Santa Reparata International School of Art
Florence, Italy
Santa Reparata International School of Art was founded in 1970 as the Santa Reparata Graphic Art Centre by Dennis Olsen, Giuseppe Gattuso and Michael Schnorr; three artists who wished to provide a professional workshop for established printmakers and interested students. Within a year there were participants from various parts of Europe and North America; contract printing for local artists; and open studio space available for professionals in need of a specialized workspace for creating prints. Simultaneously, the workshop became a resource for several American colleges that sent instructor-led groups to study during the summer months. Though modest in size by today’s standards, the Centre attracted an impressive array of artists, many of whom are nationally and internationally recognized. Over the years Santa Reparata provided workspace and contract printing for Antonio Zavier and Raffaele Bueno, Sandro Chia, Renato Ranaldi, Giovanni Ragusa, James McGarrell, and many others.

By the end of the 1990’s, the student population had outgrown the studio and the Graphic Art Centre was transformed into the Santa Reparata International School of Art (SRISA). The school has expanded with three campus locations, and continues to grow.

SRISA has increased its academic year and summer offerings to include the numerous programs that now comprise a much broader curriculum of Fine Arts (painting, drawing, photography, book arts, printmaking, 3D & 4D), Liberal Arts (art history, history, museum studies, cinema, literature, Italian language and culture), and Design (fashion, textiles, jewelry, interior, and communication design).
About SRISA: SRISA is a non-profit higher education institution and a leading international art and design school in Italy. SRISA provides accredited programs of study including: academic semester, year, summer, internships, as well as post-graduate studies. Courses are accredited through Maryville University. Non-credit short-term courses and workshops are also offered throughout the year.

The Mission of SRISA is to provide a rigorous and supportive learning environment that fosters in its students a desire to learn, explore, create and participate.

SRISA emphasizes:

Skill Development: SRISA provides a solid foundation of the skills necessary for success within the arts, design, and liberal arts fields.

Research: SRISA encourages and fosters the idea that learning is an ongoing process that continues throughout one’s life. SRISA provides the platform necessary for students to continue research and learning after formal education has ended.

Critical Thinking: Critical thinking is what draws the line between information and knowledge. The foundation of each course is based on connecting academic information to experiential knowledge.

Rigor: SRISA is committed to creating an environment that is both rigorous and supportive. The faculty is dedicated to offering a challenging curriculum that aims for the highest standards at the university level.

Community: In an increasingly global world, the importance of community has never been more important. SRISA staff and faculty create a supportive and collaborative environment for students. This united academic body is at the heart of what makes SRISA exceptional.

SRISA believes that a balanced curriculum of fine art and academic courses provides the most comprehensive experience for students who have chosen Florence as their place of study. Course offerings in Liberal Arts and Cultural Studies complement the studio disciplines to provide students with an intellectual framework and historical context for their creative work. Within each discipline, course activities present a combination of traditional approaches and new technologies for the pursuit of artistic ideas. SRISA is committed to providing a well-trained professional faculty and modern facilities to give students highly personalized instruction that conforms to the expectations and requirements of an American university curriculum.
the PEOPLE

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Faculty
The SRISA Faculty team is comprised of an exceptional group of full-time and adjunct instructors whose participation extends beyond the classroom; creating a strong sense of community and unity that makes the study abroad experience at SRISA unique.

