

# SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS (FA)

Founded in 2005 and located in the center of Florence since 2010, **FU** School of Fine Arts gathers nine departments:

**ART EDUCATION (E)**  
**CERAMICS (CE)**  
**CLASSIC PHOTOGRAPHY (CL)**  
**CREATIVE ARTS (C)**  
**MIXED MEDIA (MM)**  
**PRINTING AND DRAWING (PD)**  
**PRINTMAKING (PM)**  
**RESTORATION (RE)**  
**SCULPTURE (SC)**

In recent years the city of Florence has accepted the ever-changing challenges of contemporary art and has been experiencing an incredible cultural explosion. Signs are evident throughout its historical center and beyond, in the newer neighborhoods of its expanding urban borders.

**FU** School of Fine Arts was born out of the recognition of these signs and of the will to play an active role in the city's artistic and cultural life. Through the acquisition of traditional art techniques combined with innovative practices of contemporary art, experiences and insights, students will gain the tools, vision and spirit to personally interpret today's complex world. They will develop their roles as visual communicators and future artists either by learning or by refining the most important art procedures of our legacy.

In **FU** School of Fine Arts vision, art has a new definition transcending the rigid boundaries which confine it to a static role in history or emphasize only its potential as a commercial source to be exploited. Artistic past and contemporary productions have a close connection and the continuous exchange between the two fosters new ways of interpreting artworks.

**FU** School of Fine Arts supports blending: of art forms, of students with the city hosting them, of different cultural settings, of galleries and museums with artists' studios, of experiences, of materials, of universities with non-academic worlds.

The School Mission is:

To provide students with the opportunity to grow personally and professionally and to experience changes in their lives and career through a wide choice of courses and workshops, a stimulating environment within futuristic, high-tech academic structures, and a constant interaction with the art world.

To encourage students to be culturally active inside and outside their academic environment and to immerse them in the creative processes of practicing artists, while also giving shape to an artistic space involving the city, its history and present or future events, and embracing the visual arts, performance and music.

To nurture its students' talents both introducing them to the basic artistic skills and notions and stimulating them to go beyond textbooks and theory. Students at **FU** School of Fine Arts learn how to strengthen their knowledge and self-confidence, to improve their techniques, to challenge their imagination, to build their own portfolios and artistic networks, in a constant relation with the city of Florence and Italian society.

**FU** School of Fine Arts offers many advantages to both students and resident artists who share its facilities throughout the academic year:

One 20 seat capacity painting and drawing lab  
One 16 seats capacity art lab for ceramics, sculpture, and fresco painting  
One 20 seat capacity lecture room  
One working studio for the artist in residence  
One studio apartment for the artist in residence  
One Academic Office

An outdoor patio

A progressive center for the arts and art gallery dedicated to students and resident artists.

The **FIR** (Florence Artist In Residence) program which combines thematic exhibitions, exchange of ideas and transverse interactions between arts, languages and issues.

One Year Publishing Program at **PZZI**

Arty Fridays

Internships

Seminars of several types

**FU** School of Fine Arts is proud to offer friendly, committed, and supporting instructors and professors in a multicultural setting which respects each person's uniqueness.

The School's faculty, made up of renowned professionals, university professors, artists and technical experts, firmly believes that art is participation and sharing, therefore encourages students and resident artists to surpass books and assigned tasks, to read walls, spaces, and an Italian society densely marked by cultural heritage and history as well as by a rich contemporary ferment.

**FU** School of Fine Arts benefits from the collaboration of Zauli Foundation of Faenza, an institution actively working in the field of ceramics.

## **FIR** (FLORENCE ARTIST IN RESIDENCE)

Contemporary art calls for participation and sharing, and artists in residence are the expression of our times and the perfect means to practice this approach. **FIR** and **FU** School of Fine Arts offer the first artist in residence program in Florence for Italian and international artists and invite artists to reside within the school premises either for a semester or for the three months of a summer session. During their stay, artists will learn to interpret the city and its surroundings and they will exchange ideas with students, fellow artists in town, and professionals within the art world. They will work both as artists, also creating an exhibition, and academic professors.

**FIR** program collaborates with, among others, Throng Ngia Nguyen (Art Slant), Sebastien Sanchez de Santamaria (Residences Unlimited, NY), British Institute of Florence, Museo Nazionale Alinari della Fotografia, Pietro Gaglianò (curator), and Alessandra Scappini (curator), all part of **FIR** non-executive advisory board.

## **FIR** ART GALLERY

Located in the district where the Medicis gave birth to the place which is considered the first example of art academy, the art gallery at **FIR** is the brand-new space and concept for contemporary art in Florence. Since the site, ex-Teatro San Gallo, used to be a theater for musicals and comedies, creativity and enthusiasm are its genius loci and **FU** School of Fine Arts is keeping alive the spirit of the venue and its special atmosphere.

Three large vaulted bays provided with adjustable dimming lights cover a floor intersected by a line of LED lighting which both designate the working areas of the department and emphasize **FIR** conceptual approach to transversality between arts, languages, and issues. The LED path leads to a patio around which **FIR**'s studios for painting, sculpture, ceramics, mixed media, and the artist's apartment unfold.

The gallery, tuned to the global artistic panorama, organizes thematic exhibitions both of renowned artists from Italy and abroad and by emerging artists, as well as projects by promising art students. Solo shows are dedicated yearly guest artist.

## ONE YEAR PUBLISHING PROGRAM AT **PZZI**

The One Year Publishing Program at **PZZI** consists of two semesters focused on the fundamental and advanced skills necessary to design, edit, produce, publish and market published media. Students choose one of the three concentrations offered in this certificate and attend intensive seminars as well as semester core courses that examine the topics such as writing for the arts, photography and printing processes, art direction, and marketing strategies for the arts.

