

DEPARTMENT OF DESIGN AND MERCHANDISING



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Vision

The Department of Design and Merchandising aims to cultivate leaders among today's students to drive tomorrow's innovative advancements in economic, environmental, and social sustainability across the apparel and merchandising and the interior architecture and design disciplines.

Mission

The Department of Design and Merchandising's mission is to achieve excellence in education and scholarship through community engagement, industry collaboration, creative exploration, and scientific inquiry. As a department, we are committed to advancing and fostering understanding of socially responsible conceptualization, design, adoption, and evaluation of processes, products, and environments that responsively enhance the human experience.

The Department of Design and Merchandising offers undergraduate study in two nationally accredited programs - **Apparel and Merchandising (AM)** and **Interior Architecture and Design (IAD)**. The AM major includes three concentrations: Apparel Design and Production, Product Development, and Merchandising. The Apparel and Merchandising program is accredited by the Textile and Apparel Program Accreditation Commission of the *International Textile and Apparel Association* and the IAD program is accredited by the *Council for Interior Design Accreditation*. The department also offers a master's degree in Design and Merchandising that allows for a focus in Apparel and Merchandising or Interior Design. The department is housed in the Nancy Richardson Design Center, the Gifford Building, and the Avenir Museum, located in the University Center for the Arts complex. The Avenir Museum has a repository of over 20,000 items of dress, textiles, and interior artifacts representing regional, national, and international cultures.