Weaving Material ConneXion into Curriculum

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SOURCE Citation

Woods, Shelley; Vigneswaran, Gouthami; and Buckley, Patricia, "Weaving Material ConneXion into Curriculum" (2020). _Publications and Scholarship_. 12.  
https://source.sheridancollege.ca/lls_publ/12

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Weaving Material ConneXion into Curriculum

What is Material ConneXion?

Based in New York, Material ConneXion uses material science knowledge to source innovative, sustainable materials. Their over 7,000 materials are available through database access, and in material libraries such as Sheridan’s - Canada’s first and largest Material ConneXion Library.

Featured Curriculum

Interior Decorating

**INTERIOR ENVIRONMENTS - RESIDENTIAL SPACES (DES 25738)**

**Learning Outcome**

- Choose appropriate decorating elements (materials and finishes) based on research and analysis of a variety of possible elements.

**Librarian Involvement**

**Pre-Workshop Preparation**
- Collaborate with the professors and adapt the assignment for an in-class activity.
- Research physical material selection for colour, texture, sustainability, durability, and functionality.

**In-class Workshop**
- Provide instruction on database and library use.
- Encourage students to touch and examine the physical materials.
  - What can they learn from a material experientially?
  - How can the multi-modal experience help them design for the client?
- Ask students to choose a material for their client, and defend their choice based on their database research.

**CLIENT PROFILE**

Paul and James are passionate about organic farming and organic wine. James is very specific about the design of the kitchen and will make most of the decisions because of his work as a chef. They have asked you to redesign their house.

**DESIGN PARAMETERS:**
- Functional, aesthetically pleasing
- Elegant, contemporary & sophisticated
- Use sustainable materials

**Interior Decorating Material ConneXion Competition (Optional Assignment Component)**

Using one material from the collection, create a presentation board showing the use of the material in an elevation view. The judges will consider:
- Creative use of the material
- Balance of functionality & aesthetics
- How well the design and use for the material meets the needs and lifestyle of the assigned client

2020 Competition guest judge:
Material ConneXion’s Dr. Andrew Dent

Other Examples of Program Integration

- Architectural Technology
- Industrial Design
- Textiles
- Visual Merchandising Arts
- York Sheridan Design

**Related Readings**