## INTERNSHIPS

**FU** School of Fine Arts offers its students different types of internships such as the Artist in Residence Assistance Internship. The first one gives students a grounding in the organization of studio practices, documentation management, works of art and exhibition preparation, while the second one forms students in the management, logistics, educational activities and communication of an art gallery.

## ARTY FRIDAYS

Arty Fridays activities are created to transform our students into insiders of the contemporary art environment in Florence and its surrounding cities. Reserved for the School of Fine Arts but open to all **P L ZI** students, Arty Fridays offer visits to art galleries and museums with curators, visits to artists' studios, screenings of art documentaries and movies, and encounters with young artists. An interesting yet easy and enjoyable way to explore the art world of our time.

## DEPARTMENT OF ART EDUCATION (E)

Focused mainly on theory and research, this department includes courses oriented towards the study and practices of disciplines useful for students interested in becoming art educators and art teachers at all levels. It is also designed for future artists and students willing to sharpen their understanding of the visual field.

### FT FC CP 200

#### Art Media: Introduction to the Creative Process

3 semester credits (45 lecture hours)

Cross-listed from school of Fashion and Accessory Studies and Technology (FT), department of Fashion Communication and Publishing

### FT FC CP 200S

#### Art Media: Introduction to the Creative Process

1 semester credits (15 lecture hours)

Cross-listed from school of Fashion and Accessory Studies and Technology (FT), department of Fashion Communication and Publishing

### F E E 280

#### Art Education

3 semester credits (45 lecture hours) This lecture/lab course will help prepare students to teach art to elementary and middle school children. Students learn about the role of visual arts in children's education and how it relates to developmental growth. The course will explore the historical, philosophical and social foundations of art in education, including recent developments, current issues and technology. The course introduces: basic philosophy and structure of art education, directed learning activities in 2 and 3-dimensional design, different approaches to teaching methodology, art appreciation, lesson themes, on-site observations, responsibilities of teachers, and health and safety in the art studio. Prerequisites: Studio Art major or its equivalent

### F E T 300

#### Art Therapy

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) This lecture/lab course introduces students to the therapeutic functions of art. The aim is to have students familiarize with art therapy methods and techniques whose primary objective is to develop the creative potential present in every human being. During the class meetings students will use their own personal experiences to help them to understand the function of art within a therapeutic context: students will in effect conduct experiments on themselves. This hands-on experience will then be compared with the theoretical ideas outlined in the required readings. In the laboratory/studio part of the course students will handle a great variety of art materials ranging from the more traditional to less common items, such as buttons, boxes, leaves and so on. The aim is to facilitate self-expression on a non-verbal and creative level and in a safe environment, open to the free exchange of opinions and untouched by prejudiced or judgmental attitudes. All these essential elements which make up the created image - space, color, movement and form - will be examined and put to the test as expressive and symbolic tools of one's inner world.

### F E D 310

#### Diversity in Art Education

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) This lecture/lab course focuses on issues related to the art education of culturally or linguistically diverse children, gifted children or children with special needs. Students will learn how to develop instructional strategies that can be used to plan and sequence effective art-learning experiences for children with special needs. This course will pay extra attention to how art educators can help encourage and guide a child's artistic self-expression and sense of discovery. Students will also explore alternative assessment strategies for evaluating children's learning and performance in art. Prerequisites: Introduction to Art Education or its equivalent

### L MU MP 310

#### Music and Painting

3 semester credits (45 lecture hours)

Cross-listed from school of Liberal Arts (LA), department of Music Studies

### F E SL 340

#### Semiotics: The Signs and Language of Art

3 semester credits (45 lecture hours) The main objective of the course is to examine the most important semiotic tools for the analysis of visual texts. Starting from a point of view based on the production of meaning, lectures will display theoretical and methodological instruments for the semiotic investigation of art works in painting, sculpture, architecture, photography, video and art installation, establishing a continuous communication among technologies. Our specific focus will be on the analysis of significance and meaning of visual languages used in visual arts. Students will actively participate in the inquiry and will be requested to make one or more analysis on their own. Authors such as Barthes, Eco and Morris will be examined. This course is also offered as a seminar for 2 semester credits, 30 lecture hours. The regular semester class will introduce students to the subject and then focus on the area of study, while the Seminar will focus on the specialized area of study. Cross-listed to Visual Communication (Digital Imaging and Visual Arts); Mass Communication (Journalism, Communication and Publishing); Art History and Architecture (Liberal Arts).

### F E MT 350

#### Practices, Modes and Trends in Today's Art Systems

3 semester credits (45 lecture hours) The modes of making art have changed since modern times, and they continue to evolve. How does an artist confront the world today? What are the do's and don'ts that make the difference? What are the roles of the characters who do not make art but revolve around the art system? What are the functions of curators, art critics, gallerists? Why is the art system experiencing such an explosion of art biennials and art fairs, and what is the artist's role in this production of culture? Why has the Chinese panorama already expired and what were the contributing factors to the 2008 art collapse? This course, maintaining a constant dialectics with students, is meant to answer these and other questions.

This course is also offered as a seminar for 1 semester credit, 15 lecture hours. The regular semester class will introduce students to the subject and then focus on the area of study, while the seminar will focus on the specialized area of study.

Cross-listed to Visual Communication (Digital Imaging and Visual Arts) and Art History and Architecture (Liberal Arts).

