



# ARCHITECTURE STUDIES IN FLORENCE



ONE-ON-ONE LEARNING | ON-SITE FIELD STUDY | URBAN SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT

[WWW.ISIFLORENCE.ORG](http://WWW.ISIFLORENCE.ORG)





## MISSION

The history of design holds many inherent contrasts—old versus new, traditional versus innovative, private versus public. Through time, these features merge into layers until even the gilt of antiquity becomes the dynamic scaffolding for contemporary architecture.

The Architecture Program at ISI Florence takes students on a semester-long journey into the heart of this ongoing dialogue. Through a combination of challenging academics and pre-professional experience, ISI students explore the relationship between creation and conservation, aesthetic concerns and technical excellence, and national and international perspectives. The program encourages individual exploration and self-expression as students conceptualize contemporary architecture in the context of Florence's rich architectural history and the peerless backdrop of Italy. The vibrant in-class curriculum is further enriched by community involvement and an emphasis on learning both in the classroom and beyond.

## HIGHLIGHTS

The Architecture Program in Florence features:

- Architectural and urban design studio classes
- Guest lectures and seminars by internationally renowned professionals
- In-class learning, fieldwork, and visits to relevant construction sites
- Active involvement in local urban projects
- One-on-one sessions with ISI faculty and local Italian architects
- Newly-renovated dedicated architecture design studio with the latest architectural software and equipment
- Collaborative projects with European partner institutions Università di Ferrara, Università di Firenze, Delft University of Technology, and the Bartlett School of Architecture
- Discovery field trips throughout Italy and Europe





# OUR PROGRAM

The Architecture Program at ISI Florence was established in 2001 in cooperation with the Roger Williams University School of Architecture and Historic Preservation. In the years since, the program has grown to include a number of other architecture schools and programs in both the US and Europe. Students have described their experience in Florence as no less than transformative—not only because they are indelibly impacted by Italy’s and Europe’s breathtaking architecture, but because their work translates into actual pre-professional experience.

## STUDYING IN FLORENCE

Modern Florence is a thriving city. Beneath the arches of its Renaissance forebears, the city is growing exponentially, making it the ideal place to study the inherent conflicts of architecture. Every day, ISI students address the practical needs of contemporary society in a celebrated historic context. The program provides students with opportunities to work alongside practicing Italian and European architects, skilled instructors who liaise with local communities and institutions in their own unique urban context.

## ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Fall Semester: September–December

Spring Semester: January–April

## FACULTY

The faculty at ISI Florence consists of highly experienced Italian and international practicing architects and professionals dedicated to teaching and well versed in American higher education.

## STUDENT BODY

The student body consists of Architecture majors who have completed a minimum of two years of architectural study at an accredited college or university.

## PROGRAM COURSES

The academic offerings are designed for qualified students who have completed at least two years of architectural studies. The core courses integrate in-class teaching with visits to construction sites and field trips to other relevant destinations.

### DESIGN CORE (choose one)

Architecture Design Studio • 5 credits

Advanced Topical Design Studio: Urban • 5 credits

Interior Architecture Studio • 5 credits

### LANGUAGE COURSE (required)

Italian Language (all levels available) • 4 credits

### ELECTIVE COURSES

Architecture in Context • 3 credits

The Villa and the Garden • 3 credits

Architecture in Italy: History and Preservation • 3 credits

Technology and Design in Building Conservation • 3 credits

History of Italian Design • 3 credits

Other Electives • 3 credits

## HOW TO APPLY

Admission is on a rolling basis and is selective. Students may apply online at [www.isiflorence.org](http://www.isiflorence.org) or request more information at [info@isiflorence.org](mailto:info@isiflorence.org).



