

# Global Learning Semesters

## Course Syllabus

Course: DES-406 Furniture Design

Department: Design

Host Institution: University of Nicosia, Nicosia, Cyprus



Course Summary		
Course Code	Course Title	Recommended Credit Hours
DES-406	Furniture Design	3
Semester Offered	Contact Hours	Prerequisites
Fall	42	Senior
Department	Level of Course	Language of Instruction
Design	Upper Division	English

### Course Description

- History of furniture design- Arts & Crafts, Art Nouveau, Art Deco, Modern Movement, Postmodernism.
- Furniture and symbolic meanings – the chair/forms and materials
- Internal furnishings and Fittings
- Built-in furniture: fixing and ironmongery/purpose built and mass-produced built-in furniture/ structural support
- Free standing furniture – independent structures, room layout
- Metal constructions – connections/welding/soldering and brazing/mechanical connections
- Timber constructions – timber and timber-based board joints
- Plastic and glass constructions

### Instructor

Eva Korae

### Course Aims and Objectives

This design course offers students an opportunity in small scale to explore contemporary design directions. Furniture maps out the territory of twentieth century design and key pieces signal important changes in production, technology, taste and cultural aspirations. The course explores the contexts within which furniture designers work and surveys the wide range of 20<sup>th</sup> century activity. Emphasis will lie (i) on the meanings and functions assigned to the works presented during the period under study, and (ii) on the relation of the various characteristics of the works presented to the prevailing attitudes towards design and its meanings. Students are also encouraged to study structural, material, aesthetic and symbolic properties of furniture.

### Teaching Methods

The course is delivered through a mixture of lectures, studio presentations, studio tutorials and practical exercises and assignments.

### Course Teaching Hours

42 hours . The course is delivered during the fall and spring semester in 14-weeks (3 hours/week).

## Evaluation and Grading

Homework: 20%  
Mid-Term: 30%  
Final Exam: 50%

## Readings and Resources

### Required Textbook

There is no required textbook for this course

### Recommended Reading

Catherine McDermott, 20<sup>th</sup> Century design, Carlton Books Ltd., London 1998.  
Palmer & Dodson, Design and Aesthetics. Routledge, New York, 1996.  
Fay Sweet, Philippe Starck. Thames & Hudson, London, 1980.  
John Heskett, Industrial design. Thames & Hudson, London 1980  
Claire Downey, Neo-Furniture. Rizzoli International Publications, New York, 1992.