### L H PJ 390

#### The Photographic Journey of Fashion in Culture and Society

3 semester credits (45 lecture hours)

Cross-listed from Art History (Liberal Arts)

### PS IN T 420

#### Teaching Assistant Internship

3 semester credits (90 contact hours)

Cross-listed from school of Professional Studies (PS), department of Internships

## DEPARTMENT OF CERAMICS (CE)

This department offers a curriculum in ceramics suited for absolute beginners as well as for students interested in developing professionally in the field. Advanced courses are offered in combination with the Zauli Foundation of Faenza, an institution actively working in the field of ceramics.

The department also offers a Special Project in Ceramics involving students in a project to be carried out in an external facility and in an activity which fosters a strong work ethic, commitment and dedication.

### F' CE CE 200

#### Ceramics (Beginner)

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) In this course, students will work on pottery and/or ceramic sculpture projects. In the first part of the course, emphasis will be on different clay hand-building techniques. In the second part of the course, students will progress to a variety of surface decoration techniques and different methods of firing. Slide lectures will give students essential information on the nature of clay and glazes. The history of Mediterranean ceramics will be covered during in-class lectures. Students will be introduced to local Tuscan artisan traditions and the work of contemporary ceramic artists during fieldtrips.

### F' CE CI 260

#### Ceramics (Intermediate)

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) The course is designed for students who wish to continue in Ceramics and advance their skills in various hand-building and sculpture techniques. Emphasis will be on design, critical evaluation of forms and advancement of technical skills. This class will help students expand their technical understanding of clay and clay bodies, decoration techniques, glazing and firing and it will also provide an introduction to plaster work and mold making. Students will be encouraged to explore their concepts and develop confidence in critical thinking, design, and artistic skills. Attendance at the weekly class is required with additional studio time individually arranged. Minimum studio time each week should be eight hours. Prerequisites: Ceramics (Beginner) and one semester of Art History.

### F' CE CE 400

#### Ceramics: Advanced Special Project

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) Ceramics: Advanced Special Project is an assigned course where students will have access to an external facility in which they develop their proposed project on a wider scale. This will require each student to get organized accordingly to the availability of the facility and to set the time necessary to complete the project in order to submit it on the due date. This requires advanced skills and a strong work ethic, commitment and dedication on the students' part to successfully complete the project with excellence.

### PS IN T' 420

#### Teaching Assistant Internship

3 semester credits (90 contact hours)

Cross-listed from school of Professional Studies (PS), department of Internships

## DEPARTMENT OF CLASSIC PHOTOGRAPHY (CL)

An institution under the School of Digital Imaging and Visual Arts (DIV'), this department is simultaneously oriented and devoted to the artistic education of students of photography, as well as to the photographic education of fine arts students. Analogic techniques and classic photographic genres are the focuses of the courses.

### F' CL IC 140

#### Introduction to Classic Photography

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) This course involves theoretical and practical work both outdoors in the city of Florence and its environs and in the darkroom. Students will learn how to use the camera correctly, how to expose the film and the basic

principles of black and white photography and composition. In addition, students will be given a broad overview of the history of photography. During the semester students will work on two projects and a final portfolio.

To take pictures on film, students need to provide an analogical camera (SLR-35mm) possibly having both automatic and manual controls.

### F' CL IP 190

#### Introduction to Classic Documentary and Portrait Photography

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) This course will introduce students to the photography world with a particular focus on the documentary and portraiture aspects of this art medium. The course will be divided between outdoor field practice and the studio/darkroom, black and white classic printing and finishing. The lab practice will enable students to elaborate their pictures and print them in the correct manner. The course concentrates on portraiture using traditional manual equipment. Students learn about the history, compositional issues and techniques of documentary and portrait photography by studying the work of influential photographers (e.g. Henry Cartier-Bresson, Eugene Smith, Capa, Sebastiao Salgado, Richard Avedon, Philippe Halsmann, Youssouf Karsh, Edward Weston, etc.) and by conceiving, shooting, printing and laying out a series of portraiture/documentary projects. This course is recommended for students majoring in communications, journalism, psychology and social science Prerequisites: None. Basic black and white photography experience will be helpful. A traditional 35mm SLR camera is also needed, equipped with a zoom lens, or a standard 50mm lens+ a wide angle + a telephoto lens. This kind of camera can also be loaned from school. Cross-listed to Fashion Communication and Publishing (Fashion and Accessory Studies and Technology)

### F' CL IC 240

#### Intermediate Classic Photography

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) The course will allow the students to develop a personal approach to the photographic medium. Exploring the classical photographic techniques, the student will achieve a full creative and technical control that will lead to a high quality final portfolio. During the course attention will be focused on the cultural, social, ethical, conceptual, artistic, economical and professional aspects of Photography. The most influential modern and contemporary artists in photography will be studied through slide shows, videos, books reviews, visits to photo and other art shows. Relationships of Photography and other art media will also be analyzed. The students will operate in a new and spacious darkroom and lab, where they will have the opportunity to refine their printing and technical skills at the highest levels. The instructor will also stimulate students to broaden their knowledge of the psychological aspects of visual perception.

Prerequisites: Introduction to Classic Photography or equivalent. To take pictures on film, students need to provide an analogical camera (SLR-35mm) possibly having both automatic and manual controls.

