



Neurodiversity: Space and Design Considerations

AIA #ASINEU (HSW) – EXP. 12/14/2026

IDCEC #120188 (HSW) – EXP. 12/31/2025 (NEW)

Course Overview:

Neurodiversity is an appreciation that there are vast differences in the ways our brains process inputs. Discussions about neurodiversity often focus on considerations for cognitive disabilities but may also include considerations for more subtle differences in the way we respond to inputs from the world – inputs like color, sound, smell, and space. Designing for a neurodiverse population involves consideration of sensory integration and the variety of interpretations of inputs for all five senses.

The course will cover the basics of neurodiversity, a consideration that impacts up to 20% of working adults, and ways in which neurodiversity may impact workplace experiences, productivity, and comfort. We will discuss environmental design strategies to welcome and support neurodiversity into workplaces to support health and wellbeing of all occupants.

Learning Objectives

1. Introduce Neurodiversity, an important pillar of Inclusive Design, and explain how our differences in signal processing and learning methods impact our interpretations of the spaces in which we work and collaborate.
2. Describe design considerations for a neurodiverse population to create environments in which all can feel safe and supported..
3. Discuss color theory and how the application of color can foster different experiences in the space for different populations.
4. Share how psychological safety and empathic design and other cultural permissions can aid in navigation and utilization of the space for a neurodiverse workforce.