Fine Arts
Patricia Silva, MFA, Printmaking and Book Arts
Andrew Smaldone, MA, Painting and Drawing
Dr. Gloria Marco Munuera, Ph.D., Photography
Justin Randall Thompson, MFA, 3-D and 4-D Sculpture

Liberal Arts
Dr. Tina Fallani, Italian Cinema and Food as Culture
Dr. Lorenzo Pubblici, Ph.D., Italian History and Anthropology
Dr. Matteo Zanpi, Ph.D., Italian Language, Literature and Culture
Dr. Pietro Gagliano, Contemporary Art History and Criticism
Dr. Martina Ghirandelli, Art History and Women’s Studies
Dr. Tiziana Landra, Art History
Alexandra Lawrence, MA, Creative and Travel Writing

Design
Enrico Guidato, Fashion Design
Sophie Springer, Fashion Design
Kathleen Krippel, MFA, Textile Design
Dr. Coloma Pecchioli, Interior Architecture
Dr. Ingrid Lamminpää, Communication Design

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the SRISA Campuses

**Main Campus**
Piazza Indipendenza 4
Located in the heart of Florence. The main campus houses the liberal arts classrooms, library, lounge and administrative offices.

**San Gallo Campus**
Via San Gallo 53r
A five minute walk from the main campus, the San Gallo Campus houses the painting and drawing studios, Printmaking and Photography Department and the Design Lab and Fashion Studios.

**Studio 3D Campus**
Via Santa Reparata 19r
Located across the street from the San Gallo Campus, these large 3D and 4D studios house the SRISA Student Gallery, sculpture facilities, new media areas and individual student workspaces for advanced students.

**Art Studio Fuji**
Via Guelfa 85
Art Studio Fuji is where SRISA students attend courses in jewelry making, textile design and silkscreen printmaking.

**SRISA Gallery**
Via San Gallo 49r
The SRISA Gallery is located in the San Gallo campus and visible from the street. This 300 sq ft. space is used exclusively to house international exhibitions as well as the student exhibition at the end of each term.
SRISA Programs

**FALL-SPRING-SUMMER PROGRAMS (FOR CREDIT)**

**Study Abroad Semester and Year Long Program**
Fall and Spring semesters are 15 weeks long and students enroll in 13-16 credit hours. Studying abroad for a semester or year gives students the opportunity to become settled in their Florentine environment and partake in cultural immersion opportunities.

**Study Abroad - Summer Program**
The Summer Program at SRISA provides students with a brief but intense study abroad experience. The summer program is organized into two sessions: the first session takes place from May to June and the second session runs from June to July. Students can combine academic lecture courses with hands-on studio courses for an enriching learning experience. Students may take a maximum of 1 studio art course per session.

**POST-BACCALAUREATE PROGRAM**
The Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Visual Arts Program runs for 15 weeks, during the Fall semester. The Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Visual Arts is an intensive program open to graduates and practicing artists. This four month long intensive program is for artists seeking to build and work on a professional portfolio experience through the use of the Italian language.

**STUDIO ART RESIDENCY**
SRISA's month-long courses provide independent students an opportunity to study in Florence on a non-credit basis. These courses are available year round in Painting, Fashion Design, Interior Design and Photography. Courses are taught by bilingual professors in English and Italian to aid students who wish to immediately enrich their study abroad experience through the use of the Italian language.

**INTERNSHIPS**
SRISA's internship program invites students to gain work experience in an international environment. Areas of interest include Photography, Journalism, Communication Design, Marketing, Art, Fashion, and Interior Design. Students are also advised on portfolio presentation, CV development, and interviewing skills.
The SRISA Gallery is a non-profit, non-commercial exhibition space located on the San Gallo campus. Working both independently and in conjunction with local and internationally known curators, the SRISA Gallery committee selects between 5-7 gallery exhibitions per year that run from one to two months each during the months of September through April. The gallery provides a forum for art produced within the Italian territory as well as internationally by established artists and shares a commitment to new and diverse forms of artistic practice, including exhibitions of performance and installation art.

The vision of the gallery is to curate and present contemporary art exhibitions and educational programs that support the ideals of the institution while enhancing the dialogue around diversity within contemporary cultural practice and supporting artists, professors, and students in their academic and professional development. In fact, during the summer months, SRISA invites members of the artistic community, visiting faculty and alumni to participate in both individual and group exhibitions in the various gallery spaces located in both studio art campuses. At the conclusion of each term SRISA students, under the tutelage of the faculty, are given the opportunity to show the work they have completed during their time in Florence.
FACULTY led & Customized Programs

Hosting over 30 universities and 50 faculty every year, SRISA is one of the leading host institutions in Florence for Customized and Faculty-Led Programs.

