Università IUAV di Venezia

Studying Architecture
MA Degree programme
Course leader: Fernanda De Maio

Why Università Iuav di Venezia
Università Iuav di Venezia has long been recognised as one of the best design and art Schools in Europe and across the world. The only university in Italy to provide thorough education and training in architecture, urban planning, design, visual arts, theatre and fashion, Iuav combines a renowned tradition with a strong commitment to permanent innovation. Thanks to a unique workshop format, students have the opportunity to interact daily with world-level professors and professionals.

Iuav is an international university: it offers courses and internships both in Italy and abroad while encouraging student exchanges for study and research. Iuav provides students with knowledge, skills, and expertise for a successful access to the labour market.

Iuav is strategically and conveniently located in the heart of Venice historical centre, which greatly benefits students in terms of cultural and sport opportunities.

Prospectus
The English-taught MA provides education and training for internationally oriented architects, in accordance with the Directive of the European Parliament 2005/36/CE. The MA in Architecture offers students an excellent preparation for the changing demands of society, both in the technical-scientific area and the humanities. It trains how to cope with present-day problems related to urban and natural landscapes while focusing on the conservation and transformation of different architectural and urban contexts, with special attention to environmental, economic and social sustainability.

The MA in Architecture educates students to tackle pressing architectural, urban and environmental issues in the national and international scene. It offers up-to-date perspectives on architecture integrated with global culture ideas. The most innovative techniques and methodologies are employed to train generations of digital natives. This also means providing cross-disciplinary competences in:

- urban projects and theories on the city, with their related issues on sustainable growth and degrowth;
- Italian cultural heritage and its conservation through regenerative projects that can be applied to other countries and contexts;
- interior and exhibition design – a global asset for today’s architects.

Studying Architecture in Venice
Venice provides lifelong inspiration. An uninterrupted tradition links Venice to its School of Architecture. Masters such as Carlo Scarpa and Aldo Rossi, who taught at Iuav, were affected by the beauty of
the city and translate it into their works. Iuav caters for the needs of rapidly changing professional environments and is fully committed to teaching design and planning as interpretations of spaces, knowledge of their history and synergy of multidisciplinary competences and skills. During the two-year course students develop all the competences needed to become architectural designers and thinkers and move towards the ability to engage in architectural practice as independent and inventive practitioners. Students acquire the knowledge to enhance their communication skills and gain expertise in contemporary architectural fields. They can further improve the understanding acquired during their bachelor's degree. Moreover, students have the opportunity to apply their critical and analytical skills to produce substantial projects and written research in any of the areas covered in, and relevant to, the course.

**Examples of modules**
Sustainable urban design & performance; architecture, interior and creative exhibition design; regeneration and conservation of historic buildings and environments; research principles and visual narrative towards the thesis project.

**Assessment**
Design assessment and portfolio, reports and seminars, presentations, case studies, interior and exhibition projects, group field trips, dissertation.

**Careers**
MA students are highly qualified to hold important positions in both national and international architectural firms. They can work in public institutions, private practices and public companies in the fields of construction, urban and regional planning. The MA is a prerequisite to take the Italian State Exam to qualify as licensed architects.

Iuav career service helps master's graduates to find the most suitable opportunities for internships and future jobs, both in Italy and abroad.

**Key features**
- students gain a comprehensive knowledge and field-specific language skills to enter and contribute to global architectural practice and architectural discourse worldwide;
- master's graduates become professionals within the specialist fields of historic building and environment conservation;
- students are encouraged to become architects with an informed sense of social responsibility and ethics in relation to campaign design and impact evaluation in developing countries;
- master's graduates have a strong awareness of the nature of architecture and its uses in written and visual communication.

This will make students ideally suited to a wide range of professional sectors that include: education, publishing, media, international development and public relations.
courses

**1st semester**
Integrated Design Lab focus 1  
**Sustainable urban design & performance;**  
Architectural and urban design (6 credits)  
Urban and landscape planning (6 credits)  
Landscape Architecture (6 credits)

Theoretical courses  
**Sustainable property investment**  
and valuation (4 credits)  
Theories of the city (6 credits)

**2nd semester**
Integrated Design Lab focus 2  
Architecture, interior and creative exhibition design  
Architectural technology (6 credits)  
Building physics and energy systems (4 credits)  
Interior design and staging (6 credits)

Theoretical courses  
**History of contemporary architecture** (6 credits)  
**Theory and history of representational methods** (6 credits)  
**Internship**  
(4-credit internship that usually students attend during the summer break)

**3rd semester**
Integrated Design Lab focus 3  
Regeneration and conservation of historic buildings and environments  
Architectural and urban design (6 credits)  
Architectural restoration (6 credits)  
Structural engineering (6 credits)

Heritage and project (6 credits)  
Analysis and theory of architecture (6 credits)

**4th semester**
Research Lab*
Visual and Narrative towards the thesis project
Architectural and urban design (4 credits)  
eminent visiting professor  
Drawing (4 credits)  
guest lecturer  
* as an alternative to the Research Lab, students can opt for an International mobility semester in order to gain 8 credits (e.g. at least 3 months in an Erasmus+ partner university)

Theoretical courses  
**English literature as architectural storytelling and writing** (4 credits)  
**City dynamics and economics** (4 credits)

8 credits courses chosen by the student  
(e.g. courses from luav educational offer or courses during an International mobility semester or else credits gained by attending workshops)

6 credits for the final thesis, which is co-tutored by a luav professor and an external tutor

During the whole programme, international students are required to attend an Italian language course
Available places: 60
Level: master's degree
Credits: 120 ects
Time: 24-month programme
Degree code: LM-4 Architecture and Engineering Construction – Architecture

Entry requirements: BA degree in architecture, assessment of work portfolio and interview for selected applicants, certificate confirming the knowledge of English language (minimum level accepted: B2; minimum scores accepted: IELTS 5.5-6.5; Cambridge FCE; TOEFL 87-109; Trinity ISE II; TOEIC 750-800)

To learn more about the MA at Università Iuav di Venezia
iuav.it

Student recruitment and orientation
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