

# Interior Design



Part artists, part technicians, interior designers conceive, rethink, bring to life, lay out, and create interior spaces while taking functional, budgetary, and technical constraints into account. They play a leading role, intervening at all stages of a project: from original sketches (design and visual representation of a space, technical definition) to layout (functionality, volume, materials, lighting, sound devices, etc.) and final delivery of the works in compliance with the social and cultural environment.

Covering design, set design, and decoration, interior design draws from the fine, decorative, and graphic arts equally. Interior designers conceive and lay out both private spaces (individual homes, businesses, etc.) and public spaces (museums, shops, hotels, theatrical productions, movie scenes and TV series, etc.). Several years of study are necessary to develop, in addition to creativity, architectural expertise and mastery of regulations specific to the construction industry (partitions, bearing walls, electricity, ventilation, heating, etc.).

However, interior design should not be confused with architecture. The length of study, the scope of action of construction focused on exterior spaces, and the responsibilities of these two professions are not the same.

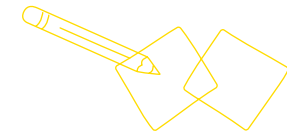
Interior design programs are offered by both public and private institutions.

- **€46.1 billion:** Direct economic impact of the cultural sector (2020)
- **€7 billion:** Average total revenue of the design sector (2021)

- **Nearly 40,000** professionals work in the design sector in France (2021)
- The decoration sector generates **between €16 and €25 billion** in annual revenue (2020)

- **More than 1,500** designers earn a masters degree every year

Sources : INSEE - MC - MESRI



## International

Of all countries, France has the strongest tradition in the decorative arts, yet it dares to mix styles and break with tradition. French interior designers are sought after throughout the world and export their talents: Andrée Putman, Pierre-Yves Rochon, Jean-Michel Wilmotte, Philippe Starck, Pierre Yovanovitch, Patrick Gilles, Dorothée Boissier, and Joseph Dirand, to name a few. A number of foreign interior designers have also come to work and opened studios in France, including India Mahdavi (Iran), Luis Laplace (Argentina), Patricia Urquiola (Spain), Joseph Karam (Lebanon), Paola Navone (Italy), and many others.

Several important international networks for interior design education, student mobility, and the profession in general exist. These include (among others) the Fédération Européenne des Décorateurs & Architectes d'Intérieur (FEDA); the European Council of Interior Architects (ECIA), comprising 14 organizations in EU member countries and the European Free Trade Association; and the International Federation of Interior Architects/Designers (IFI), founded in 1963, which currently brings together 23 countries and approximately 32,000 members. The major interior design schools are part of the Cumulus international network and offer regular exchange possibilities with their foreign counterparts.

### RELATED FIELDS

- Arts • Culture • Design
- Education • Engineering
- Environment • Information Technologies • Layout • Management

### SUBFIELDS

- 3D Design • Applied Arts
- Architectural Decoration
- Architectural Environment
- Architecture • Arts Professions
- Construction and Habitat
- Decoration • Drawing • Engineering
- Furnishing • Graphic Arts
- Heritage • Industrial Design
- Industry and Industrialization
- Materials • Measurement
- Model Construction • Modeling
- Plastic Arts • Product Design
- Real Estate • Renovation
- Spatial Design • Stage Design
- Standards

## Useful links

- ADEME – Environment and Energy Management Agency: [www.ademe.fr](http://www.ademe.fr)
- APCI – Agency for the Promotion of Industrial Creation: [www.apci-design.fr](http://www.apci-design.fr)
- CampusArt, online application system for art, design, music, architecture,...: [www.campusart.org](http://www.campusart.org)
- CFAI, French Council of Interior Designers: [www.cfai.fr](http://www.cfai.fr)
- Cumulus, International association of universities and colleges of art, design, and media: [www.cumulusassociation.org](http://www.cumulusassociation.org)
- French Alliance of Designers: [www.alliance-francaise-des-designers-org](http://www.alliance-francaise-des-designers-org)
- FDE, France design education: [www.fde.design](http://www.fde.design)
- FFB, French Building Federation: [www.ffbatiment.fr](http://www.ffbatiment.fr)
- IFD, French Design Institute: [www.institutfrancaisdudesign.fr](http://www.institutfrancaisdudesign.fr)
- Information sheet on art and culture degrees: [www.campusfrance.org/en/resource/degrees-in-art-and-culture](http://www.campusfrance.org/en/resource/degrees-in-art-and-culture)
- INMA, French National Institute of Arts Professionals: [www.institut-metiersdart.org](http://www.institut-metiersdart.org)
- Ministry of Culture: [www.culture.gouv.fr](http://www.culture.gouv.fr)
- Professional certifications: <https://certificationprofessionnelle.fr>
- UNAID, National Union of Interior Architects and Designers: [www.unaid.fr](http://www.unaid.fr)

# LEVEL Licence

## BREVET DE TECHNICIEN SUPÉRIEUR (BTS)

NATIONAL DIPLOMA – 2 YEARS OF HIGHER EDUCATION – L2  
120 ECTS credits

> **BTS**, after 2 years of study programs offered by public and private high schools and colleges train interior designers and set designers. Available majors include **Furnishing and Finishing** (15) and **Studies and Layout** (21).

