

# DESIGNED OBJECTS

## SAIC BFA in Studio—Curricular Pathways in Design

The curricular pathways in design outline possible courses of study for BFA in Studio students who are interested in the Departments of Architecture, Interior Architecture, and Designed Objects (AIADO); Fashion Design; or Visual Communication Design (VCD). BFA students may choose to pursue a particular curricular pathway in a design area if they would like to engage in a more focused sequence of courses. Many of the design pathways have a rigorous portfolio review application process, as well as required foundational studio/design prerequisites in order to access the more advanced courses. Please see each curricular pathway description and chart for details.

Below are some **very important** notes about the curricular pathways in design:

1. Completion of curricular pathways is **not** a requirement for graduation; please refer to the current SAIC Student Bulletin for a list of degree requirements.
2. BFA students who opt to follow curricular pathways still graduate with a BFA in Studio; there is no additional degree designation if you follow a curricular pathway.
3. For specific questions about curricular pathways, please contact the appropriate department.

### KEY

**AH** Art History elective credit

**FYS** First-Year Seminar credit

**H** Liberal Arts/Humanities credit

**SCI** Liberal Arts/Natural Science credit

**SOC** Liberal Arts/Natural Science credit

**S** Studio elective credit

**SS** Sophomore Seminar Studio credit

**PP** Professional Practice Studio credit

**CAP** Capstone Studio credit

**Fall only**

Course only offered in fall semesters

**Spring only**

Course only offered in spring semesters

**Sophomore Standing**

**30–59.5 credits complete**

**Junior Standing**

**60–89.5 credits complete**

**Senior Standing**

**90 or more credits complete**

All courses are 3 credits, unless noted otherwise in (parentheses).

Prerequisites are noted by course numbers in [brackets]. Prerequisite courses are in the same department unless otherwise noted.

Note for Academic Spine courses (**SS**, **PP**, **CAP**): Although departments may recommend specific Spine courses as part of their curricular pathways, students may choose Spine courses from any department to fulfill undergraduate degree requirements. For more information on Spine course offerings, please visit the Academic Spine web pages on the SAIC website: [saic.edu/academicspine](http://saic.edu/academicspine).

# Designed Objects Curricular Pathway

## CORE PATHWAY COURSES: DESIGNED OBJECTS

Students wishing to focus their studies in Designed Objects should take *Intro to Designed Objects* and *Object Sketching, Ideation and Illustration* in their first year.

Beginning with Sophomore year, students should take one course from the Studio Sequence each semester AND at least one course from the Skills Sequence. Electives provide additional opportunity for specialization.

Over time, each sequence should ideally be completed as a progression of courses taken in the order presented below.

### Studio Sequence (18)

(All count as studio credit unless otherwise noted.)

<b>DESOB 1001</b>	Introduction to Designed Objects
<b>DESOB 2020</b>	Designed Objects 1 - Methods and Motivations
<b>DESOB 2030</b>	Designed Objects 2 - Form-Making [2020]
<b>DESOB 3022</b>	Designed Objects 3 - Research Strategies [2030]
<b>DESOB 4050</b>	Designed Objects 4 - Systems Thinking [3022]
<b>AIADO 4900</b>	<b>(Spring only)</b> Undergraduate Projects [PP 3900] <b>CAP</b>

### Skills Sequence (18)

<b>DESOB 1006</b>	Object Sketching, Ideation, and Illustration
<b>DESOB 2019</b>	<b>(Fall only)</b> Digital Communication for Presentation
<b>DESOB 2035</b>	Materials and Methods Seminar
<b>DESOB 3124</b>	Digital Modeling: Rhino
<b>DESOB 3126</b>	Digital Modeling: Solidworks
<b>DESOB 3004</b>	<b>(Spring only)</b> Design Storytelling
<b>DESOB 3060</b>	CNC for Furniture [3124 or 3126]

and/or

### Furniture Sequence (9)

<b>DESOB 2145</b>	Fundamentals of Furniture
<b>DESOB 3155</b>	<b>(Fall and Winter)</b> Prototyping for Furniture [instructor consent]
<b>DESOB 4025</b>	<b>(Spring only)</b> Advanced Furniture Making [instructor consent]

### Design History + Theory Sequence (9)

<b>ARTHI 1015</b>	<b>(Spring only)</b> Survey of Design History <b>AH</b>
<b>ARTHI 2128</b>	<b>(Spring only)</b> History of Designed Objects [survey] <b>AH</b>
<b>ARTHI 3740</b>	Design Discourses [survey] <b>AH</b>

## ACADEMIC SPINE COURSES RECOMMENDED

(Topic titles may change by semester. Students should choose one option at each level.)

<b>SOPHSEM 2900</b>	Designing Your Future [sophomore standing] <b>SS</b>
<b>PROFPRAC 3900</b>	Designed Objects: Proposals and Positions: Portfolios in Designed Objects [any 2900] <b>PP</b>
<b>PROFPRAC 3900</b>	Runway Meets Runway [SS 2900] <b>PP</b>
<b>CAPSTONE 4900</b>	<b>(Spring only)</b> Undergraduate Projects [PP 3900] <b>CAP</b>
<b>CAPSTONE 4900</b>	Whatnot Studio* (3/fall + 3/spring) [instructor consent] <b>CAP</b>

\*Yearlong studio courses with external partners. Admission is by application and portfolio review.

**Please note:** The Designed Objects program recommends the Spine courses listed above; however, please consult with the department chair if you decide to take other Spine courses while still pursuing this pathway.

## RECOMMENDED COURSES WITH PREREQUISITES

(Please note that recommended courses may not be offered every semester. Select courses that contribute toward completion of your remaining degree requirements)

### Design Studio Electives

(All count as studio credit.)

<b>DESOB 2074</b>	Pattern Making [DESOB 1001 or SCULP 1101 or SCULP 2001]
<b>DESOB 3037</b>	<b>(Spring only)</b> Digital Crafting 2.0 [2037]
<b>DESOB 3155</b>	<b>(Fall and Winter)</b> Prototyping for Furniture [instructor consent]
<b>DESOB 4025</b>	<b>(Spring only)</b> Advanced Furniture Making [instructor consent]
<b>DESOB 4030</b>	Make/Move: Experiments in Urban Mobility* (3/fall + 3/spring) [instructor consent]
<b>DESOB 4032</b>	<b>(Spring only)</b> Alter Futures Critical Imagining [junior standing or above]
<b>DESOB 4060</b>	The Future of Making [instructor consent]
<b>AIADO 4118</b>	<b>(Spring only)</b> Furniture Design: Chair Studio [2145]
<b>AIADO 4954</b>	Topics in Design [sophomore standing or above]

\*Yearlong studios courses with external partners. Admission is by application and portfolio review.

More external partnership opportunities may be available. Please check the Designed Objects course pages online.

## Designed Objects Curricular Pathway Cont.

### RECOMMENDED DEPARTMENT COURSES ABOVE THE INTRODUCTORY LEVEL WITHOUT PREREQUISITES

Open to all students (Please note that recommended courses may not be offered every semester.)

#### Design Electives

All count as studio credit

<b>DESOB 2028</b>	<b>(Fall only)</b> Interface Design Seminar
<b>DESOB 2037</b>	Digital Crafting: Basics
<b>DESOB 2145</b>	Fundamentals of Furniture
<b>DESOB 3145</b>	<b>(Fall only)</b> Extreme Furniture
<b>DESOB 3020</b>	<b>(Spring only)</b> Ceramics for Designed Objects
<b>DESOB 3034</b>	<b>(Spring only)</b> Multiples Studio
<b>DESOB 3048</b>	<b>(Fall only)</b> Shaping Light
<b>DESOB 3062</b>	Minifactory: Designer-Driven Production and Distribution
<b>DESOB 3065</b>	<b>(Fall only)</b> Social Innovation Studio
<b>AIADO 4932</b>	<b>(Spring only)</b> Unwrapping Design and Architecture
<b>AIADO 4931</b>	<b>(Fall only)</b> Design for Non-Human Kinds
<b>AIADO 4100</b>	SAIC Design @ Homan Square
<b>DESOB 3100</b>	<b>(Fall only)</b> Civic Transformations

More external partnership opportunities may be available. Please check the Designed Objects course pages online.

