DESIGNERS CAFÉ at NJIT

COURSE: INT 264 – Interior Design Studio II (4 credits)
PROGRAM: Interior Design/School of Art + Design
LOCATION: Second semester sophomore studio course/spring term
INSTRUCTOR: Glenn Goldman

DESCRIPTION: A hands-on studio course that expands introductory problems into commercial interiors and public spaces. Interior design as a knowledge-based discipline is introduced. Emphasis is placed on the use of information technology/digital media in the design process and the presentation of design proposals. Preliminary integration of multiple technical variables is included.

PROJECT: Four-week project to design a café for the academic community of NJIT and neighboring Rutgers in a two-story volume contained in the recently acquired Central King Building that is currently being renovated in stages. Internal entrances occur on the upper level, and an optional street-level entrance may be added at the designer’s discretion along the north wall in the lower level.

REQUIREMENTS: Select a chair from a list provided by the instructor. Construct a three-dimensional model of the chair and analyze it to determine the formal principles present in its design. Design a coffee shop/café in a dedicated volume along the northern edge of the basement and entry floor of the Central King Building using the selected chair. Prepare both two-dimensional and three-dimensional drawings and renderings to communicate conceptual and perceptual information about the proposed design. The establishment is an independent enterprise (i.e. not affiliated with any established chain) and must be designed in a sufficiently compelling manner so that students and visitors will want to go there not only for the product sold, but also for the quality of the place.

OBJECTIVES: (1) Using a project of limited scope as the vehicle, continue the exploration of interior design as an outgrowth of analysis. (2) Continue the study of furniture and allied arts with specific attention paid to their relation to interior design. Included in this study is an opportunity to practice analyzing designed objects and to determine what principles may (or may not) be translated to interior design. (3) Explore the opportunities for designing a space with a particular character or quality. (4) Provide opportunity to document existing conditions for an interiors project as a precursor to detailed design. (5) Learn about the functional needs of a common commercial use including the relationship between human needs and dimensions and the activities that occur within the space (with continued responsibility for providing universal access). (6) Provide additional practice in the craft of model-building and drawing with various media and to begin to understand which modes of communication are appropriate at different stages of a design project (including both interim and final presentation stages). (7) Develop greater facility in the expression of texture, depth (including the use of line weight in two-dimensional representation), and lighting using digital media. (8) Study and apply principles of lighting design to commercial/public spaces. (9) Begin the integration of Building Information Modeling in the interior design process.