Terms: Summer • Winter Break • Fall and Spring

HOW IT WORKS

Every year over fifty visiting professors bring their students abroad in a purposeful intercultural college experience. SRISA helps visiting faculty build their abroad program so that they may focus on teaching rather than managing the logistical challenges of being abroad. Programs submit proposals one to two years in advance. The competitive and flexible pricing structure, excellent services, and years of experience make SRISA a leader in customized programing.

WHAT WE OFFER

Hosted Programs and Visiting faculty utilize the existing SRISA infrastructure, studios, and services, including:

• classroom facilities
• studio art facilities
• housing for students and faculty
• field trip coordination
• program administration
• orientation and emergency assistance
• cultural seminars and activities
• SRISA course offerings to augment the program

WHAT WE OFFER

“Thanks to one of my students who spent a fall semester at SRISA, the VCU Fashion in Florence Program was created. Our program has run uninterrupted since 2008. The faculty and staff at SRISA are incredible to work with and eager to help in any way to make our programs successful.”

Kimberly Guthrie, Assistant Chair, VCU Department of Fashion Design and Merchandising

FACULTY TESTIMONIAL
SRISA seeks to provide each student with a collaborative and productive learning environment and appropriate tools to reach their goals through study abroad. From the enrollment process, our registrar and administrative staff work hard to ensure that the transition from home to Florence goes smoothly. SRISA provides pre-departure packets and a Skype info session, study visa information, emergency contact procedures, and a comprehensive orientation once students arrive in Florence.

Orientation Week
Upon arrival in Florence, SRISA provides housing assistance and check-in, health and safety overview, maps, vendor meetings for cellular phone and permit of stay, campus walk-through, and refreshments. Over the next five days, students attend an Italian language workshop (semester programs) and Art and Culture Seminar, which includes practical walking tours, culinary events, and group events to help facilitate the integration of each student to the new environment of Florence. Throughout the semester the Art and Culture Seminar continues on a weekly basis.

Housing
Students are housed in residential apartments located within a maximum 20-minute walk from the main campus. Apartments vary in size with a combination of single and double bedrooms (4-6 people average per apartment). All apartments are fully furnished with the essential necessities for independent living.

Activities
The academic program at SRISA is enhanced with beyond-the-classroom learning, extra-curricular activities, field trips, museum visits, guest lecturers, welcome dinners, receptions, gallery exhibits in the SRISA Gallery of Contemporary Art, fashion shows, and student art shows. These events create a dynamic interaction for students in their new Florentine environment.

Language Exchange
Students have the opportunity to meet other local Italian students by participating in a city sponsored language exchange. Students practice their Italian language skills by conversing with local Italian students. Naturally, students are encouraged to interact on a daily basis with SRISA Faculty and Staff and to take every opportunity to converse with the Italian community.

Field Trips
Each semester SRISA coordinates excursions to numerous important destinations in Italy. Field trips that are typically offered every year include: Venice, Rome, Naples, Pompeii, and Milan. SRISA sponsored optional trips are often led by SRISA faculty with itineraries including guided visits to museums and historically important sites as well as giving students the opportunity to explore the city on their own. Field trips include transportation, hotel accommodations on over-night excursions, museum entrance fees, guided tours, and group meals when possible.

Student’s well-being is of primary importance to SRISA.
why choose SRISA?

- **Top Studio Art and Design Facilities**
  SRISA studio art and design facilities are considered one of the best in Florence. The large workspace, commitment to safety and contemporary studio spaces make studying at SRISA one of the best choices for serious art and design students.