### F' CL PP 270

#### Pinhole Photography

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) Pinhole photography relates to the use of time and being creative with the light from the sun. Today in the age of digital cameras, pinhole photography is still used as a method of making traditional images but with an old fashioned twist. Using traditional photographic techniques, this hands-on course allows students to design and build their own pinhole camera as well as use precision-made pinhole cameras (provided by the instructor) to make fine art alternative black and white prints. This class addresses basics in black and white film development and darkroom work. In addition to technique, this course presents the historical context of this process. Critique of students' work examines the aesthetic qualities of images rendered through this time-honored process. Prerequisites: None. Basic photography experience and knowledge will be helpful. A classic 35mm reflex camera with a zoom lens, or a wide angle + 50 + a telephoto lens is required.

This course is also offered as a seminar for 1 semester credit, 15 lecture

hours. The regular semester class will introduce the student to the subject and then focus on the area of study, while the Seminar will focus on the specialized area of study. Cross-listed to Photography (School of Digital Imaging and Visual Arts)

### **F´ CL IC 340**

#### **Advanced Classic Photography**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours)

For description see FA CL IC 240

Prerequisites: Intermediate Classic Photography.

To take pictures on film, students need to provide an analogical camera (SLR-35mm) possibly having both automatic and manual controls.

### **F´ CL HP 350**

#### **Non-Silver Halide Photography**

3 semester credits (45 lecture hours) This advanced course explores the technical and aesthetic implications of the platinum/palladium process, one of the most beautiful and subtle of all photographic printing processes. Topics include compounding emulsions, hand coating, paper selection, development variables and techniques for making enlarged negatives.

Prerequisites: Basic photography experience and knowledge will be helpful. A classic 35mm reflex camera with a zoom lens, or a wide angle + 50 + a telephoto lens is required.

This course is also offered as a seminar for 1 semester credit, 15 lecture hours. The regular semester class will introduce the student to the subject and then focus on the area of study, while the Seminar will focus on the specialized area of study.

### **F´ CL HP 350S**

#### **Non-Silver Halide Photography**

1 semester credit (15 lecture hours) This advanced course explores the technical and aesthetic implications of the platinum/palladium process, one of the most beautiful and subtle of all photographic printing processes. Topics include: compounding emulsions, hand coating, paper selection, development variables and techniques for making enlarged negatives.

Basic photography experience and knowledge will be helpful.

### **F´ CL ML 360**

#### **Medium and Large Format**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) This course provides a thorough introduction to 4x5 and 8x10 view camera technology and aesthetics by covering a number of image-making techniques and applications in the studio and on location. Landscape, architecture, portraiture, still life and specialized areas are covered. View cameras are provided. Prerequisites: Basic photography experience and knowledge will be helpful.

This course is also offered as a seminar for 1 semester credit, 15 lecture hours. The regular semester class will introduce the student to the subject and then focus on the area of study, while the Seminar will focus on the specialized area of study.

## **DEPARTMENT OF CREATIVE ARTS (C´)**

The courses of this department are based on multidisciplinary art skills and knowledges and oriented to an everyday application of them. Paper maché, flower composition and decoupage are some of the subjects which may interest more skillful students or any person with a passion for simple, hands-on artistic activities to be practiced in the free time.

### **F´ C´ PM 270**

#### **Papier-mâché and Creative Decoration**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) This course begins by examining the historical origins of papier-mâché before moving on to technique, design and production of individual student work. The contemporary application of papier-mâché in the theatre and as part of carnival floats will also be covered. In addition, focus will be devoted to other forms of decoration such as japanning, lacquer art, decoupage, Asian paper arts as well as papier-mâché book binding techniques.

### **F´ C´ FC 280**

#### **Flower Composition and Arrangements**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) The art of flower composition and arrangement is studied across the history of floral design, floral textures and fragrances, types of foliage and fruit composition, and contemporary styles and techniques. The key artistic concepts of balance, proportion, scale, line, form, space, and depth will also be studied and applied to floral arrangements in order to prepare students for events whether on the small or large scale.

### **F´ C´ DW 290**

#### **Découpage and Wood Decoration**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) Students will trace the origins and development of découpage as an art form and decorative technique. Découpage as it is known today was at its zenith in 17th and 18th century Europe, both with the aristocracy and burgeoning middle class and was adapted by both Picasso and Matisse. The technical part of the course will introduce materials, tools and technique and require students to complete both a découpage and wood decoration project by the conclusion of the course under the supervision of the instructor.

## **DEPARTMENT OF MIXED MEDIA (MM)**

A wide range of disciplines is taught in this department. Mainly addressed to students with previous experience and background in foundation courses and core courses such as Painting and Drawing, the subjects of this department experiment different artistic modes, levels, materials and explore several media from digital technology to human bodies.

### **FT FC PE 235**

#### **Introduction to Picture Editing**

3 semester credits (45 lecture hours)

Cross-listed from school of Fashion and Accessory Studies and Technology (FT), department of Fashion Communication and Publishing

### **FT FC PE 235S**

#### **Introduction to Picture Editing**

1 semester credits (15 lecture hours)

Cross-listed from school of Fashion and Accessory Studies and Technology (FT), department of Fashion Communication and Publishing

### **F´ MM PT 260**

#### **Pastel Techniques Decorative Paintings and Mosaics**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) In this course, students will study and understand about pastel techniques and decorative paintings such as stencil and trompe l'oeil, following both traditional and nontraditional methods. In the second part of the course the student will approach Mosaic techniques.

### **F´ MM F´ 290**

#### **Softer Shapes: Fabric and Textile Art**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) The objective of the course is to teach students how to give the shapes and forms of a chosen subject to textiles and fabrics, letting aesthetics be the guide of sensitivity and emotional impact. Students will learn to concretize their ideas or emotions, and to pass from this phase to a planning one, where all the stages and details to transform different types of textile into a unique, irreplaceable product will be considered. Students will be able to give forms, three-dimensionality, plasticity and sculptural qualities to textiles by means of simple cuts, stitches, and folding. The final results will be scenographic, attractive, modeled and alienating.

