



# Charter Faculty of Design Sciences

Together we strive for an open campus climate



The Faculty of Design Sciences is home to a cluster of design-oriented courses unique to Flanders: architecture, interior architecture, urbanism and special planning, product development, conservation-restoration and heritage studies. We strive to develop quality, socially relevant and innovative design-oriented education, research and services. With a growing number of students, staff, teaching and research projects, we aim to make a permanent and sustainable commitment to an open campus climate. This charter can be used as a reference text to realise this objective, both by staff and students. Together, we are committed to:

## an open teaching and research climate

- We actively open up to the world, both to academia and the wider society.
- We value diversity of views, cherish debate and discussion, and uphold academic freedom.
- We actively seek collaboration with colleagues inside and outside the faculty.

## respect for people, materials and the planet

- We form an inclusive community where diversity in all its forms (gender identity, religion, origin, colour, age, function, etc.) is embraced.
- We respect all our staff and (fellow) students and treat them as we would like to be treated ourselves. We communicate respectfully and give constructive feedback to each other.
- We avoid thinking in stereotypes about colleagues or students.
- We respect work and study areas, buildings, available infrastructure and materials. We always leave the premises tidy.
- We strive for a sustainable society in all our activities. We keep our footprint as small as possible.

## a safe environment

- We build a climate in which challenges and problems can be discussed. In problematic situations, we try to engage in dialogue first, but if necessary provided procedures are initiated for this purpose.
- Teaching/research/collaboration is a learning process. We admit our own mistakes and accept that others may make mistakes. We try to learn from it.
- We monitor buildings and materials and lock classrooms with valuable contents.

## professional teaching, research and service

- We know and follow internal procedures and rules about research, teaching and service. We actively seek information. We are punctual and respect scheduled consultation time at meetings.
- We use e-mail for business communication. We limit our messages to the essentials and address them only to those whose interests are strictly necessary. For communication to student groups, only Blackboard is used.
- We continue to develop ourselves.

## treating each other collegially

- We trust our staff and fellow students and give each other space and support to grow.
- We make time for each other, seek connection and are open to each other's views.
- We listen to each other and do not demand excessive speaking time during meetings, classes or discussions.
- We involve staff and students in important collective decisions and seek active input.
- We respect each other's boundaries about working time and private life.
- We discuss problems directly, open and in a connecting way.

## more info for students

- Student portal > support and guidance
- Student portal > contact
- Student portal > student life > well-being

## more info for employees

- Prevention and well-being at work (pintra)

## Contact:

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