



IND 3522
Interior Finishes and Materials
Fall Semester 2025
Undergraduate/Graduate Leveling Syllabus

Schedule:

Tuesday Period 4-5 10:40-12:35; Thursday Period 4 10:40-11:30

Location: Jonathan and Melanie Antevy Hall 213

Instructor:

Lisa Sundahl Platt

Email: lisaplatt@ufl.edu ; Phone: 352-294-1435

Office: 334 Jonathan and Melanie Antevy Hall

Office Hours: T&H | 8:30-10:30

IND 3522 Interior Finishes and Materials 3 Credits

Grading Scheme: Letter Grade

Studies interior materials, focusing on their characteristics and estimating, fabrication, and installation.

Prerequisite: interior design majors only.

Corequisite: ARC 2303.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to advanced strategies for selecting, specifying, and evaluating materials in the built environment, with a core emphasis on the Sustainable Adaptive Material Performance Level (SAMPL) framework. SAMPL is a computational platform that dynamically assesses building materials in response to climate and system stressors, empowering smarter, safer, and more context-specific choices for sustainable design.



The course is designed to enable students to source suitable interior surfaces based on environmental context and user needs, specify materials using CSI standards (especially Division 9), communicate the value of material selections to project stakeholders, and evaluate material performance after installation. By leveraging the SAMPL framework and hands-on tools, students will learn to select materials that enhance indoor environmental quality, extend longevity, and support resilient, community-positive designs attuned to regional climate. Through lectures, readings, and applied activities—including SAMPL dashboards and the Material Bank—students will develop data-driven competencies in adaptive material evaluation for

safer, more sustainable built environments.

Educational Goals:

Specific goals are derived from the Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA) Standards:

1. Students can source appropriate interior surfaces based on environmental use and user requirements (CIDA 4a&c; 7c&d; 13 c&d).
2. Students can specify materials based on CSI standards (Emphasis on Division 9) (CIDA 15 d,h,&j)



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3. Students can communicate material selection value to project stakeholders (CIDA 9a-c; &e).
4. Students demonstrate the capacity to evaluate post-occupancy material installation performance (CIDA 8i; 13b; 14a)
5. Students demonstrate awareness of sustainable, context-specific, and resilient material frameworks (SAMPL) (CIDA 1c; 13c; 14a-b; 16b).

Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA) 2024 Curriculum Standards:

Students understand how furnishings, objects, materials, and finishes work together to support the design intent material selection, performance standards, specification writing, communication with stakeholders, and sustainability using the SAMPL framework. These learning objectives meet the following CIDA 2024 standards:

1. Standard 1: Program Identity and Curriculum
 - a. Fits program objectives for preparing entry-level practitioners with sustainable and resilient materials knowledge.
2. Standard 4: Global Context
 - a. Addresses sourcing and specifying materials with consideration of geographic, climatic, and social contexts.
3. Standard 7: Human-Centered Design
 - a. Focuses on adapting material choices to user needs and wellbeing, supporting health-positive built environments.
4. Standard 8: Design Process
 - a. Emphasizes methods for evaluating, selecting, and testing materials as part of an evidence-based design process.
5. Standard 9: Communication
 - a. Teach students to communicate material decisions and their value to diverse project stakeholders.
6. Standard 13: Products and Materials
 - a. Focuses on appropriate specification, sustainability, and lifecycle understanding, which is core to SAMPL and Division 9 content.
7. Standard 14: Environmental Systems and Human Wellbeing
 - a. Examines material impacts on acoustics, air quality, and indoor environmental quality.
8. Standard 15: Construction
 - a. Includes specification formats, construction documentation, and Division 9 standards (flooring, ceilings, finishes).
9. Standard 16: Regulations and Guidelines
 - a. Addresses regulatory and sustainability standards for materials (e.g., LEED, WELL).
10. Standard 5: Collaboration



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- a. Course activities such as team projects involve collaboration for resilient and contextually responsive solutions.

Course Format:

- Student learning will take place through a combination of assigned readings, instructor-led lectures, guest speakers, student presentations, and hands-on material exploration—including performance testing of interior materials. All course assignments and activities, including the final project, will be intentionally aligned with SAMPL (Sustainable Adaptive Material Performance Level) principles.
- Assessment will include quizzes, evaluation of student presentations, SAMPL-aligned class assignments, material performance testing exercises, and the ongoing progress and completion of the final project.
- Course materials and resources will be available through Canvas according to the course schedule and will be updated as needed.
- If you are unable to see the instructor during scheduled office hours or would like to arrange an appointment, email is the preferred method of communication for your questions.
- The instructor reserves the right to revise the syllabus and course schedule as necessary.

Course Requirements:

Required Text:

Godsey, Lisa. Interior Design Materials and Specifications., (4th Edition). Bloomsbury USA, 2021.

