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Furniture Design Workshop

Department of Interior Architecture
Kansas State University

The Department of Interior Architecture’s Furniture Design Workshop offers students the opportunity to investigate the design process in three dimensions. In a series of four semesters students explore design of product, component, seating, and cabinetry.

The first semester in the sequence provides instruction in machine operation and safety. Initial design problems focus on the study of form, texture, and the shaping of various materials. Wood turning, carving, vacuum forming, and casting are among many methods used in developing students ideas into the final product.

The remaining course sequence progresses through product type, increasing design complexity, and involvement in a variety of construction techniques. Each problem focuses on a specific design process which includes the following steps: 1) Problem statement; 2) Schematic design and analysis; 3) Material selection and working drawings; 4) Construction; and 5) Post-construction evaluation. Upon completion of the evaluation the student can refine the design and/or the material selection of the prototype and complete the final design. Many students have selected to combine the final product with marketing strategies and place the completed design within the public market.
S. Mark Gelsinger
Clock design — Bubinga and plexiglass
Spring 1981

Kelly Deines
Urbane 5*0 — Maple veneered laminates
Fall 1984

Steve Klepacki
Clock design — White ash
Spring 1978

Allan Herrman
La Caquetoir — Hickory laminates
Fall 1984

Micki Goldberg
Workshop I — Product Design
Fall 1982