

FULL-TIME PROGRAMME

Interior Design Diploma

Fifteen months across three Studios, with two industry placements, moderated assessment and a final exhibition. The professional route into interior design.

15 months | 3 Studios | 40 modules | 2 industry placements | Abuja Training Centre

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

The full professional route into interior design.

15 months
three Studios and two placements

40
modules, each with a course code

3 intakes
February, June and October

What you learn

Design principles and space planning, technical drawing and documentation, colour, materials and finishes, lighting, furniture and joinery, AutoCAD, SketchUp and V-Ray, AI in interior design, budgeting, and the business of running a design practice.

Every Studio is built around real design briefs.

Who it is for

- School leavers and graduates who want a full professional qualification
- Career changers ready to commit to design full time
- No previous design education is needed

How you learn

- Practising facilitators and studio critiques
- Site and factory visits twice a month, and showroom visits
- Two industry placements with interior design firms or on live projects
- A portfolio built across the three Studios and shown at the final exhibition

What you leave with

- The ZIDA Diploma, carrying the NBTE, ACTD and IDAN marks
- Student Membership of the Interior Designers Association of Nigeria
- A professional portfolio and placement experience
- IDCEC continuing education certificates and ZIDA Pro Practice templates

RECOGNITION

Recognised and accredited.

NBTE-approved Skill Training Centre

NATIONAL BOARD FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Register code 167042.

ACTD accredited

AMERICAN COUNCIL ON TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Listed in ACTD's Interior Design and Decoration category.

Registered IDCEC CEU Provider

INTERIOR DESIGN CONTINUING EDUCATION COUNCIL

Three IDCEC-approved courses (CEU-126503, CEU-126514 and CEU-126731), covering 18 of our modules.

Partner of IDAN

INTERIOR DESIGNERS ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA

Every full-time Diploma student becomes a Student Member of IDAN.

On this course

The Diploma certificate carries the NBTE, ACTD and IDAN marks. Three IDCEC-approved courses, covering 18 of its modules, earn IDCEC continuing education certificates, and every full-time student becomes a Student Member of IDAN. ZIDA alumni have gone on to the Executive Masters in Interior Design at Obafemi Awolowo University (OAU).

Independent quality assurance

Assessment and internal verification are overseen by a Quality Assurance Adviser and an Internal Quality Assurance Manager, separate from teaching. Certificates are awarded only on demonstrated achievement.

Every recognition links to the body's own register at zida.com.ng/recognition, so you can check it yourself.

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Three Studios, two placements, one exhibition.

Studio I FOUNDATION	**Studio I: Foundation** The language of design: principles, process, concepts and moodboards, drawing, colour and the first studio projects. 11 modules.
Studio II TECHNICAL	**Studio II: Technical and Intermediate** Technical drawing and documentation, materials, lighting, furniture and joinery, and AutoCAD, SketchUp and V-Ray. 13 modules.
4 weeks PLACEMENT I	**First Industry Placement** Site exposure with an interior design firm or on a live project, at the end of Studio II.
Studio III PROFESSIONAL	**Studio III: Advanced and Professional Practice** Complex residential and commercial projects, specification, budgeting and the business of running a practice. 12 modules.
Completion CAPSTONE	**Final Project and Exhibition** Your capstone project, presented at the ZIDA final exhibition.
8 weeks PLACEMENT II	**Working Placement** A working placement after Studio III, with IDAN continuing professional development and Student Membership.

THE MODULES

Studio I: Foundation

IDD 101

Introduction to Interior Design, its Evolution and Design Styles

- What interior design is, and what it is not
- Interior design, interior decoration and interior architecture
- The role and responsibilities of the designer
- Career paths and specialisms
- Evolution of interior design through history
- Historical styles and periods
- Design styles and their defining characteristics
- African design heritage and its influence
- Contemporary global and Nigerian practice
- Professional bodies: IDAN, IDCEC, IFI

IDD 102

Elements and Principles of Design

- Elements: space, line, form, shape, texture, pattern, light, colour
- Principles: balance, rhythm, emphasis, proportion, scale, harmony, unity, contrast
- Visual weight and composition
- Applying elements and principles to interiors
- African design principles in practice
- Critical analysis of interior spaces

