

# Furnishing Technology

City campus

C5153 **Diploma of Furnishing Technology**  
C4142 **Certificate IV in Furnishing Technology**

TAFE

**Duration: Diploma:** Two years full-time or five years part-time (approximately nine hours per week part-time, or 19 hours per week full-time) incorporating **Certificate IV:** One year full-time or two years part-time (approximately nine hours per week and may involve day or evening classes). Most classes commence mid February.



The Certificate IV program is completed as the first year of the diploma program. The certificate level develops knowledge and skills in the supervision of work teams, planning, costing and quality control of the production of furniture.

The Diploma program develops students' knowledge and skills related to aspects of furniture production, from development and management of prototypes through to final manufacture. During the two year program, students study presentation of concepts, computer aided drafting through to computer numerically controlled production.

The program also gives students the experience of working in simulated furniture factory environment where quality control, process planning, costing and supervision skills are continually practiced.

A folio interview must be undertaken to be considered for this program, please refer to the VTAC Guide.

## Career Prospects

Both the diploma and certificate provide graduates with the opportunity to develop a range of knowledge and skills enabling them to work in a variety of jobs in the furniture production industry. These include: CAD; CNC; design and product development; production; quality; supervision; and planning. Recent graduates have been employed with major furniture companies.

The Certificate IV offers career advancement for trade level employees. The Diploma aims to give an upper level entry point into the furniture manufacturing industry for VCE graduates and mature age individuals.

There is industry demand for graduates from both programs.

## Professional Recognition

Both programs are recognised by the Manufacturing Industry Skills Council, Furniture Industry Association of Australasia (FIAA) and major employers in the furniture industry.

Image Credit: RMIT Furniture Team 'HP Workstation'

## Pathways

Graduates of this program who have been successful in gaining a place in Bachelor of Design (Industrial Design) will be eligible to apply for exemptions of one year leaving an additional three years to complete the degree program. Please refer to the back of this brochure for further information.

## Entrance and Application Procedures

**Entrance Requirements:** *Current Year 12* prerequisite units 3 & 4: English (any). *Non-Year 12 (mature age)* applicants are encouraged to apply and should have relevant employment or evidence of experience and/or ability to meet the demands of the program.

**Application Procedure:** Full-time—VTAC Application. Part-time—RMIT Direct Application. Please refer to the back section of this brochure for further information.

## Program Structure

The following is an example of courses offered in the programs:

### Certificate IV – Year One

- Basic NC/CNC Programming
- Construct Prototypes and Samples
- Coordinate Installation of Furnishings
- Customise Stock Lines
- Establish and Monitor Production
- Identify/Calculate Production Cost
- Interpret/Use Workplace Information
- Organise Production Processes
- Produce Drawings from Design
- Produce Line and Component Production Drawings
- Produce Patterns and/or Templates
- Purchase Materials and Consumables
- Sample, Inspect and Test Products
- Work Within a Furniture Design

### Additional courses to be completed for the:

### Diploma – Year Two

- Coordinate Installation/Exhibition
- Determine Production Feasibility
- Develop and Document Procedures and Specifications
- Develop Products and Related Processes
- Develop, Trial and Evaluate Prototypes
- Establish and Develop Production
- Establish and Implement Contract
- Establish and Monitor Business Information Systems
- Generate and Transfer Drawings
- Manage Furniture Design
- Manage Projects
- Optimise CNC Operations
- Plan Production
- Undertake Business Planning

A full list of courses offered within the program is available at:  
[www.rmit.edu.au/programs/c5153](http://www.rmit.edu.au/programs/c5153)

**Apprenticeships and Pre-Apprenticeships:** please refer to the Apprenticeship and Traineeship brochure.



Nick Visser 'Wave chair' 2003

## Course Descriptions

### Year One

Course descriptions for year two are available from the program coordinator.

### Basic NC/CNC Programming

Covers the competencies required to identify basic NC/CNC machine program elements, write a basic NC/CNC machine program and operation sheet and trial the program.

### Construct Prototypes and Samples

Covers the construction of prototypes and samples in accordance with established plans, drawings or other specifications.

### Coordinate Installation of Furnishing

Covers the competency to coordinate tradespersons who provide services involved in the installation, refurbishment, restoration or repair of furnishing products, primarily in a kitchen, bathroom or laundry setting.

### Customise Stock Lines

Addresses the competency to identify and clarify requirements, analyse and select options, and to develop, implement and test the customisation processes necessary to adapt stock lines to meet the requirements of a furnishing enterprise.

### Establish and Monitor Production

Covers the competency to determine, specify and document the production materials and consumables required for the production of mass-produced and customised fittings, equipment and assemblies.

### Identify and Calculate Production Costs

Covers the competency to estimate materials, labour and time requirements and establish costs for the provision of products, including all overheads.

### Interpret and Use Workplace Information

Covers the competency to locate, use, interpret and manipulate workplace information and statistics in support of development or production activities within the furnishing industry.

### Organise Production Processes

Covers the competency to organise, using all available information and resources, the production of mass-produced and customised fittings, equipment and assemblies in the furnishing industry.

### Produce Drawings from Design

Covers the competency to produce manual and computer-aided drawings of objects from design concepts.

### Produce Line and Component Production Drawings

Covers the competency to use computing and software capabilities to produce line and component production drawings.

### Produce Patterns and/or Templates

Covers the development of patterns and/or templates for production processes.

### Purchase Materials and Consumables

Covers the competency of purchasing materials and consumables required for production within a furnishing enterprise, through existing contracts or other formal purchasing arrangements or through local purchase delegations.