- **Sense of Community**
  Most students agree that what makes SRISA so unique is its strong sense of community. The faculty and staff are committed to making the student experience enriching and personal, to ensure that students feel that SRISA is their home and safety net while in Italy. Professors enhance learning beyond the classroom and connect with students in social and academic environments.

- **Top Rate Instruction**
  The excellent faculty includes American, Italian and international instructors with terminal or equivalent degrees. Professors at SRISA are currently active in their discipline. They inspire students and transmit passion for creating art and learning. All faculty are fluent in English and have worked for many years within the US academic system of instruction and the style of teaching and course organization meets and exceeds the expectations of matriculating American university students.

- **Teaching Methodology**
  SRISA’s team of professors encourage students to learn beyond the syllabus. The syllabus sets the tone, but the faculty also push students further with their own ideas and creativity. One of the faculty’s main goals is to show students how to become critical thinking individuals within the contemporary environment that surrounds them. The dedication shown by the professors at SRISA is second to none and is never about teaching only during class time.

- **Student-Faculty Ratio**
  Class sizes average 8-12 students, allowing for more individualized attention and personal workspace, as well as the opportunity to attend special events and exclusive exhibits.

“Studying abroad at SRISA was an amazing experience that I’ll forever remember! I was able to build great relationships with the people I’ve met at SRISA.”

Mari Ramirez

“I really like the professors at SRISA. They have a very different teaching style from what I’m used to in Russia. Here, the professors treat you as an individual and allow you to express yourself independently. It has been a great experience, and I have grown professionally. Study Art and Design in Florence!”

Anna Markevich
FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT

Photography
Discovering Florence Through Photography
Digital Photography
Introduction to Photography
Advanced Photography
Experimental Photography
Florence by Night: Light Painting and Stop-Motion Digital Photography
The History of Photography: A Hands-on Approach

Painting and Drawing
Painting I, II, III
On-Site Painting

Renaissance Painting Techniques
Drawing I, II, III
Figure Drawing
Drawing in the Expanded Field
Drawing: Florence
Advanced Studio: Painting and Drawing Independent Project: Art and Design

Printmaking and Book Arts
Printmaking I, II
Printmaking: Expanding the Matrix
Monotype Printmaking
Serigraphy
Printmaking and Book Arts

Book Arts
Advanced Book Arts
The Artist Book
The History of the Book: A Hands-on Approach

3D and 4D
Sculpture: The Medium is the Message
Fibers as Art
Installation Art
Performance Art
Video and Sound as Art
New Genres: Video, Sound, Performance, and Installation

DESIGN DEPARTMENT

Fashion Design
Clothing and Society
Collection Development
Creative Accessories Design
Fashion Illustration I, II
Garment Construction I, II
Fashion Design Studio: Illustration and Construction
History of Italian Fashion
Patternmaking
Topics in Fashion Design: The Italian Fashion Industry
Topics in Fashion Design: Italian Fashion and Hollywood
Trends Forecasting
History of Italian Fashion
Fashion Merchandising
Fashion Research and History
Sustainable Fashion & Ethical Clothing

Textile Design
Fabric Design: Batik
Fabric Design: Silkscreen
Fabric Design: Weaving

Jewelry Design
Jewelry I, II, III

Communication Design
Graphic Design Studio
Design and Social Movements in History
Print and Media Design
Interactive Media Design
Typography

Interior Architecture
History of Interiors
Material, Light, and Surface
Interior Design “Small Spaces” Studio
Sketchbook Studies: Italian Architecture and Interiors
LIBERAL ARTS DEPARTMENT

Art History
- Early Gothic to High Renaissance
- The Italian Renaissance
- Michelangelo, Caravaggio and Bernini
- The Quattrocento (15th Century)
- The Cinquecento (16th Century)
- Florentine Mannerism
- Art in Tuscany: Romanesque to Gothic
- Art New: Contemporary Trends in Europe
- History of Contemporary Art
- Feminism in Art
- Twentieth Century Italian Art
- The History of Photography: A Hands-on Approach
- The History of the Book: A Hands-on Approach
- History of Interiors