### **F´ MM MM 300**

#### **Mixed Media**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) Complex contemporary installations are mostly mixed media works. The course aims at instructing how to produce mixed media works which are an assemblage of different artistic languages such as video, photography, sound, sculpture, performance, painting, etc. There will be an introduction to the history of mixed media to understand how the

discipline does not only revolve around artworks and materials, but it also involves ideas, how they develop over time, and how the new ones result from past experiences. We will talk about how productions are embedded into history and how the artists react on events of historic significance as well. During the course we will concentrate in the first instance on the students' works, to promote a strategy leading them to develop manifold and interesting expressions.

#### **FA MM PE 360 Performance Art**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) The goal of the course is to offer a survey of artistic practices referred to as the art of performance. It will also examine its merging with other forms of art and visual language, plus trace a path towards the realization of individual projects. Topics such as war, advertising, fashion, sexuality, science and iconography of the body will be explored and students will observe the importance of gesture. During the first half of the course assignments will encourage students to use different senses to describe the places that they will visit, creating diaries of perceptions. Use of diverse technologies that may be incorporated in the work is fostered and taught.

#### **FA MM SP 390 Social Practices in Contemporary Art**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) Participation and sharing are the latest urgent issues of contemporary art practices of our time, when the main outcome is not the production of the final aesthetic object or work of art, but it is the work in progress, which involves dealing with sociology, anthropology, environment, institutions. After the study of certain territories and conflicting realities, the artist becomes a producer of ideas and the conductor of behaviors and practices meant to stimulate consciousness and awareness. The direct participation of human resources, as well as the reliance on forces and materials available in situ, are often crucial for the success of such art projects. We will examine specific works of older and younger generation of artists, from Christo and Jean Claude to Rirkrit Tiravanija and the Italians Alberto Garutti and Cesare Pietroiusti. This course aims both at examining important projects of public art, social intervention, street art, happening, and at teaching the know-how behind those practices, in order to arrive to the production of a project involving the public of Florence in different degrees.

#### **FA MM EF 400 Art in the Expanded Field**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) Inspired by Rosalind Krauss's study "Sculpture in the Expanded Field", the course offers both a practical and a theoretical approach to methods, history, poetics and technologies associated with installation art. Through its historic background in the European avant-gardes and conceptual art of the 60s and 70s, we will observe the current relevance of installation as a process and as a strategy. Students will be asked to respond to different categories of space and their schemes to accumulate and transform them as well. They will develop a personal installation project that will involve the specific context of Florence, a city offering complex case studies regarding contrasts between public and private, historical and contemporary, local and foreign, central and peripheral. Students' projects may include use of various technologies, video, sound or digital images.

#### **PS IN TA 420 Teaching Assistant Internship**

3 semester credits (90 contact hours)

Cross-listed from school of Professional Studies (PS), department of Internships

### **DEPARTMENT OF PAINTING AND DRAWING (PD)**

Designed to lead students through their educational path, from the acquisition of basic skills to the complete definition of an artistic career, this department offers a solid and articulated curriculum in the core courses of painting and drawing, examine various techniques, genres, and methods. Students are introduced to traditional, fundamental

subjects such as Anatomy or Foundation Drawing and then followed towards more contemporary, experimental themes and techniques using the most diverse technologies and media.

#### **FA PD FD 120 Foundation Drawing**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) Working from still life and the natural and urban surroundings of the city of Florence, the student will learn the basic techniques of drawing, perspective, proportion, and composition. Students will explore the different media of drawing: pencil, charcoal, pen and ink. Group and individual critiques are an integral part of this course.

#### **FA PD FP 120 Foundation Painting**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) This course teaches beginning students the fundamental principles and techniques of painting, focusing on oil painting and exploring figurative subjects such as still life. Students will learn the build-up of form, tone and color, shading and highlighting on a two-dimensional surface, using the principles of perspective and drawing to portray a convincing pictorial space. Emphasis will be given to the theories of colors, forms, and composition. Practical demonstrations will alternate with lectures supplemented by slide shows and visits to Florentine museums to examine oil paintings first hand.

#### **FA PD FP 200 Fresco Painting**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) The aim of this combined studio art/lecture course is to introduce fresco painting (wall painting) to students who have not necessarily studied art history or acquired any form of artistic training. This course explains what fresco painting is and why it became one of the most important painting techniques in Renaissance Italy. Using a radically new and exciting approach to understanding this painting technique and the historical and political contexts in which these masterpieces were created, students will leave the course with a unique understanding of frescoes and their golden age. The primary focus of this course is to provide students with an intimate experience of how a fresco is created. They will be handling the basic ingredients of fresco painting, i.e. sand, lime, stone, stucco and mineral pigments, to create their own frescoes using traditional techniques. The aim of this course is an understanding of fresco technique and therefore focuses on process rather than the final product. An integral part of the course are the site visits to ascend the scaffolding in Florentine churches and palaces to witness at first hand the restoration of great fresco cycles normally closed to the public.

#### **FA PD ID 220 Intermediate Drawing**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) In this drawing course figure models are used to build an extensive knowledge of anatomy and the structure of the body. Along with their own explorations, students will be introduced to the Italian Renaissance's focus on the human form through museum visits and slide lectures. Students will also focus on understanding "figure and ground" the relationship between the volume of a figure and the space which surrounds it. Students will explore different techniques through the use of traditional black and white as well as color media. Group and individual critiques are an integral part of the course. Students will also work on the development of a work or a body of works for the end of the year exhibition project (this does not apply to summer sessions). Prerequisites: Foundation Drawing or equivalent.