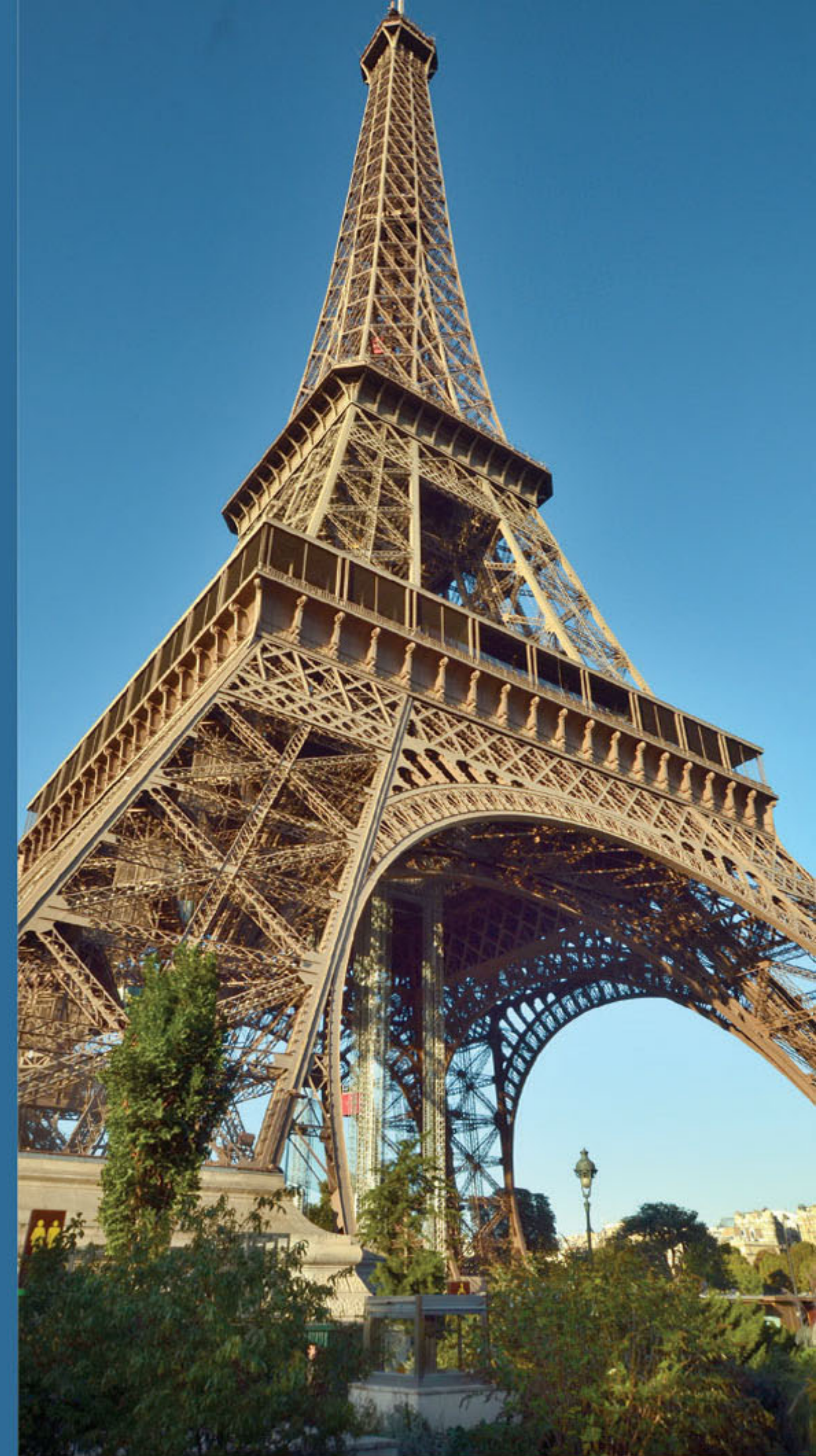
## STUDIO COURSES

The studio courses focus on the analysis of the built environment in Europe and examples of excellent contemporary architecture as the basis for a conscious design process. Our program aims to inspire students and stimulate intellectual growth while also equipping them with practical skills that will prepare them to pursue a professional career in architecture. Students analyze several building conservation case studies in order to focus on both the final product of a contemporary living or working space in a historical environment, and the technical role of architects in the conservation process. Students sketch on-site and evaluate ideas for a team project—the culmination of the advanced design studio course. ISI Florence is a place where intellectual brio meets practical know-how—a compelling milieu for any aspiring architect.

