

History of Industrial Design

Last Updated: Mon, 01/05/2026

Course prefix: ID

Course number: 2202

Section: 2

CRN (you may add up to five):

31879 31878

Instructor First Name: Joyce

Instructor Last Name: Medina

Semester: Spring

Academic year: 2026

Course description:

Course Format

This is a remote asynchronous course; the course materials are delivered through Canvas

<http://canvas.gatech.edu/>

Description

This course surveys the history of design from the Industrial Revolution to our contemporary times. It focuses on general design principles (formal, functional, stylistic and ideological), historical data (influences from politics, science, philosophy), the rise of industrial design as a profession (engineering vs. aesthetic concerns, studio vs. manufacturing plant), principles of mass production (new materials and technologies, product testing, consumer politics), and contemporary issues in design (human factors approaches, sustainable design).

Course learning outcomes:

Course Goals and Learning Outcome

Students will be able to define and discuss the major stylistic periods in the history of design; recognize the work of the major designers; understand the influence of art, politics, history, philosophy and technology on the evolution of the different design movements; and utilize terminology and interpretive approaches to synthesize all of this material.

Required course materials:

Course Materials

As a remote asynchronous course, Canvas (<http://canvas.gatech.edu/>) will be the main portal for dissemination of course information. All course material will be uploaded to Canvas in "Modules". There will be five Modules with material published in each that will be covered by the five tests.

As an on-line course, the primary teaching aid is in the form of videotaped lectures of the instructor presenting the material of the course which are posted on Canvas in the Modules. Each lecture is approximately one hour in length and presents surveyed material about different stylistic periods in the history of industrial design. Students are expected to view all on-line videos of lecture material to prepare for the tests. The tests will consist of questions derived from these lectures and they will be graded based on how accurately the student summarizes and incorporates the material from the on-line lectures into their answers.

The course material is organized by Stylistic Periods (see below: Schedule of Lecture Topics and Tests) and the course material uploaded as resources in Modules on Canvas will consist of: "**lecture videos**" of the instructor discussing the topic and "**outlines**" which list the images shown in the lectures along with important terms. Students can access this material according to their own schedules and review the material multiple times in preparation for the tests.

There is a module entitled "Module Introduction" with more general information about the course in the form of the following files: "Sample Test Questions" and "How to Use Honorlock proctoring".

Grading policy:

Description of Graded Components

There will be **five on-line proctored tests**. Please see the "Schedule of Lecture Topics and Tests" that follows in this document for the dates/times of the tests.

Students are required to take tests through Honorlock which will control activity on your monitor and record your testing session. The proctored testing process will be made available to you before the first test so that you can become familiar with the protocols by taking a **Practice Quiz**.

Technology needed for the proctoring:

- **Windows:** 10, 8, 7
- **Mac:** OS X 10.10 or higher
 - **Requires Google Chrome and Honorlock extension**
 - Not compatible with Tablets (iPads) or Smartphones
 - Web camera (internal or external) & microphone are required

- A broadband internet connection is required

The tests are not cumulative and will cover only the material since the last test. These tests are in the format of “multiple answer” quizzes constructed on Canvas and will consist of objective questions with “multiple answers” based on the conceptual ideas from the lectures.

Scoring of the tests will be based on the ability to correctly identify the characteristics and facts relative to the different stylistic periods covered in the lectures. Each test is worth 20%.

Proctoring of the tests will make use of Honorlock software to control access to the testing questions and to prevent access to any outside resources during the completion of the tests and to record the individual testing sessions to verify adherence to GT Honor Code requirements.

Grading Scale

Final grade averages will be calculated as: A: 100-90 (exceeds expectations on all questions); B: 89.9-80 (adequately meets expectations on the test answers); C: 79.9-70 (fails to adequately meet some expectations of test answers); D: 69.9-60 (failure to meet most expectations) F: below 60 (failure to meet expectations).

Attendance policy:

As an on-line asynchronous course, there is no required attendance policy. However, students are required to take the tests on the dates they are assigned during a testing window.

Academic honesty/integrity statement:

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. All work submitted must be original and properly cited. Plagiarism, cheating, or any form of academic dishonesty will result in immediate consequences as outlined in the university's academic integrity policy.