History
- History of Modern Italy
- History of Florence
- Ancient Roman History
- Ancient Roman & Etruscan Civilizations
- History of Medieval and Renaissance Italy
- History of Italian Mafia
- Italians Abroad: History of Italian Migration, 1861 to the Present

Literature and Writing
- Contemporary Italian Literature
- Creative Writing
- Travel Writing
- Dante’s Inferno
- 14th Century Italian Literature: Dante, Boccaccio, Petrarch
- English Literature: Florence and the Grand Tour

Communications
- New Media: Marketing and Social Media

Gender Studies
- Feminism in Art
- Gender, Sexuality and Marriage in Renaissance Italy
- Important Women in Italian History, Art and Society

Political Science and Economics
- Contemporary Italy: Literature, Cinema, Politics and Culture
- Italian Politics and Government
- The European Union
- The Economic History of Europe

Marketing and Business
- Brand Promotion in the Digital Environment
- Marketing: The Italian Wine Industry
- Introduction to Fashion Marketing

Italian Language
- Italian I
- Italian II
- Italian III
- Italian IV
- Qui Si Parla Italiano! Italian Conversation

ITALIAN LANGUAGE
- Italian I
- Italian II
- Italian III
- Italian IV
- Qui Si Parla Italiano! Italian Conversation

Marketing and Business
- Brand Promotion in the Digital Environment
- Marketing: The Italian Wine Industry
- Introduction to Fashion Marketing

Italian Studies
- History of Italian Opera
- Food as Culture: Italian Cooking and Culinary Tradition
- History of Italian Soccer
- Italian Cinema: 1942 to Present
- History of Italian Fashion
The Darkroom Facilities
The SRISA Darkroom has 5 Durst and 3 Omega enlargers, including large format Omega D-2, full ventilation and air exchange unit, and an island developing sink. The production area is fully ventilated and has 6 film developing stations, large tables, electric film dryer, electric RC paper dryer, light table, and paper cutters. The critique and production area is suitable for up to 14 students.

Students and professionals regularly use Solarplates, Zac*ryl, and ImageOn films to create intaglio plates.

The Digital Lab
The SRISA Computer Lab is a fully equipped Macintosh lab. The lab has flatbed scanners, slide scanner, and projectors. Software includes the most up-to-date versions of Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Google Sketch-up, and Microsoft office.

“My teaching method stresses the importance of conceptual thinking. I feel it is vital for any teacher to continue with their professional practice both to update skills but also to continue to feed inspiration and elements of the changing practice to their students.”

Dr. Gloria Marco Munuera, Ph.D.
Professor of Photography
FINE ARTS: Printmaking & Book Arts

The Department
The SRISA Printmaking Department offers one of the best-equipped and most broad-ranging print facilities in Italy. Students have a full range of technical possibilities, including Relief Printing, Etching, Stone Lithography, Photo-mechanical Processes, Oil and Water-based Monoprinting, Letterpress, Bookbinding, Papermaking, and Digital Technology. Many classes incorporate a wide variety of mediums, and students can pursue crossover techniques in which a number of processes are used. Students at SRISA are able to move back and forth from letterpress to the computer, from the computer to the press, and from the press to the darkroom in a seamless fashion.

Course Structure
Semester studio classes meet for two three-hour sessions per week, and students have ample time outside of class during the week and weekends. Classes consist of lectures, demonstrations, and open studio. During summer sessions classes meet four days per week four-hours each and students have the same additional access as the semester students.

