# INTERIOR DESIGN

Pratt Institute's MFA in Interior Design is located within the ultimate learning environment of New York City—the interior design capital of the United States. Consistently identified at the forefront of Interior Design education, our graduate program prepares students to become leaders in the discipline by setting high standards for critical thinking, professional aptitude, social and ethical responsibility, exemplary expression of skills and abilities, enhancing and transforming the human environment.

Interior Design at Pratt is a spatially driven exploration of the discipline. Through an inspiring and challenging course of study, the Interior Design program is a leading innovator in an expanding and dynamic field. The MFA in Interior Design guides students in generating comprehensive creative solutions that integrate an understanding of craft and making, material research, emerging technologies, and sustainable practices, fully cognizant of global cultural histories and diverse contexts. The program prepares students to engage in critical inquiry which establishes them as innovators in the field of interior design, expanding the potential of professional practice, design education, and research affecting our understanding of the interior.

The MFA degree prepares individuals who are interested in contributing to the academic discipline as well as the profession. Our international student body with its varying backgrounds, academic disciplines, and life experiences, creates an intellectually stimulating environment. Our students are a select group who come to Pratt to work hard in order to prepare themselves to enter a profession in which the designer must be nimble, multifaceted, and equipped with the skills necessary to provide innovative design solutions.

Many come to the program for a career change, so classroom and studio interchange is enhanced by the diversity of students—a student who comes from a background in economics has a very different approach from one coming from dance, and each has something to learn from the other. An important part of Pratt's mission is to challenge graduates to reach their fullest potential and prepare them to become leaders in the profession.

The MFA curriculum brings a focus to the interior by concentrating on many scales, uses, and activities to connect the discipline and practice of interior design to larger issues of habitation, urbanization, and society. Our faculty members are practitioners and academics of the highest caliber - knowledgeable in interior design, architecture, lighting design, graphic design and fine arts. They bring real-world design experience, methodologies, and processes into their creative classroom teaching. The program curriculum instills values in its students, not as mere competencies, but as opportunities for critical engagement in the contemporary world.

## Chair

David Foley

### **Assistant Chair**

Tania Sofia Branquinho

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https://www.pratt.edu/programs/mfa-interior-design/

#### **Faculty Bios**

- Interior Design, MFA (https://catalog.pratt.edu/graduate/design/interior-design/interior-design-mfa/)
- Students are able to identify and explore complex problems in the realm of the interior, and generate creative solutions that integrate an understanding of sustainable practice, material research, environmental quality, aesthetics, and changing technologies.
- Students acquire proficiency in digital and analog technologies as well as oral and written communication necessary to communicate a body of professional level work, clearly delineating design issues and intent.
- Students demonstrate a high level of problem solving in the design of interior environments, cognizant of current issues and developments affecting design study and practice, as well as a critical understanding of the global cultural history and context affecting the interior environment.
- Students develop a significant body of work, culminating in an independent thesis project that is rigorous in both conception and execution, demonstrates a synthetic understanding of the knowledge and skills acquired during the course of study, and connects interior design to larger issues of inhabitation, cities and society.