## DIPLÔME DES MÉTIERS D'ARTS (DMA)

NATIONAL DIPLOMA – 2 YEARS OF HIGHER EDUCATION – L2  
120 ECTS credits

> **DMA** degree in two years in **Home Arts** or **Architectural Decoration**, with specialization in subjects such as décor and furniture, metal, or materials, is offered by ESAAAs and high schools. These programs specialize in specific artisanal crafts and pass on traditional expertise.

## DIPLÔME NATIONAL DES MÉTIERS D'ART ET DU DESIGN (DNMADE)

NATIONAL DIPLOMA – 3 YEARS OF HIGHER EDUCATION – L3  
180 ECTS credits

> **DNMADE**, delivered after 3 years of study in an ESAA. Students can choose among numerous majors, including: **Space** (27 different majors), **Events** (11), and **Social Innovation** (3).

> **DNMADE** at the École de Design Nantes Atlantique  
[www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/970](http://www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/970)

## DIPLÔME NATIONAL D'ART (DNA)

NATIONAL DIPLOMA – 3 YEARS OF HIGHER EDUCATION – L3  
180 ECTS credits

> **DNA**, delivered after 3 years of study in an ESA (School of Fine Arts). A dozen or so ESA offer a **Design** major with a specialization in **Space**.

### To apply through CampusArt:

ESAD Orléans: [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/313](http://www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/313)

HEAR: [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/300](http://www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/300)

Pavillon Bosio: [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/61](http://www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/61)

## PROFESSIONAL LICENCE

NATIONAL DIPLOMA – 3 YEARS OF HIGHER EDUCATION – L3  
180 ECTS credits

> Two universities offer this degree in their **Science, Technology, and Health** departments. The degree allows students to refine their technical knowledge in a specific field, including wood and furnishing; creation and lifestyle design.

## PROFESSIONAL TITLE

RNCP – 3 YEARS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

> **Designer and Interior Designer**, ITECOM

[www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/1092](http://www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/1092)

> **Interior Designer-Space Design**, Écoles de Condé

[www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/949](http://www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/949)

# LEVEL Master

## DIPLÔME SUPÉRIEUR DES ARTS APPLIQUÉS (DSAA)

NATIONAL DIPLOMA – 5 YEARS OF HIGHER EDUCATION – M2  
120 ECTS credits

> This two-year, 120-credit (ECTS) masters-level degree in **Design** with a specialization in **Space** is offered by 10 institutions and allows students to enhance their artistic mastery in the field of design.

## DIPLÔME NATIONAL SUPÉRIEUR D'EXPRESSION PLASTIQUE (DNSEP)

NATIONAL DIPLOMA – 5 YEARS OF HIGHER EDUCATION – M2

> This two-year, 120-credit (ECTS) program leads to a masters-level degree and aims at structuring and conducting individual research. Some 15 ESAs offer a **Design** option with a **Space** specialization.

### To apply through CampusArt:

Pavillon Bosio: [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/60](http://www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/60)

ESAD Reims: [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/176](http://www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/176)

ESAD Orléans: [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/310](http://www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/310)

ESAD Le Mans: [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/142](http://www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/142)

## DIPLOMA DESIGNER-CREATOR IN THE DECORATIVE ARTS

MASTER LEVEL – 5 YEARS OF HIGHER EDUCATION – M2  
120 ECTS credits

Program offered by the École Nationale Supérieure des Arts Décoratifs (ENSAD) in Paris. This is a five year degree with a major in interior design or set design. Admission is by competitive entrance examination.

[www.ensad.fr](http://www.ensad.fr)

## PROFESSIONAL TITLE

RNCP – 5 YEARS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

### > Interior Designer:

Académie Charpentier: [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/387](http://www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/387)

Autograf: [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/454](http://www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/454)

Camondo: [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/614](http://www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/614)

Écoles de Condé: [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/379](http://www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/379)

EFET Studio Créa: [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/1121](http://www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/1121)

ESAM Design: [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/58](http://www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/58)

ESDAC - École Supérieure de Design, d'Arts Appliqués et de Communication:

[www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/1158](http://www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/1158)

LISAA: [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/784](http://www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/784)

Penninghen: [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/120](http://www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/120)

> **Spatial Design**, Strate School of Design

[www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/590](http://www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/590)

> **Design Degree**, École de Design Nantes Atlantique

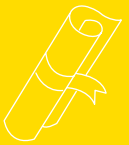
[www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/969](http://www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/969)

# Interior Design



LEVEL

## Beyond the Master level



### MASTÈRE SPÉCIALISÉ® (MS)

INSTITUTION DIPLOMA – 1 YEAR OF HIGHER EDUCATION

A post-masters program accredited and labeled by CGE (Conférence des Grandes Écoles), this specialized masters enables holders to develop a second competence in a variety of majors and earn an institution-specific diploma.

> **Mastère Spécialisé® création, design & technologie contemporaine** degree offered by the École Nationale Supérieure de Création Industrielle (ENSCI) – Les Ateliers.  
[www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/858](http://www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/858)

### To apply online:

[www.campusart.org](http://www.campusart.org) > Find your program