#### **FA PD IP 220 Intermediate Painting**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) This course builds on the basic elements of painting introduced in the foundation level course. The technical study of oil painting continues with a focus upon the nude human form through the use of figure models. Students will be guided through the challenges of color, composition, value and pictorial dynamics. This progressive building up of skills is balanced by the encouragement of the emerging personal



artistic expression of each student. Group and individual critiques serve to analyze this personal expression as much as to monitor the mastering of the technical skills of painting. Visits to exhibits in Florence of contemporary painting will form part of the course. Prerequisites: Foundation Painting

### **FA PD RS 225 Riviera Sketchbook**

3 semester credits (45 lecture hours) This course is designed to take full advantage of the student's unique experiences living and studying in the Italian Riviera. With on-site inspiration channeled into artistic creativity, students will draw on location at sites of historical significance and visual interest, ranging from architectural masterpieces, landscape vistas and historic streets to formal gardens, street markets and fountains. Slide lectures will document the rich history of how the area and its environs have attracted and inspired visiting artists for centuries. Students will develop individual sketchbooks with the aim of building up source material for future projects.

### **FA PD FS 225 Florence Sketchbook**

3 semester credits (45 lecture hours) This course is designed to take full advantage of the student's unique experiences living and studying in the city of Florence. With on-site inspiration channeled into artistic creativity, students will draw on location at sites of historical significance and visual interest, ranging from architectural masterpieces, landscape vistas and medieval streets to formal gardens, street markets and Renaissance fountains. Slide lectures will document the rich history of how Florence and its environs have attracted and inspired visiting artists for centuries. Students will develop individual sketchbooks with the aim of building up source material for future projects.

### **FA PD IC 250 Strips and Balloons: Illustration and Cartooning Arts**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) This course will teach students how to communicate their own articulated narrative or somebody else's stories either via a single panel or via a complete graphic novel. Students will learn the ABC for illustrators and cartoonists, such as composition, pencil drawing, inking, hand coloring and hand lettering. Since for illustrators and cartoonists good drawing is not as essential as the ability of capturing and translating a complex text into a visual product, part of the course will be dedicated to writing for cartoons and to plot development. By the end of the course students will produce their own graphic novel.

Cross-listed to Visual Communication (Digital Imaging and Visual Arts).

### **FA PD CA 280 Drawing Anatomy: the Human and Animal Figure**

3 semester credits (45 lecture hours)

This upper-level course will build on previous figure drawing and the study of anatomy. Students will examine the similarities and differences among human, primate and quadruped structures and will draw from human and animal figures, life models, human anatomy models as well as preserved animals at La Specola museum. Students will complete a semester project that synthesizes their understanding of comparative anatomy.

Prerequisites: Intermediate Drawing or equivalent.

### **FA PD BD 300 Batik and Dyeing**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) This course covers the techniques of traditional batik such as wax-resist and immersion dyeing, silk painting, paste resist, and the shibori tied-dyed and shaped-resist techniques. Students will practice dyeing processes and will work with color. Other fiber techniques like quilting and sewing, used to finish and embellish the dyeing processes, will be introduced.

Prerequisites: Foundation Painting.

Cross-listed to Fashion Design and Technology (Fashion and Accessory Studies and Technology).

### **LA AH MA 320**

#### **Marble Arts: From Michelangelo's Scalpel to Contemporary Practices**

3 semester credits (45 lecture hours) From classical times to the present day, the quarries in Carrara have been supplying the purest white marble, an element favored by protagonist Michelangelo Buonarroti, who has given the area one of the most intriguing roles in art history. Marble sculpture is present in memorials, propaganda, public palaces and private mansions; it will be considered for its idea of incorruptibility, man's efforts to borrow from nature and transform the material into art and beauty. This course will examine the history of marble sculpture, with a special focus on the artists and monuments that have succeeded in making their marble "speak" (as sculptor Gianlorenzo Bernini used to say). We will start with classical sculpture, continue with Nicola and Giovanni Pisano, up to the Renaissance and artists such as Bernini and Canova. The work of Michelangelo Buonarroti will be analyzed in depth for his sculptural methods and his passionate relationship with the quarries. The course will conclude with a focus on modern manifestations such as the Biennale di Carrara featuring contemporary artists who continue to be inspired by the noble material.

### **FA PD AD 320 Advanced Drawing**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) In this challenging course we will focus on mastering the formal elements of drawing (line, tone, space and composition) to put these at the service of expressivity and creative goals. Throughout the duration of the course students will strengthen technical skills using different materials and dealing with complex issues inherent to the drawing, such as figure and object drawing, synthesis and expression. We will also examine the role of drawing today as producer of meaning within different environments and contexts. A theoretical component of the course, consisting of discussions and critiques, will supplement the studio practice. Students will also work on the development of a work or body of works for the end of the year exhibition project (this does not apply to summer sessions).

Prerequisite: Intermediate Drawing or equivalent.

### **FA PD SL 325 Still Life Painting in Oils**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) In this course the student will be concentrating on fundamental principles of still life painting in oil. Particular emphasis is placed on the perception and build-up of form, tone and color on a two-dimensional surface. Measurements and proportions of still life subject matter such as fruit, vegetables and drinking vessels, by means of creative expression, will be studied to determine space, volume and composition. Various brushwork and surface quality techniques will be investigated as well as color theory, tone, light and dark, value and color interaction. Since observation is so important, students will learn how to see and transfer information onto canvas in a skillful manner, bringing forth his/her own personal expression and interpretation. Through technical and theoretical information combined with critical analysis, each student will learn how to make a still life oil painting come alive. A visit to the Palazzo Pitti painting collection is part of this course.

