

BACHELOR OF INTERIOR DESIGN (HONOURS)

Bridging to 4th Year



Bachelor of Interior Design (Honours) Bridging Program Overview

Program Purpose & Overview

The Bridging Program to the 4th year of the Bachelor of Interior Design (Honours) at Algonquin College is designed for interior design professionals who hold a 3-year advanced diploma in interior design. This one-year bridging pathway provides the academic and professional foundation required to transition into the final year of a CIDA-accredited Bachelor of Interior Design (Honours) degree.

Eligibility & Admission Requirements

To qualify for the Bridging Program, applicants must submit the following:

- Proof of completion of a 3-year advanced diploma in Interior Design with a minimum GPA of 3.0 (B average),
- Official transcripts and course descriptions from prior institutions,
- A current curriculum vitae (CV),
- A portfolio of individual design work (see Section 4 for Portfolio Requirements).

Program Structure & Timeline (Including Co-op Requirement)

Upon acceptance, students complete five online courses and a Co-op work term during the Bridging year. Upon successful completion of both, students are admitted to Levels 07 (Fall) and 08 (Winter) of the full-time fourth year of the Bachelor of Interior Design (Honours) program.

The Bridging Program consists of three required, sequential components:

1. Five Online Courses (Asynchronous Delivery)

- *Fall Term:*
 - Critical Thinking and Academic Writing
 - Topics in Design History and Theory
 - Sustainable Issues
- *Winter Term:*
 - Perspectives in Interior Design
 - Issues in Psychology

Note: No scheduled class times; students work independently within structured weekly modules.

2. 14-Week Paid Co-op Work Term (Requirement):

- Students must complete a 14-week Co-op before entering Level 7.
- May be started before the Fall term or taken concurrently with bridging courses.
- Requires submission of both an employer verification form and a formal written report, which will be reviewed before 4th-year admission.
- Students with substantial, relevant professional experience may apply for a waiver by submitting appropriate documentation.
- Additional details are shared with students during the Fall term

3. 4th Year of Study (Level 07 and Level 08):

- Delivered online synchronously or face-to-face
- Students are eligible to enter after completing both the bridging courses and Co-op

Note: A minimum grade of **C- (60%)** is required in each of the five bridging courses to progress to the 4th year.

Portfolio Requirements

The portfolio must demonstrate that the applicant possesses design competencies equivalent to those achieved by the end of the third year of the Bachelor of Interior Design (Honours) program. The portfolio must clearly reflect individual authorship and mastery of the required skills.

Required competencies:

- Analytical thinking and advanced project programming
- Creative design process (e.g., sketches, ideation, modelling)
- Concept development and advanced space planning
- Multi-sector design development (e.g., residential, retail, commercial, healthcare)

- Application of building code knowledge (Ontario and National)
- Proficiency in software tools (AutoCAD, Revit, SketchUp, Adobe Suite, etc.)
- Strong communication and presentation skills (written and visual)
- Technical drawing and construction documentation

Submission Format:

- Submit as a single PDF file
- AI-generated content or work produced using gaming software will not be accepted
- Portfolios will be reviewed for academic integrity and clear evidence of individual authorship

Program Delivery & Support

- Bridging courses are delivered fully online in an asynchronous format, offering flexibility for working professionals.
- The 4th year (Level 07 and 08) is delivered either online in synchronous format or face-to-face, depending on course availability.
- The program has a Fall intake only; there is no Winter intake.

Contact Information

For questions about eligibility, portfolio preparation, or Co-op requirements, please contact:

Program Coordinator, Bachelor of Interior Design (Honours)
Email: interiordesign@algonquincollege.com
