

# **TRANSITIONS FROM STUDENT DORMITORIES AND ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES TO INSTITUTIONALIZED LIVING FACILITIES**

**Brooke H. Taylor, Department of Art**

**Faculty Sponsor: Ms. Jessica Goldsmith, Department of Art**

Moving from a private home into an institutionalized setting, such as a student dormitory or an assisted living facility, gives new residents the opportunity to create new homes for themselves. This study examines how students and older adults used the decoration and interior design of the living facility to transition to their new institutional environment. Did these specific individuals use current or new furnishings? Were they able to create a comfortable environment for themselves in their new living environment? The majority of students transitioning to a new environment purchased new furnishings, in contrast to the older adults, who brought furnishings from their homes. Results from these studies help us better understand the intermediary characteristics for those who leave their home for an institutionalized setting. Findings are significant to those helping people design a new home within their institutional living space.