### Sample, Inspect and Test Products to Specifications

This unit covers the competency to take product samples, identify and apply authorised testing procedures, interpret test results and report findings within a furnishing enterprise.

### Work Within a Furniture Design Team

Covers the competency to research, develop and present design and development proposals and document outcomes and proposals within a multi-disciplinary enterprise team environment.

# Furniture Design

City campus

C5111 Diploma of Arts (Furniture Design)

TAFE

**Duration:** Two years full-time or four years part-time. Weekly class attendance is approximately 22 hours per week full-time. Part-time studies may be undertaken by special arrangement with the school as the practical components must be completed sequentially with each other and concurrently with some other courses. Please contact the school to discuss part-time study prior to lodging an application. Classes are held in a combination of day and some evening classes. Most classes in February.



This program develops students skills and knowledge in the design, making and marketing of primarily timber-based furniture products for the commission, gallery and retail markets.

Students attend a three-day camp in the first week of semester one as part of the introduction to materials usage.

Second year students participate in an industry-based Mentor Program and are partnered with a practicing designer to enhance their knowledge and understanding of the design and making industry. A final year show is produced and promoted by students.

A folio interview must be undertaken to be considered for this program, please refer to the VTAC Guide.

## Career Prospects

Graduates usually establish themselves as self-employed designer/makers catering to local and regional markets.

## Professional Recognition

This program is recognised by Craft Victoria and the Victorian Woodworkers Association.

## Pathways

Graduates of this program who have been successful in gaining a place in Bachelor of Design (Industrial Design) will be eligible to apply for exemptions. Contact the school for further information.. Please refer to the back of this brochure for further information.

## Entrance and Application Procedures

**Entrance Requirements:** *Current Year 12:* There are no prerequisite studies. *Non-Year 12 (mature age)* applicants are encouraged to apply and should have relevant employment or evidence of experience and/or ability to meet the demands of the program.

**Application Procedure:** Full-time—VTAC Application; Part-time—RMIT Direct Application. Please refer to the back section of this brochure for further information.

Image Credit: Alex Edwards

## Program Structure

The following is an example of courses offered in the program:

### Year One

- Apply Design Process to 3D Work in Response to a Brief
- Basic Design and Construction (Stand Alone)
- Business Practice
- Competency Analysis
- Construction Practices 1 and 2
- Contemporary Art and Design
- Follow Safe Working Policies and Practices
- Furniture Styles and Movements
- Introduction to Design and Construction (Small Item)
- Machinery Use and Maintenance
- Make Scale Models
- Materials and Technology
- Produce Technical Drawings
- Select and Apply Drawing Techniques and Media to Represent and Communicate the Concept
- Source and Apply Design Industry Knowledge

### Year Two

- Communicate in the Workplace
- Design and Construction
  - (Ergonomic Design)
  - (Frame and Pan H/C)
  - (One-off Design)
  - (Production Process)
- Estimating and Costing
- Industry Research Project
- Marketing and Sales Promotion
- Perform Routine Manual Metal Arc Welding
- Perform Routine Gas Tungsten Arc Welding
- Use a 35mm SLR Camera or Digital Equivalent
- Produce Computer Aided Drawings
- Setting Up a Workshop
- Working as a Designer/Maker

A full list of courses offered within the program is available at:  
[www.rmit.edu.au/programs/c5111](http://www.rmit.edu.au/programs/c5111)

## Course Descriptions

Selected course descriptions are listed. Additional descriptions are available from the program coordinator.

### Apply Design Process to 3D Work in Response to a Brief

Develops the skills and knowledge required to explore and apply the design process in a three-dimensional (3D) way in response to a brief.

### Introduction to Design and Construction (Small Items)

Develops practical skills in constructing small furniture items designed during 3D Design Studies.

### Business Practice

Provides participants with the skills, knowledge and attitudes required to run a small business relevant to the art/design industry.

### Construction Practice 1 and 2

These modules predominantly cover the setting-out and making of a small number of 'set' projects enabling the participants to practice and consolidate workshop skills.

### Select and Apply Drawing Techniques and Media to Represent and Communicate the Concept

Develops the skills and knowledge required to develop drawings which represent and communicate the concept.

### Materials and Technologies

Students gain the required knowledge to select appropriate materials and technology for furniture construction.

### Furniture Styles and Movement

Provides participants with the skills, attitudes and knowledge required to analyse contemporary art and/or design movements/directions and major historic periods of furniture styles from classical through to contemporary.

## Further Information

### TAFE Design

E-mail: [design.tafe@rmit.edu.au](mailto:design.tafe@rmit.edu.au)

### Building Design and Project Administration, Building Design and Technology

Building 94, Level 5, 23-27 Cardigan Street, Carlton, 3053

Tel. (03) 9925 4819

Fax: (03) 9925 4826

### Design, Graphic Arts

Building 515, 25 Dawson Street, Brunswick

Tel. (03) 9925 9187

Fax: (03) 9925 9461

### Furnishing Technology, Furniture Design

Building 71, 42-46 Cardigan Street, Carlton, 3053

Tel. (03) 9925 4820

Fax: (03) 9925 4039

### Interior Decoration, Interior Decoration and Design

Building 94, Level 4, 23-27 Cardigan Street, Carlton, 3053

Tel. (03) 9925 4151

Fax: (03) 9925 4112

### Product Design, Visual Merchandising

Building 94, Level 6, 23-27 Cardigan Street, Carlton

Tel. (03) 9925 4211

Fax: (03) 9925 4826

## RMIT website: [www.rmit.edu.au](http://www.rmit.edu.au)

## Open Day: Sunday 13 August, 10 am – 4 pm

Prospective students are strongly encouraged to attend.