### **FA PD WC 330 Watercolor and Tempera/Gouache Techniques**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) This course is aimed at students who are interested in focusing on watercolor, tempera and gouache techniques. This course is based on modern painting techniques along with classical structure. Form, value, and proportions will be studied as means of determining space, shape, volume and composition. Emphasis on transparent watercolor techniques including the exploration of mixed media. Learning various brushwork techniques, interaction of shapes, of color, of negative and positive space will be thoroughly investigated so as to create vital, alive and fluid watercolors. The aim is to reinforce each student's level of observation, interpretation and critical ability, to allow a natural and skillful approach toward watercolor painting.

### **FA PD AP 350 Advanced Painting**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) This is a rigorous course which allows advanced students to work on individual projects, developing their strengths, and working on areas of weakness. Student will emerge from the course not only having developed a "personal language" but also having attained a high level of technical competence in traditional methods and materials. Students will also have considerable practice time in non-traditional techniques and methods. Challenging individual critiques are an important component of this course and out-of-town field trips, including the Museum of Contemporary Art in Prato, are included. Prerequisites: Intermediate Painting or equivalent.

### **FA PD PN 380 Painting the New**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) This course introduces students to various aspects affecting painting today by exploring practical and conceptual issues within contemporary art. Practice with resins and synthetic paint, alternative materials, supports and spaces are crucial for this course. Technical expansiveness, theoretical development and the role of the visual experience are explored through projects and class discussion. This course includes out-of-town field trips to contemporary art sites and exhibitions. Prerequisites: Intermediate Painting or equivalent.

### **PS IN TA 420 Teaching Assistant Internship**

3 semester credits (90 contact hours)

Cross-listed from school of Professional Studies (PS), department of Internships

### **FA PD PP 450 Professional Practices in the Fine Arts**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) This course prepares students for the business aspects of a career in the fine arts. The course's focus is on the preparation of a student's portfolio and résumé. The student will learn about practices such as: copyright, record keeping, creation of a personal website, contracts and shipping. The student will also receive credit for writing and talking publicly about their personal artistic vision. Search strategies for employment in Europe and elsewhere, and for accessing galleries, grants and residencies are taught. Prerequisites: Intermediate Painting/Advanced Painting or equivalent.

## **DEPARTMENT OF PRINTMAKING (PM)**

A wide range of printing techniques are offered by this department in fully equipped laboratories which are external to the school premises. Printing methods covered here are various and use different supports such as wood, paper, textiles, etc.

### **FA PM PM 200 Printmaking Beginning**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) This course introduces students to basic printmaking processes and equipment. A variety of print media are covered, including monotype, relief, intaglio and lithography. Equal emphasis will be placed on concept and technique. Students will work on the development of multiple, one-of-a-kind images. Slide lectures will provide students with a brief visual history of printmaking from Renaissance times to the present day.

### **FA PM MT 250 Monotypes / Mixed Processes**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) This course investigates combined monotype techniques, including both water and oil-based media. The emphasis will be on the combination of painting with printmaking processes. Over-printing, transfer techniques and stenciling are covered, using both single and multiple-plate processes. Prerequisite: Basic Printmaking skills useful but not essential.

### **FA PM ST 300 Silkscreening Textile Printing and Design**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) This is a textile surface design course with an emphasis on learning textile design patterns and on realizing printed fabrics. Assignments will cover design exercises, sources of inspiration, pattern repeat systems, preparation of designs for printing, registration and printing of lengths of fabric. Prerequisites: Foundation Painting. Cross-listed to Fashion Design and Technology (Fashion and Accessory Studies and Technology)

### **FA PM WC 320 Woodcut**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) Students will be given an introductory slide lecture on the history of this ancient technique of printing. They will learn how it was revived in the twentieth century, providing a significant contribution to modern and contemporary art. In the studio, students will learn how to prepare the wood-panel matrix and how to print in black and white. In the second part of the course, students will learn how to print in color using multiple blocks. Prerequisites: Proficiency in drawing is essential; Printmaking Beginning is useful but not mandatory.

### **FA PM PM 400 Printmaking Intermediate**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) This course is designed as a printmaking workshop with emphasis on individual projects. Further development of the etching technique will be stressed. Emphasis is placed on the specific process and continued development in a special topic area. The students will also experiment with soft ground, aquatint, spit bite, crayon, pastel, drypoint, etching color, mixed media, and experimental techniques. The art and technique of reproducing and printing metal zinc plates will be further elaborated and developed. Inspiration will come in connection with painting, sculpture and drawing advanced courses. Prerequisites: Printmaking Beginning or equivalent.

### **PS IN TA 420 Teaching Assistant Internship**

3 semester credits (90 contact hours)

Cross-listed from school of Professional Studies (PS), department of Internships

## **DEPARTMENT OF RESTORATION (RE)**

The Department of Restoration is one of the most recent institutions of **FUA** School of Fine Arts. It is structured around the sound, longtime Florentine tradition in restoration and around a wide, important artistic network created by those who made Florence one of the world's capitals of this discipline. Wood, painting and marble and stone restoration (just to mention only some of the subjects offered) will be learned and practiced in notable, external laboratories and workshops.

