Designer Society of America (DSA) to create a sense of

community among interior designers and help aspiring designers achieve their goals. Currently, she devotes most of her time to the DSA and works with clients when her schedule permits.