Patricia Silva, MFA Professor of Printmaking & Book Arts

facilities
Book Arts/ Etching/ Monoprinting/ Lithography/ Relief Printing: Bendini Motorized Press 100 cm bed, Bendini hand press 70 cm press bed, Takach 70 cm press bed, Conrad etching press 30 cm press bed, inking stations with hotplates, exposure units, copy camera, plate shear, print drying area, and storage of prints, PlexiGlas plates for monoprints, silhouette lazer cutter/printer. Swiss made Letterpresses with motorized inking and press beds 40 cm x 60 cm. The school has a large number of lead fonts and a valuable collection of rare wooden type in very large sizes. Alternative process darkroom for photomechanical printmaking.

“In my teaching, I try to share with my students a broad vocabulary of techniques that they can then utilize to give voice to their imaginations. Through mutual questioning and exploration, I hope to facilitate and enliven my students’ search for their individual artistic vision.”
The Department
Drawing and Painting courses at SRISA offer students the opportunity to develop a technical, formal and intellectual understanding of painting and drawing while having a wealth of historically important masterpieces available to study first-hand. Students are encouraged to develop a strong understanding of the relationship between historical ideas and modern and contemporary artistic practice.

Facilities
Students taking painting and drawing courses at SRISA have access to a large, well-lit studio that has both natural light – owing to a skylight – and controlled artificial lighting. The studio is equipped with a full supply of easels, student storage areas, sizeable boards for big drawings, and large tables. Advanced students are given individual workspace where they can create a small personal studio. Additionally, the space is outfitted for on-site courses, which include portable easels and chairs. On-site painting takes advantage of the city of Florence and its environs.

Course Structure
The overall environment allows students the opportunity to make art in a place where quality painting and drawing flourish thanks to the abundance of space giving students room to pursue their art. Advanced students receive their own area to complete project based works and as the semester progresses students of all levels will witness the radical change that takes place within this productive studio.

FINE ARTS: Painting & Drawing

“My aim as an educator is to teach students how to technically conceive an artwork as a means to best understand conceptually what they want to create and why they are creating it. Ultimately, I feel my duty as an educator is to give students the tools necessary to succeed outside of the classroom.”

Andrew Smaldone, MA
Professor of Painting and Drawing

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Andrew Smaldone, MA
Professor of Paintin...
The Department
The SRISA 3D and 4D program is dedicated to a contemporary vision of materials, a critical understanding of form and space and a broad elaboration across technical facilities not exclusive to art making.

3D Course Structure
These courses introduce students to a range of processes that embrace performative qualities of creation that question the role of formal aesthetics and embrace the elaboration of content. Woodworking, Clay, Plaster, Metal and Fiber facilities guide the students through a range of approaches to sculpture and installation rooted in a conceptual investigation that engages the history of the medium while pushing its boundaries and definitions. The projection of ambitious works and the elaboration of proposals further the vision of the students beyond the immediate and foster the growth and articulation of the student’s choices.

4D Course Structure
The 4D courses are dedicated to the development of works rooted in temporal and multisensory mediums. Engaging ethereal and technological approaches to new and old mediums, students are challenged to develop a range of interconnected approaches in the realm of performance, video, film, sound and computer as well as circuit based works. Conceptual and experimental approaches to these media comprise a complex understanding of the role of context and extensive knowledge around related theory. The development of language both visual and textual accompanies our 4D students in research based projects realized through numerous approaches to artistic representation and presentation.

3D and 4D courses are offered at the Studio 3D campus located across the street from the San Gallo campus. These large studios house the sculpture and media studios. Private workspaces for advanced students, gallery areas and lounge. Equipment includes kiln, welding equipment, and a wood working workshop.

FINE ARTS: 3D & 4D

“I am interested in pushing students to question the answers and see the development of any given project as a journey with a site in mind but the necessity of getting lost along the way.”

Justin Randolph Thompson, MFA
Professor of 3D & 4D Sculpture
FASHION DESIGN & Merchandising

The Department
Fashion design courses provide beginning and advanced fashion design students the opportunity to have a behind-the-scenes look into the world of Italian Fashion Design. Practical hands-on courses in fashion illustration are complemented with information on how the industry functions in general and, more specifically, in Italy. Students are introduced to the industry in a very direct way through field trips and site visits. Hands-on courses in textile design, garment construction, weaving, and fashion illustration complement lecture courses and give students an opportunity to hone their practical skills.