## A TRULY INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Both the design studio and elective courses frequently offer faculty-led field trips to a variety of inspiring architectural sites in Florence, throughout Italy, and to other European destinations. The destinations vary by semester and include:

- Rome, Ferrara, Verona, Vicenza and Padova
- Venice Biennale (spring)
- Barcelona, Paris, London, Rotterdam and Berlin
- Salone del Mobile in Milan
- Bargino Winery and the Chiesa dell'Autostrada
- Hilltop towns of Tuscany Val D'Orcia / Pienza







# ARCHITECTURE STUDIO AND FACILITIES

The design studios, classrooms, and resource rooms are all housed in the spacious and newly renovated eighteenth-century Palazzo Bargagli located in the historic center of Florence. The palazzo offers a pleasant and well-equipped environment highly conducive to creative design. The classrooms offer breathtaking views of Florence— aspiring architects can feast their eyes on vistas ranging from the modern graffiti on ancient buildings to the shimmering skyline along the Arno River. Palazzo Rucellai, ISI's headquarters on nearby Via della Vigna Nuova, was designed by Leon Battista Alberti in the 1450s and is universally acknowledged as a landmark of Renaissance architecture.

## THE ARCHITECTURE FACILITIES FEATURE

- Spacious and bright workspaces
- Critique and exhibition space with modeling studio
- Review and seminar rooms with HD 58' screens
- Design and computing lab with color printers and laser cutter
- Architecture Library and Photography Studio