Recommended Texts:

- Postell, J., & Gesimondo, N. (2011). Materiality and interior construction. John Wiley & Sons. Table of Contents Following Course schedule. Online access link through UF Library: <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/ufl/reader.action?docID=697497>.
- Brown, R., & Farrelly, L. (2012). Materials and Interior Design: Laurence King Publishing. ISBN: 9781856697590.
- The instructor will post additional readings of articles relevant to the course subject matter on Canvas

Required Software:

- Microsoft Word or Google Docs
- Microsoft Excel or Google Spread Sheets
- AutoCAD or Revit
- Adobe Creative Suite (Photoshop) preferable but not compulsory



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Course Schedule:

Below is the revised IND3522 (Fall 2025) Course Schedule, organized into six SAMPL-aligned thematic modules. Each module unifies related weeks and topics around the core SAMPL principles: Safety, Symbiosis (e.g. material adaptive capacity to regional context), and Sustainability, which are in direct support of the course's learning objectives. Module titles in the left column clarify each theme and highlight the SAMPL-driven progression throughout the semester.

Week	Date	Topic/Activity	Focus/Description	Material Property Focus	CIDA 2024 Standard(s)
MODULE 1: SAMPL Foundations & Material Safety					
1	08/21/25	Course Introduction	Syllabus, grading, resources, role of SAMPL	All	1, 13
2	08/26/25	Interior Material safety and adaptive capacity characteristics and standards	Material robustness, resilience thinking, typologies	Safety, Symbiosis	4, 7, 13
MODULE 2: Adaptive Material Selection & Contextual Symbiosis					
2	08/28/25	Flooring types and performance standards (Part 1)	Performance, codes, Division 9	Safety, Sustainability	13, 14
3	09/02/25	Flooring types and performance standards (Part 2)	Contextual and adaptive floor selection	Safety, Symbiosis	4, 13



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3	09/04/25	Wall finish types and performance standards (Part 1)	Codes, performance, regional suitability	Safety, Sustainability	13, 14
4	09/09/25	Wall finish types and performance standards (Part 2)	Selection, symbiosis with context	Symbiosis, Sustainability	4, 13, 14
4	09/11/25	Casework and Furniture finish types and standards	Division 12/9, ergonomic and context-sensitive finishes	Safety, Symbiosis, Sustainability	7, 13, 14
5	09/16/25	Ceiling and Millwork types and standards	Resilient and adaptive ceiling systems	Safety, Sustainability	13, 14, 15

MODULE 3: Building Systems, Specifications & Safety

5	09/18/25	SAMPL dashboards & testing equipment orientation	Adaptive analysis, data-driven selection	Symbiosis, Sustainability	4, 13, 14
6	09/23/25	Introduction to CSI Standards & MasterSpec (Division 9)	Spec writing, safety, regulatory requirements	Safety, Sustainability	15, 16



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6	09/25/25	Finish Recovery testing and standards	Performance testing, robustness assessments	Safety	7, 14
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MODULE 4: Resilience, Occupancy & Performance Testing

7	09/30/25	Resilient Material Design Project Introduction	Team project launch, assignment, performance criteria	Symbiosis, Sustainability	4, 13, 14
7	10/02/25	Occupancy Classifications & Finish Considerations	Codes, context, wellness	Safety, Sustainability	13, 14, 16
8	10/07/25	Material performance testing introduction	Knowledge check: safety, context, sustainability	All	4, 7, 13, 14, 15, 16
8	10/09/25	Material performance testing workday	Data/application work with SAMPL tools	All	4, 13, 14

MODULE 5: Sustainable Materials & Circular Strategies

9	10/14/25	Sustainable & Regenerative Materials (Part 1)	Principles, attributes, regional adaptation	Sustainability, Symbiosis	4, 13, 14, 16
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9	10/16/25	Sustainable & Regenerative Materials (Part 2)	Testing, post-occupancy strategies	Sustainability	13, 14, 16
10	10/21/25	Visual Essay & Final Project Introduction; Material Performance Testing Introduction	Hands-on experimentation/test of materials	Safety, Symbiosis, Sustainability	4, 7, 13, 14, 15, 16
10	10/23/25	Material Performance Testing	Hands-on experimentation/test of materials	Safety, Symbiosis, Sustainability	4, 13, 14

MODULE 6: Communication, Innovation & Professional Practice

11	10/28/25	Communicating the Value of Sustainable Design (LEED & WELL)	Stakeholder communication, transparency	Sustainability	9, 16
11	10/30/25	Life Cycle Costing & the Circular Economy	Cost, longevity, environmental impact	Sustainability	13, 14, 16