### RECOMMENDED ACADEMIC COURSES

(Please note that recommended courses may not be offered every semester. These courses may require a prerequisite. Select courses that contribute toward completion of your remaining degree requirements)

#### Recommended Art History courses that complement the Designed Objects pathway

<b>ARTHI 2464</b>	<b>(Fall only)</b> Decorative Arts of China <b>AH</b>
<b>ARTHI 2542</b>	<b>(Spring only)</b> History of Furniture <b>AH</b>
<b>ARTHI 2730</b>	History of Graphic Design <b>AH</b>
<b>ARTHI 3551</b>	<b>(Spring only)</b> American Design Culture in the 20th Century <b>AH</b>
<b>ARTHI 4013</b>	Spaces of Modernity <b>AH</b>
<b>ARTHI 4512</b>	<b>(Winter only)</b> Better Homes and Gardens <b>AH</b>
<b>ARTHI 4703</b>	<b>(Fall only)</b> Philosophy of Modernism <b>AH</b>
<b>ARTHI 4804</b>	<b>(Spring only)</b> Adorno on Culture Industry <b>AH</b>

#### Recommended Liberal Arts courses that complement the Designed Objects pathway

<b>ENG 1001</b>	<b>(Fall only)</b> First-Year Seminar I Topic: Ethics and the Environment <b>FYS</b>
<b>SCI 3007</b>	Knowing Nature <b>SCI/FYS</b>
<b>SCI 3250</b>	<b>(Fall only)</b> Acoustics <b>SCI/FYS</b>
<b>SCI 3252</b>	Physics of Motion <b>SCI/FYS</b>
<b>HUM3311</b>	Critical Thinking <b>H/FYS</b>
<b>HUM3315</b>	Ethics <b>H/FYS</b>
<b>HUM 3330</b>	<b>(Spring only)</b> Topics in Philosophy: Environmental Ethics <b>H/FYS</b>
<b>SCI 3340</b>	<b>(Fall only)</b> Earth's Changing Climate <b>SCI/FYS</b>
<b>SCI 3345</b>	<b>(Spring only)</b> Geoengineering <b>SCI/FYS</b>
<b>SCI 3460</b>	Light and Vision <b>SCI/FYS</b>
<b>SOCSCI 3520</b>	<b>(Fall only)</b> Global Environmental History <b>SOC/FYS</b>
<b>SOCSCI 3520</b>	<b>(Spring only)</b> Ecology of Contested Spaces <b>SOC/FYS</b>
<b>SCI 3539</b>	Sustainability <b>SCI/FYS</b>

More external partnership opportunities may be available. Please check the Designed Objects course pages online.

## Additional Information

The Designed Objects pathway contains Core Studios, Skills, Furniture and Design History courses. In addition, it highlights Academic Spine courses and Design Studio Electives with and without prerequisites, and lists recommended Art History and Liberal Arts courses.

The Core Studio courses are intended to be taken sequentially, beginning with *Introduction to Designed Objects* and progressing through *Designed Objects 1, 2, 3, and 4*, and concluding with *Undergraduate Projects* or another Capstone course.

The Core Skills courses, of which there are seven in total, should be selected according to the skills relevant to your intended trajectory and in consultation with your academic advisor.

### **Rhino or Solidworks?**

The question is often asked whether it is better to take the Rhino or Solidworks course.

The answer is that both are valuable and can achieve similar results, but have different strengths. Some students will learn one while others will learn both. Your choice will depend upon the type of work you see yourself doing in the future and the functionality you need from the software.

- Rhino is NURBS-based 3D modeling software that allows close control over the editing of surfaces. It has been an industry standard software for many years due to its ease of use. The creation of organic shapes is relatively simple, however it is harder to modify forms once a model has been completed, compared to Solidworks.
- SolidWorks is a parametric and feature-base CAD system in which you can create parts, assemblies, and 2D drawings, generate complex surfaces, sheet metal flat patterns, and structural welded assemblies. It also includes functionality that can perform stress analysis and determine the environmental impact of components.

Both pieces of software can produce data for outputting models via CNC milling and 3D printing. Either course is needed as the prerequisite to the *CNC for Furniture* course.