## ACADEMIC RESOURCES

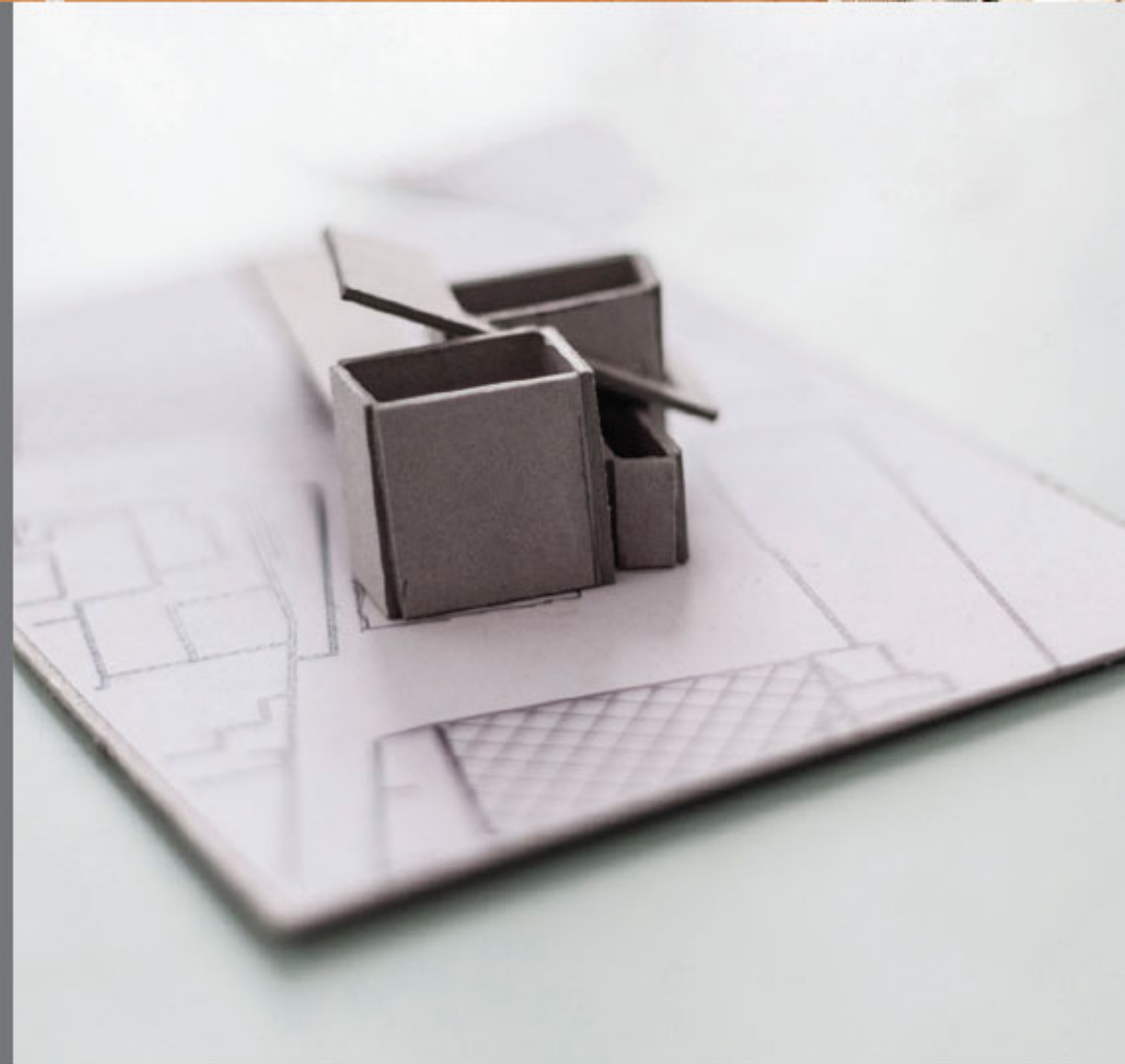
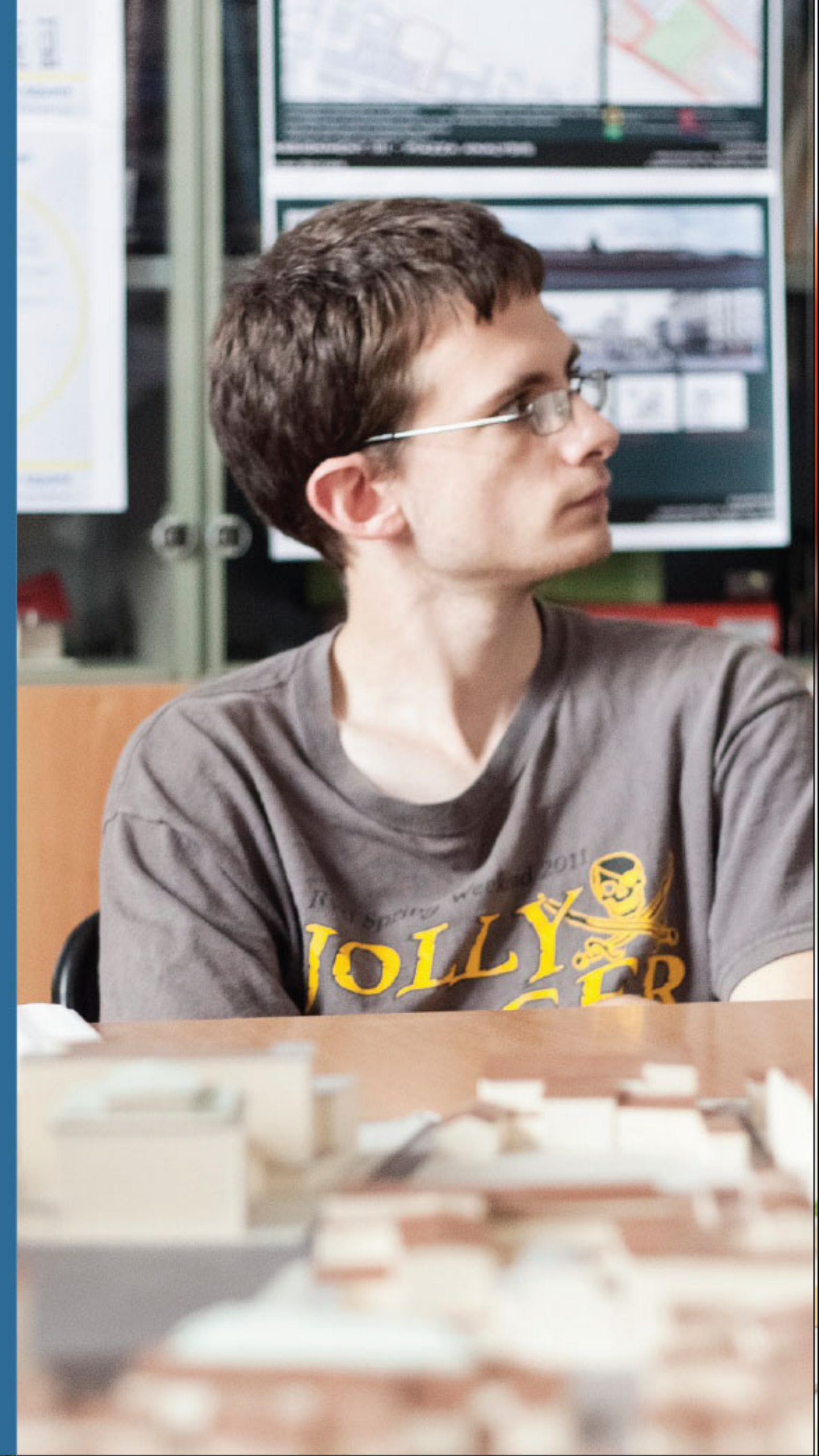
All students are provided with personal drafting tables and workspace for the duration of the program supported by review and seminar rooms, design computing laboratory, architecture library, modeling studio, and exhibition gallery. Annually updated software packages in the design computing laboratory include the complete Autodesk Suite (AutoCAD, Revit, Maya, 3D Studio Max), Adobe Design Premium Creative Suite (Acrobat, Dreamweaver, Flash, Illustrator, InDesign and Photoshop, Form Z), and large format color printers and plotters. The Architecture Design Studio is entirely networked for student laptop wireless access and open until midnight seven days a week.





