Intro: An important factor that sets apart an Interior designed environment from other interior environments is the distinct attention to detail; from the clever use of materials, their choice of selection, the elegance in which materials meet, transition and how they're finished, to their meticulous layout, sequences, synchronicity, alignment, balance, stability, functionality and language. This all depicts strong evidence towards an environment designed with purpose thought and mastery. Detailing requires that the designer not only knows the above but also has the ability to successfully communicate the design intent, in a documented format and in an established language to the subcontractors on an accurate level; how an object or element within the interior is to looks, it’s exact metrics, material finishes, quality and it’s assembly/ construction. Detail drawings and their specifications are also a safeguard for the designer that the final product is not only of the intended quality but also complies with all the usability and safety standards that are required for a successful outcome.

The program: The focus of this seminar series will be to identify interior elements that are part of the interior designers design realm and responsibility, then work through a series of details to study them at a small and accurate scale. We will study successful and innovative precedents through an analytical lens to gain a deeper understanding of their specific detailing. With this understanding the students will then develop their own designs, past concept level and bring them to life through creative detailing.

This class will give the students a sound basis to exercise critical thinking, creativity, three diminution thinking, and drafting techniques at a detail level.

Each week the focus will be on a different element, from detailing a reception desk, booth seating, storage/ cabinetry, kitchen unit, food counter/ display, shop front and staircase to floor transition detailing, layout principals for tiles and other finishes. We will discuss available materials and technologies, their constraints and benefits in terms of aesthetics, characteristics, cost and workability. We will also look at Universal Design standards and human factors that should be taken into consideration.

Assignment: A collated document that embodies your precedent studies, detailing research on topics covered, notes from the sessions and draft work exercises.