



400 Practical Experience Hours Requirement – Architecture & Interior Design

Students enrolled in the undergraduate Architecture and Interior Design Programs are required to complete 400 “Practical Experience Hours” prior to graduation. Students can begin earning these hours once they are enrolled in their respective program. It is important to note that a supervisor (someone having direct supervision of your work) is required to document your hours. This documentation is a signed letter from the supervisor on letterhead that describes the work you completed and the total number of hours. This letter needs to be given to your advisor to receive credit for the experience. Students will not be able to graduate until they have completed their 400 hours with the appropriate documentation. Experience that is not included in the list below needs to be approved by your respective Program Chair prior to starting the work/volunteer experience.

Practical Experience Opportunities:

Working for an architecture firm

Working for an interior design firm

Working for a landscape architecture firm

Working for an engineering firm (civil, structural, mechanical, electrical, plumbing)

Working for a contractor or subcontractor

Working for an installer or specialty consultant on architecture or interior design projects

Volunteering for Habitat for Humanity

Volunteering for AIAS, ASID, or USGBC Students (up to 50 hours)

Participating in a School of Design summer study abroad trip (200 hours)

In addition to these opportunities, students can enroll in ARCH 445C – Community Design Activism Center (after completing second year studios) and earn 150 hours. Students can take this course up to three times to complete their 400 hours.