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	11/04/25*	Floor & Décor Field Trip	Regional material sourcing, adaptive selection	Symbiosis, Safety	4, 7, 13
12	11/06/25*	Final Project workday	Applied innovation, adaptability, sustainability	Symbiosis, Sustainability	4, 13, 14
13	11/11/25	Veterans Day	No Class		
	11/13/25	Desk Review: Visual Essay Presentations	Team project evaluation, feedback	All	4, 13, 14, 16
14	11/18/25	Final Project Exhibition	Material property assessment, adaptive analysis	Safety, Symbiosis, Sustainability	4, 7, 13, 14
14	11/20/25	Resilient Material Design Project Debrief	Reflection, lessons for built environment	All	4, 13, 14, 16
15	11/25/25	Thanksgiving Break	No class		
15	11/27/25	Thanksgiving Break	No class		
16	12/02/25	NCIDQ exam preview & Q&A	Regulatory context, comprehensive review	Safety, Sustainability	7, 13, 15, 16

**Instructor out of office on senior studio trip*



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Other referenced readings

- Council, U. G. B. (2021). LEED v4. 1–Interior Design and Construction
- Harmon, S. K., & Kennon, K. E. (2011). The codes guidebook for interiors. John Wiley & Sons.
- ICC Chapter 8 Interior Finishes: <https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/IBC2021P6/chapter-8-interior-finishes>
- WBDG LCCA: <https://www.wbdg.org/resources/life-cycle-cost-analysis-lcca>
- WELL Materials: <https://v2.wellcertified.com/en/wellv2/materials>

HEALTH SAFETY

- If you are sick, stay home and self-quarantine. Please visit the UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website about next steps, retake the questionnaire and schedule your test for no sooner than 24 hours after your symptoms began. Please call your primary care provider if you are ill and need immediate care or the UF Student Health Care Center at 352-392-1161 (or email covid@shcc.ufl.edu) to be evaluated for testing and to receive further instructions about returning to campus. UF Health Screen, Test & Protect offers guidance when you are sick, have been exposed to someone who has tested positive or have tested positive yourself. Visit the [UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website](#) for more information.
 - Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work.
 - If you are withheld from campus by the Department of Health through Screen, Test & Protect you are not permitted to use any on campus facilities. Students attempting to attend campus activities when withheld from campus will be referred to the Dean of Students Office.

Continue to regularly visit coronavirus.UFHealth.org and coronavirus.ufl.edu for up-to-date information about COVID-19 and vaccination.



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STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

For any technical issues you encounter with your course please contact the UF computing Help Desk at 342-392-HELP (4357), select option 2. For Help Desk hours visit: Information Technology–UF Computing Help Desk (<http://helpdesk.ufl.edu>).

Grading Criteria:

Class Participation: 10%

Visual Essay: 20%

Final Project & Presentation: 40%

SAMPL Project Assessment: 30%

Extra Credit: 5% weighting to final Grade

Any late assignments will automatically have 10% points deducted from the assignment grade. The only exceptions will be for **validated** personal or medical emergencies. "Validated" excuses require letter from physician or relevant authority.

Grading Scale:

A	93-100	4.0	C	73-76.9	2.0
A-	90-92.9	3.67	C-	70-72.9	1.67
B+	87-89.9	3.33	D+	67-69.9	1.33
B	83-86.9	3.0	D	63-66.9	1.0
B-	80-82.9	2.67	D-	60-62.9	.67
C+	77-79.9	2.33	E	0-59	0.0

Assignment grading rubrics defining instructor's approach to grading will be given for each assignment. Although these rubrics will be referenced prior to the assignment it will be the student's responsibility to refer to rubric when they are completing the assignment and clearly articulate how they are fulfilling its criteria for scoring.

Information in regard to UF's grading policy can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>



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Academic Policies:

Up-to-date information on campus policies and resources can be located via the following web link:
<https://syllabus.ufl.edu/syllabus-policy/uf-syllabus-policy-links/>

Course Policies

Attendance & Participation:

Attendance is essential to the learning process. Students must be on time for each class session and present for the entire class to be marked present. The instructor must be notified in advance of any necessary absence in person or by email. Two absences will be tolerated without penalty. Each additional absence will result in the reduction of a course grade by one letter grade. More than six absences will automatically result in failing the course.

Classroom Climate:

Equitable participation in this class requires the use of inclusive language, methods, and materials. Students are expected to use inclusive language in written and oral work, and to respect diversity in viewpoints expressed by others. Students are also encouraged to identify language, methods, and materials used in this course that do not contribute to an inclusive classroom climate.

Laptops, Cell Phones, Tablets:

Students may bring mobile devices to class and use them during the period **for course-related purposes only**.

Project Due Dates:

All assignments - completed or incomplete - must be turned in on the due date and will be graded as they stand. Late projects will have 10% points deducted from their base grade for every calendar day they are late. The right to make an exception will be reserved only in extreme cases (due to emergencies). In such cases, the instructor must be notified in advance by email. For the exception case, a delay of over one week will not be accepted.



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Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care:

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc>, and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)

Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>.

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu. <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. <https://www.crc.ufl.edu/>.

Library Support, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. <https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>.

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>.

Student Complaints Campus: https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf.