

Studio Professor

Henri T. de HAHN

Studio: Cowgill Hall 4th Floor
MWF 1:25 – 5:15pm
Seminars: TBD
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Chair

<https://inhabitat.com/take-a-break-from-the-wired-world-with-this-awesome-signal-blocking-offline-chair/>

Charette 3: furniture selection

Project presentation: April 1, 2026, following review

Project due: Monday April 6, 1:30pm (review in studio, all projects should be pinned up for group discussion)

The success of your kitchen design has led your client to entrust you with assisting her with suggestions for furniture and the layout for both the master bedroom and a room of your choice (living room, dining room or library). She insists that her husband will have no say in this endeavor as she claims that he can never make a final decision. While there is no budget, remember that your client is at time VERY frugal, and may need to be convinced if you have some grand ideas regarding specific accent furniture pieces that are essential (meaning that YOU cannot live without), but whose price is over the top. Up to convince your clients to pay for your lack of frugality!

Assignment

The time spent on this exercise is brief and should be dedicated to responding to the following design issues that are both architectural and within the domain of interior design:

- Define the owner's personality and imagine their (her) taste—for example you might consider them to have “a discerning eye for fine craft. She in particular, is a collector and connoisseur of fine art with an appreciation for good design.” Or, should a [wabi-sabi](#) aesthetic permeate throughout the apartment. Or do her choices, reflect the local palette in furniture making in Kentucky, or represent a more ambitious self-awareness informed by his extensive travel and tradition that both have done during their married life? — These questions, among others, will allow you to *interpret* her needs. These might range from her desire for an uncluttered and understated space or a pretentious and ostentatious living environment for her, her husband and friends.
- Provide an aesthetically coherent and pleasing scheme in terms of the overall “look” and “atmosphere” that you wish to create for the areas of the two spaces. This should be accomplished primarily through your judicious choice of furniture that complement each other, or simply compete for attention by their unique design qualities.

- Particular emphasis needs to be on the functionality of each of the pieces of furniture. Carefully consider the furniture's aesthetic, shape, color, fabric, textures and tones, in order to create a unifying space with appropriate accent pieces based on furniture groupings, area rugs and lighting.
- In the layout of each room, think of functionality and how the space will be used during particular times throughout the day. How do you pair (mix and match) various furniture (striking and humbler) to create a cozy atmosphere (i.e., elegance and softness; bold and opulent, or subtle and graceful contrasts; comfort and respite).
- Finally, all of this questions should remind you how critical it is, in thinking of how furniture defines your space, and perhaps more importantly, may oblige you to make necessary adjustments on the proportions of the select rooms (this is part of an overall design process that should include furniture as part of your initial conceptual sketches)

Schedule and presentation requirements

- Provide 3-4 well written paragraphs on the owner's personality and how that will influence the design
- You are to research all furniture, understand the manufactured specifications and dimensions
- Digitally copy each of your choices and compose them on 1 or 2 vertical 24 x 36 panels, which will constitute the final printed color presentation that includes the art choices (see previous charette).

NOTE: This charette is to be conducted concurrently with charette 2: art, AND the progress of your design project, and may affect certain spatial conditions that you had previously established.