“I realize what a fantastic opportunity and learning experience this was. I was able to study under Italian professors who were also practicing architects—they shared their experience in the classroom and in tours of the actual buildings we had learned about in class. Today’s Italian architects are experts at taking an already made building or “piazza” and turning it into something completely new and exciting. It helps the young architect learn how even the smallest gesture can create great works of art.”

- Steven T. | Roger Williams University









# ACADEMIC PARTNERS

Roger Williams  
University

UNIVERSITY OF  
MARYLAND



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
FIRENZE



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI FERRARA  
- EX LABORE FRUCTUS -

UNIVERSITY  
OF HARTFORD

Marywood  
UNIVERSITY

TU Delft  
Delft University of Technology



  
**ISI FLORENCE**  
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES INSTITUTE

The International Studies Institute in Florence offers a variety of programs, perfect for any student who is eager to experience Italian life, culture, and language in one of Italy's most treasured cities. For more information, visit [www.isiflorence.org](http://www.isiflorence.org) or write to us at [info@isiflorence.org](mailto:info@isiflorence.org).

International Studies Institute

Palazzo Rucellai, Via della Vigna Nuova 18, 50123 Florence, Italy  
Phone +39 055 2645910 Fax +39 055 2646721

DISCOVER MORE  
[WWW.ISIFLORENCE.ORG](http://WWW.ISIFLORENCE.ORG)