IDD 103

Design Process and Communication

- The design process from brief to handover
- Client brief taking and interpretation
- Research and precedent study
- Programming and space requirements
- Verbal and written communication with clients
- Presentation skills
- Working with consultants and contractors

IDD 104

Concept Development and Moodboards

- What a design concept is
- Developing a concept from a brief
- Concept statements and narratives
- Sourcing and curating references
- Moodboard composition and hierarchy
- Sample boards and material boards
- Storytelling through visual presentation

IDD 105

Canva for Presentation

- Canva for design presentation
- Building presentation boards
- Moodboards and sample boards in Canva
- Brand consistency in client documents
- Portfolio layout and formatting
- Proposal and pitch documents
- Templates and asset libraries

IDD 106

Technical Drawing and Drafting

- The universal language of drawing
- Drawing conventions and symbols
- Lines, line weights and line types
- Scale and proportion
- Measurement and dimensioning
- Freehand sketching for design
- Architectural drafting by hand
- Floor plans, elevations and sections
- Reading and interpreting drawings

THE MODULES

Studio I: Foundation

IDD 107

Anthropometry, Ergonomics and Measurement

- Introduction to space planning
- Anthropometry and human dimensions
- Ergonomics in interior spaces
- Measurement techniques and site survey
- Standard clearances and circulation
- Zoning
- Bubble diagrams
- Universal and accessible design
- Space plan and layout considerations

IDD 108

AutoCAD I: 2D Drafting

- Interface, setup and workspace
- Drawing and editing tools
- Layers, line types and line weights
- Dimensioning and annotation
- Blocks and libraries
- Floor plans in 2D
- Plotting and printing to scale

IDD 109

Space Planning I: Residential Spaces

- Bedroom planning: master, guest and children
- Wardrobe and storage planning
- Residential bathroom planning
- Residential toilet and powder room planning
- Kitchen planning principles and the work triangle
- Kitchen layouts, storage, appliances and services
- Living room planning and seating arrangements
- Dining and entertaining spaces
- Open plan and multifunctional residential spaces
- Circulation and privacy zoning
- Applying anthropometrics to private spaces

IDD 110

AI for Interior Design

- AI tools for concept and ideation
- Generating layout options
- AI for visualisation and mood development
- Prompting for design outcomes
- Limitations and professional judgement
- Ethics and client disclosure

IDD 111

Studio I Project: Residential

- Full residential brief covering private spaces
- Concept through to presentation
- Hand drawings plus AutoCAD
- Moodboard and material selection
- Client presentation and critique
- First portfolio piece

THE MODULES

Studio II: Technical and Intermediate

IDD 201

Colour: Theory, Psychology and Application

- Colour theory and the colour wheel
- Colour systems and notation
- Colour psychology and human response
- Cultural meaning of colour, including African context
- Building colour schemes
- Colour in relation to light
- Application across room types
- Colour trends and forecasting

IDD 202

Materials, Textures and Applications

- Material families and properties
- Hard finishes: stone, tile, concrete and terrazzo
- Timber and engineered products
- Metals and glass
- Paints, coatings and wall finishes
- Flooring systems
- Sustainability and lifecycle
- Local and imported sourcing
- Material specification basics

IDD 203

Light and Lighting

- Natural light and daylighting
- Artificial lighting types and sources
- Layered lighting: ambient, task, accent and decorative
- Lighting calculations and levels
- Fittings, fixtures and specification
- Lighting controls and scenes
- Lighting plans and schedules
- Lighting for mood and atmosphere

IDD 204

FF&E, Joinery and Finishes

- Furniture, fixtures and equipment defined
- Furniture styles and selection
- Furniture styling and arrangement
- Bespoke joinery design
- Cabinetry, wardrobes and built-ins
- Working with fabricators and artisans
- Ironmongery and hardware
- Finishes schedules
- FF&E specification and procurement

IDD 205

Textiles and Window Treatment

- Fibres, weaves and fabric construction
- Fabric performance and suitability
- Upholstery fabrics
- Rugs and soft furnishings
- Window treatment types
- Curtains, blinds, shutters and sheers
- Measuring and specifying window treatments
- Working with upholsterers and curtain makers

THE MODULES

Studio II: Technical and Intermediate

IDD 206

SketchUp and Layout

- SketchUp interface and modelling
- Building 3D interiors from 2D plans
- Components, groups and libraries
- Materials and textures in SketchUp
- SketchUp Layout: preparing presentation documents
- Scenes, scaled views and annotation in Layout
- Exporting and document setup

IDD 207

Construction Methods

- Construction methods and materials
- Walls, floors, ceilings and roofs
- Openings: doors, windows and partitions
- Wet areas and waterproofing
- Reading construction drawings

IDD 208

Space Planning II: Commercial Sanitary and Circulation

- Commercial washroom and toilet planning
- Urinals, cubicles and commercial sanitaryware
- Accessible and gender-neutral provision
- Sanitary provision calculated against occupancy
- Wet area services coordination
- Ventilation and moisture management
- Corridors, lobbies and circulation at scale
- Means of egress and exit routes

IDD 209

Fire Safety, Health, Safety, Welfare and Building Regulations

- Fire safety principles in interiors
- Means of escape and egress
- Fire ratings of materials and finishes
- Detection, alarms and suppression
- Health, safety and welfare in design
- Site safety and personal protective equipment
- Nigerian building regulations
- Development control and approvals
- Council submission requirements
- Accessibility and statutory compliance

IDD 210

AutoCAD II: Working and Production Drawings

- Advanced AutoCAD tools
- Full drawing sets
- Working drawings and construction documents
- Production and detail drawings
- Joinery details and sections
- Electrical, lighting and services layouts
- Finishes and door schedules
- Specification notes on drawings
- Drawing issue, revision and management

THE MODULES

Studio II: Technical and Intermediate and the First Industry Placement

IDD 211

Space Planning III: Office and Corporate Workspace

- Office typologies: open plan, cellular and hybrid
- Workstation planning and density
- Meeting, breakout and collaboration space
- Reception and client-facing areas
- Zoning, circulation and wayfinding at scale
- Acoustics in the workplace
- Services coordination in commercial fit-out
- Fire egress in workplace layouts
- Retail space planning in outline
- Hospitality set as the project and assignment brief

IDD 212

Building Services

- Mechanical, electrical and plumbing overview
- Water supply and drainage
- HVAC and ventilation
- Electrical layouts, points and circuits
- Acoustics and sound control
- Thermal comfort
- Smart systems infrastructure
- Coordinating with services engineers

IDD 213

Studio II Project: Commercial

- Full commercial brief
- Technical drawing set produced
- Three-dimensional modelling and Layout documents
- Materials and FF&E specification
- Costing outline
- Securing and confirming the first industry placement
- Presentation and critique, including placement confirmation
- Second portfolio piece
- Kitchen Design Intensive, proposed
- Bathroom Design Intensive, proposed

IDD 214

Industry Placement I: Site Exposure

- Placement with an interior design practice, construction industry professional, or an active site
- Observation and hands-on site experience
- Logbook of practical hours
- Supervisor assessment
- Student self-evaluation report
- Placement presentation on return

THE MODULES

Studio III: Advanced and Professional Practice

IDD 301

Themes, Styles, Trends and Craft Styling

- Developing themes for interiors
- Contemporary style movements
- Trend research and forecasting
- Accessories, arts and artefacts
- Craft styling and artisanal pieces
- African craft and contemporary application
- Art curation and placement
- Final styling and dressing a space

IDD 302

Sustainable Interior Design

- Sustainability principles in interiors
- Material lifecycle and embodied carbon
- Energy efficiency and passive design
- Water conservation
- Waste, reuse and circular design
- Indoor air quality and wellbeing
- Certification systems and standards
- Sustainable specification

IDD 303

Interior Landscaping

- Indoor plants and their requirements
- Selecting plants for interior conditions
- Planters, containers and placement
- Green walls and vertical planting
- Biophilic design principles
- Maintenance and client handover
- Integrating landscape into the scheme