### **FA RE HR 250 History of Restoration and Conservation**

3 semester credits (45 lecture hours) This course presents the basic concepts and systems of the restoration process. The material is presented in a generic format with lecture, visual presentation, case studies and hands-on instruction. The topics covered are history of water damage restoration and standard dry procedures, fire and smoke damage restoration, microbial damage restoration, odor elimination, health and safety.

### **FA RE WR 260 Wood Furniture Restoration**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) While developing practical skills in the main techniques of wood cleaning, consolidation, mold making, sawing, decoration, finishing such as lacquering, French polishing, and waxing, the students of this course will also learn the history of the styles, the materials of certain regions, and the techniques adopted over the times to make furniture and art products. The theoretical approach will especially be emphasized in

the phases of analysis of the damage and problem solving, in order to make decisions for the specific cases. The class will discuss all the issues in group, in order to find the best solution for any single piece, since in restoration every product is different.

#### **FA RE PR 270**

##### **Painting Restoration**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) Works of art of the past, as well as those of modern times, need care and preservation. This course is meant to give students the awareness of what type of intervention paintings from the Renaissance to the 19th century need, and to have students directly intervene on those with the most innovative restoration techniques. Held in an actual restoration workshop which has worked for the most important museums and private patrons, the course is taught by a professional who has developed methods that have proved successful in many fields. From surface cleaning, to consolidation of color, to reinforcement and reconstruction of the painting support, the course will give students a deep knowledge of painting materials, and of the appropriate techniques to intervene on their preservation and conservation.

#### **FA RE GT 280**

##### **Gilding Technique**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) This course will teach students different methods of applying gold on old as well as new frames for restoration and gilding. Students will become familiar with ancient techniques and materials, and they will develop a wide range of skills: from cleaning and mould making for frames, to bole, gilding, and craqueleing for paintings. The course balances art history lectures and practical demonstrations, in order to give the student a conceptual grounding in the field.

#### **FA RE ST 330**

##### **Marble and Stone Restoration**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) Due to its immense artistic patrimony, over the years Florence has developed a relevant know-how in restoration of stones and marbles, applicable not only to historical buildings, but also to their decorations, moldings, coats of arms, and certainly to statues and to the famous "commesso" (the Florentine intarsio of precious and semi-precious stones). The course will teach students traditional techniques of carving and replacements, as well as the latest technologies applied to the field, such as laser cleaning and cutting, and reintegration with synthetic materials. Attention will be given to contemporary issues in the field, such as reversibility of the interventions and the balance between maintenance and restoration.

#### **FA RE CA 350**

##### **Contemporary Art Restoration**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) "Contemporary art gets old earlier than modern art!" This is the evident premise that made restoration science develop faster and more specialized in contemporary art in comparison to other disciplines. How do we approach the restoration of synthetic paint, resins and glues? How do we reinstate the original rust of corten steel? How can we reintegrate a mixed media work, when the consistency of its material deteriorate differently? What is the destiny of an environmental work of art, if neither the artist, nor the institutions have left directions on its preservation? The novelty of the field makes contemporary art restoration very controversial. If it is important to have the know-how and skills to intervene practically on an art piece of today, it is also crucial to be aware of legal issues, chemistry, and recent art history. While restoring specific works of art, the class will therefore analyze case studies for a better comprehension of the course.

## **DEPARTMENT OF SCULPTURE (SC)**

This Department offers courses focusing on sculpture at the beginning, intermediate and advanced levels, offered in laboratories which are external to the school premises.

#### **FA SC SB 300**

##### **Making Sculpture by Bending**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) Mainly pictured on pedestals and associated to perennial presentness and consistency, sculpture can also be imagined and realized as a three-dimensional drawing where the outline becomes the perimeter. This course teaches students how to make sculpture by folding and bending, starting with strings and other linear materials such as iron and glass bars. By bending these elements and suspending them in space, students will learn to visualize today's ephemeral reality.

This course is also offered as a seminar for 1 semester credit, 15 lecture hours. The regular semester class will introduce students to the subject and then focus on the area of study, while the seminar will focus on the specialized area of study.

#### **FA SC FS 310**

##### **Foundation Sculpture**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) Through the study of sculpture in abstract or realistic modes, students develop their ability using different, traditional sculptural media such as wax, plaster and clay. This course has a strong emphasis on the developments of basic technical skills for the creation of bas-reliefs, high reliefs and more complex three dimensional forms, and all-around pieces. Basic casting techniques will also be introduced. By learning technical skills, the nature of different materials and their proper and more experimental use, students will learn how to channel their specific artistic identity and individual sensibility, and they will expand the possibility to express their own creativity through the arts.

#### **FA SC IS 400**

##### **Intermediate Sculpture**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours)

This course is for students who investigate the sculptural materials, processes, and methods through projects dealing with modeling, casting and assembling. Examining traditional and contemporary concerns of sculpture through projects, demonstrations and by analyzing contemporary and ancient sculptures as well.

Prerequisites: Foundation Sculpture or equivalent.

#### **PS IN TA 420**

##### **Teaching Assistant Internship**

3 semester credits (90 contact hours)

Cross-listed from school of Professional Studies (PS), Department of Internships

#### **FA SC AS 490**

##### **Advanced Sculpture**

3 semester credits (90 hours: 45 lecture hours - 45 studio hours) Continuation of the Sculpture sequence with greater emphasis on developing the student's unique and individual direction. Advanced projects in mold making, carving with wood, tufa stone and non-traditional sculpture materials are assigned. Students will also work on the development of a work or a body of works for the end of the year exhibition project (this does not apply to summer sessions). Course content varies from semester to semester and is geared toward student needs and desires.

Prerequisites: Intermediate Sculpture or equivalent.