

COURSE CONTENT

Course Code	DR2013
Course Title	Furniture Design I
Pre-requisites	NIL
No of AUs	3
Contact Hours	39 total contact hours (2 hours lecture and 1 hour seminar weekly)

Course Aims

This intermediary practice-based studio course will introduce you to both traditional and modern techniques of wooden joinery, which you will then apply in processes of constructing small furniture in regarding to anthropometrical, structural, cultural, economical and aesthetic considerations. This practice enables you to develop skillsets such as the use of industrial fittings for flat pack ability, basic conventional joineries as well as knowledge of selecting and dressing timber. These fundamental skills and knowledge are a prerequisite for Furniture Design II.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

By the end of the course, you should be able to:

1. Identify the relationship between material properties, customary lifestyle and furniture.
2. Use joinery techniques required to create the interplay between vertical and horizontal planes.
3. Apply basic hands-on skills and mechanical usage to balance beauty, utility and transportability of furniture in your practice.
4. Present the conceptual development and embodiment of furniture design.
5. Constructively critique concepts and techniques employed by peers in their furniture design practice.

Course Content

Material property

An introduction into types of sawn and the property of natural timber and synthetic wood (plywood and MDF). Through lectures and visiting a local saw mill you will be able to select and utilise materials according to structural, decorative and economical considerations.

Dressing and cutting timber

An introduction to uniforming the thickness, width and length of wooden boards. You will learn how to use the electric hand saw, band saw, industrial planer, thickness sander and table saw to replicate wooden boards before doing joinery.

Traditional joinery

An exploration of conventional joineries to construct non-flat pack furniture. These joining methods include dovetail, butterfly and wedge, mortise & tenon. You will learn how to apply the combination of traditional hand-tools, power-tools and industrial machineries in order to demonstrate various ways of joining vertical and horizontal planes with the regard of utility, beauty and economy.

The use of jigs

In order to achieve the precision of replicated joints, you will learn both the customisation and usage of jigs.

Modern joinery

An introduction to modern joineries to construct knock-down furniture. These joining methods include butt and mitre joints. You will learn how to demonstrate methods of assembling and disassembling vertical and horizontal planes with the use of industrial fittings. This introduction will let you explore how to create furniture with regard to economical transportation and production.

Class assignments

Four major assignments explore the making and usage of joints for structural, economical, remedial and aesthetic purposes. These will be developed through lectures, field trip, tutorials, class exercises and peer/instructor feedback sessions.