Light affects the way we see objects. It can interact with the way textures, humans, architectural surfaces and voids are seen. Light is constantly changing. It interacts with objects and can be seen as playful or daunting. Depending on the amount of light a certain object has can allow the object to be inviting or closed off. Adding light to an object can enhance highlights of an object, while taking away light, creating shadows, can cause the object to lose some of its definition.

Heather Robertson – Assignment 5
IDSN 1500 - Color and Light in Interior Design
Dept of Interior Design and Merchandising
East Carolina University
How does light interact with textures? Rough textures tend to defuse light opposed to smooth surfaces that will reflect light. The rough texture of the brick neutralizes the sunlight while the grout absorbs the light. While worked we noticed that the small cracks in the brick are completely excluded from the light. We did not expect the light to be so reflective off of the top of the structure.

Sabrina Del Amo & Alison Curran

IDSN 1500 - Color and Light in Interior Design
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We explored Unity, Rhythm and Repetition using natural light. Small blades of grass come together to form one mass and show Unity. Each blade points in many different directions but shows rhythm and harmony. All the blades of grass are all the same but are still appealing to the eye.

Alison Curran & Sabrina Del Amo
IDSN 1500 - Color and Light in Interior Design
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We explored Variety and Emphasis during this portion of our project. The variety is shown in the dark and light changes of the woods color. The knots portray a variety of emphasis throughout the wood and show the type of texture on the bench. We emphasized on one knot in the wood to show the amount of light being reflected.

Alison Curran & Sabrina Del Amo
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Lighting & Inanimate Objects (Furniture)

In this project we addressed how light interacts with inanimate objects, more specifically, furniture. We noticed that working with a handheld light to control where the light was and how much of it was focused on the chair really affected the chair’s overall appeal. With a stronger light source creating heavy shadows, the chair(s) suddenly became more dynamic and had much more character. With the regular lighting of a typical classroom, as shown in the two above picture to the right, the chairs did not seem as interesting.

The principles of design we chose to focus on were harmony and emphasis, which became much more apparent when dramatic lighting was used. The heavier shadows and intense lighting were able to create depth and interest for these simple chairs. Their overlooked features and subtle details easily “popped” and became much more distinct as we played with how much lighting to use as well as from where the light source was positioned.

Kristen Davis and Niveditha Reddy

IDSN 1500 - Color and Light in Interior Design
Dept of Interior Design and Merchandising
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Emphasis in design provides the focal point for the piece. It is a way of making the element that is most important stand out in the design. Emphasis is sometimes called dominance. There are different forms of emphasis in design. Emphasis can be shown by contrast, isolation, placement etc. In this project we are showing emphasis through light. We have used interesting furniture as our object. With this furniture, we played with light and shade to create the emphasis.

In these pictures, first we clicked a picture of the chair without light flashed on it. It looked simple and just like any other chair. Later we flashed light from the left side back of the chair, we saw that the texture and pattern of the fabric was highlighted in the places where light had fallen and the shade created a slightly darker version of the color. This made the chair look more sophisticated.

Name : Niveditha Reddy & Kristen Davis
Semester : Fall 2010
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Harmony in interior design means all parts of the interiors relate to and complement each other. Harmony pulls each and every piece in the space together. When we think of light and furniture, we feel that both light and furniture complement each other in every way.

In this case, the one with no light flashed on it does not make a statement. In the one with the light flashed on it the light, shade and the rich colors created due to the light give a very warm feeling. The complementing colors of the seat and the pillow with the light making the upper portion of it shine and the lower portion more dark and greyed creates a relation between the seat and light. It feels like if there was no light then there would be no life in the space.

Name : Niveditha Reddy & Kristen Davis
Semester : Fall 2010
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Uses of Light: How does light interact with architectural surfaces and voids?

This image shows examples of various principles of Design. The four predominant ones being rhythm, emphasis, and balance. The interaction of light and the interior surfaces also helps to emphasize the listed principles.

Rhythm is represented with repeating vertical and horizontal lines created by the door frames, wall intersections, and window muntins. Lighting helps to accentuate the repetition by contrasting the bright middle ground with the dark foreground and background.

Emphasis is also created by the light entering the windows and casting shadows. The hall (void) creates a path that carries the eye to the window, making it the focal point.

Lastly, the symmetrical orientation of the hall creates balance. The equal amounts of light entering both sides of the hall reinforces the symmetrical balance.

Meghan Shatto and Katie Czarnecki

IDSN 1500 - Color and Light in Interior Design

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Surfaces and voids can be seen in the trash can in the repeated metal strips that surround the canister. The sunlight is able to penetrate the spaces (voids) that separate the metal strips and cast an interesting shadow on the ground. As one walks around the trash can they are met with a variety of different views depending on where the light is hitting the various spaces.
Surface and Void

The ceiling vent is an example of how the light interacts with surfaces and void. As the light hits the vent it first reaches the cone shaped flares, creating a strong contrast between the shaded interior of the vent and the lit outer edges.

Design principles of repetition and rhythm are also evident in this photograph. The vents repeat the circular shape and increase in size towards the edge of the vent. This combination of repetition and rhythm create a dynamic and interesting image.

Meghan Shatto
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In Sabrina and Alison’s example of how light deals with texture, I believe they are correct as far as light reflecting off of smooth surfaces more than rough surfaces. However, if they took a light and shown it onto the brick wall, I think it would have demonstrated this concept better. If they were trying to show how natural light is displayed on textures, I think they just need to state the type of light in their description. As they discuss unity, rhythm and repetition, I think that the monkey grass does not really look uniformed. I believe the only reason it looks uniformed because of how the grass is cut, other than that, to me, I think it looks more random as each blade is facing a different direction.

In Meghan and Katie’s example of light interacting with architectural surfaces and voids, I believe they understood the concept of rhythm, emphasis and balance. Their image clearly shows the different design principles. Their images of the trash bin and ceiling vent also clearly describe their concept of how light interacts with spacial voids.

Kristen and Niveditha discuss how light interacts with inanimate objects (furniture). They explain how focusing light on specifics parts of the furniture really enhances the overall appearance of the object. I think they really understood the concept of harmony and emphasis. Depending on where they shown the light depicted on which piece they decided to emphasize on the piece. I think that their images really play off of their idea and really describe how light affects the overall look of the piece of furniture.