IDD 304

Smart Automation Fundamentals

- Smart home systems overview
- Lighting control and scenes
- Climate and environmental control
- Security, access and surveillance
- Audio visual integration
- Infrastructure and cabling requirements
- Designing for future technology
- Specifying and coordinating with installers

IDD 305

Industry Application, Involvement and Communication

- How the Nigerian interior design industry actually operates
- Positioning yourself within it
- Working relationships with allied professionals
- Trade bodies, networks and how to use them
- Communicating as a professional
- Building and sustaining industry relationships

IDD 306

Portfolio Development and Presentation

- What a design portfolio is for
- Selecting and editing work
- Sequencing and narrative
- Presenting technical and creative work together
- Photographing and documenting projects
- Digital and printed portfolios
- Curriculum vitae and professional profile
- Interview and pitch preparation
- Portfolio review and critique

THE MODULES

Studio III: Advanced and Professional Practice

IDD 307

Project Management for Interior Design

- Project stages and programme
- Scheduling and the critical path
- Procurement routes
- Managing contractors and subcontractors
- Site meetings and reporting
- Quality control and snagging
- Handover and completion
- Post-occupancy review

IDD 308

V-Ray Rendering and Visualisation

- Introduction to V-Ray
- Lighting a scene
- Cameras and composition
- Materials and reflectivity in rendering
- Rendering settings and output
- Post-production and presentation of renders

IDD 309

Professional Practice

- Establishing the client relationship
- Scope of services and fee proposals
- Professional ethics and conduct
- Working with other professionals
- Contracts and appointment documents
- Intellectual property and ownership
- Liability, insurance and risk
- Dispute avoidance and resolution
- Continuing professional development and professional obligations

IDD 310

Budgeting, Costing and BOQ

- Understanding cost in interior projects
- Preparing a bill of quantities
- Taking off from drawings
- Rates, labour and material costing
- Contingency and preliminaries
- Client budgets and value engineering
- Specification writing for pricing
- Tender documents and evaluation
- Payment schedules and valuations

IDD 311

Client Psychology and Communication

- Why clients commission design, and what they are really buying
- Client decision-making, including spouses, families and boards
- Personality and communication styles
- Listening and the discovery conversation
- Managing expectations, scope and change
- Presenting design decisions and handling objections
- Difficult conversations, complaints and conflict
- Trust, rapport and the long-term client relationship

IDD 312

Business, Branding and Marketing

- Setting up a design practice
- Financial basics for a design business
- Pricing your services
- Managing growth and hiring
- Business registration and structure in Nigeria
- Brand identity for a design practice
- Marketing and client acquisition
- Social media and digital presence
- Networking and referrals

THE MODULES

Completion

IDD 313

Studio III Final Project and Exhibition (Capstone)

- Self-directed major project
- Full brief development
- Complete technical drawing set
- Three-dimensional visualisation and renders
- Full specification and bill of quantities
- Professional presentation
- Public exhibition
- Final portfolio submission

IDD 314

Industry Placement II: Working Placement

- Working placement in an interior design or architecture practice
- Supervised involvement in live projects
- Logbook of practical hours
- Supervisor assessment
- Student self-evaluation report
- Final placement report

IDD 315

IDAN Continuing Professional Development and Student Membership

- Attendance at IDAN CPD events across the programme
- Recorded and verified by the Academic Coordinator
- Professional engagement with the wider industry
- Reflective record of sessions attended

NEXT STEPS

Apply for the next Batch.

Talk to us

FRONT DESK	+234 913 685 5492 (calls and WhatsApp)
ADMISSIONS	admissions@zida.com.ng
ABUJA TRAINING CENTRE	28 Inuwa Wada Crescent, Utako, Abuja
PH TRAINING CENTRE	1st Floor, BICS Mall, 61 Olusegun Obasanjo Road, Port Harcourt
WEBSITE	zida.com.ng
REGISTER	zida.com.ng/register

ZIDA is an NBTE-approved Skill Training Centre, ACTD accredited, a Registered IDCEC CEU Provider and a Partner of the Interior Designers Association of Nigeria (IDAN).