Jewelry Design
Through hands-on experience, students are introduced to the basic elements of design and fabrication of contemporary and traditional jewelry. With Florence as a home base, a solid foundation in workshop practices is combined with an emphasis on quality of design and craftsmanship.

Facilities
The fashion lab features sewing machines, dress forms, computers, projector, tables, and material. In addition to the classrooms and workspaces, fashion students have access to Art Studio Fuji, which has facilities for batik, silkscreen printing, sewing, and jewelry. Equipment includes textile printing tables, ten sewing machines and two industrial sewing machines, cutting tables, a darkroom with enlargers and a vacuum screen exposure unit, a compressor and washout unit, large sinks for screen cleaning and dyeing processes, hundreds of metal screens of various sizes, and a water cleaning system to process and clean the water used in the textile processes.

Course Structure
Lectures, video presentations, readings, and research projects introduce students to the theoretical concerns of the fashion industry, while practical demonstrations and creative studio projects guide students in the development of creative and technical skills. Frequent group critiques and class discussions further enrich students’ knowledge of the subject by comparing projects and opinions. Visits to museums, exhibitions, fairs, studios, and stores help students cultivate aesthetic sensitivity and a first-hand knowledge of the fashion industry.

Enrica Guidato
Professor of Fashion Design

“Studying fashion is not simply the study of clothing, it teaches us how to read society past and present. My aim as a professor is to provide my students with a global perspective on fashion as well as the tools necessary to contextualize stylistic movements.”

Sophie Springer
Professor of Fashion Design

“I teach patternmaking and garment construction and love an active classroom. My aim in educating student designers is to help them develop their conceptual and creative skills to allow them to be successful in the fashion industry.”
The Communication Design Department

The Communication Design department at SRISA offers a selection of beginning, intermediate, and advanced design courses to students coming from Graphic Design, Communication Design, and Illustration programs. The selection of courses offers students the opportunity to further develop their technical skills as well as developing a personal style and vision. The program focuses on offering courses that provide hands-on, real world design experience in the non-profit sector and theoretical courses focusing on design in relation to society, social movements and sustainable/ethical design.

The Interior Architecture Department

The Interior Architecture Department at SRISA provides beginning, intermediate, and advanced Interior Architecture and Design students with an in-depth look into the world of interior architecture and design as it is practiced in Italy and Europe. Focusing on the architectural design process, courses will equip students with the tools needed to shape the space in which we live as well as develop a personal design concept. The program offers students the opportunity to work on hands-on design projects as well as study the history and materials that Italy has to offer. Projects and research will focus on sustainable/ethical design and students will have the opportunity to visit the most relevant historical and contemporary design projects in Italy.

Facilities

Courses take place in SRISA’s design studio equipped with Macintosh computers and Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator and InDesign software. Graphic design students have excellent opportunities for internship and cooperative education experiences with local Florentine businesses or within the SRISA offices.

“As a professor I am interested in how design reflects society and how society is affected by design.”

Dr. Ingrid Lamminpää
Professor of Communication Design

Dr. Colomba Pecchioli
Professor of Interior Architecture

Dr. Ingrid Lamminpää
The Department

SRISA offers a rigorous Liberal Arts program with a rich curriculum in varied subjects. From Politics to History to Contemporary Italian Culture, students are immersed in various facets of Italian society. While SRISA was founded as an art and design school, over the past decade the Liberal Arts program has grown both in size and prestige. Class sizes are small, and all courses are taught by accomplished and knowledgeable faculty who have extensive experience as both teachers and professionals in their fields. Given the extensive list of courses, SRISA is the perfect destination for students from all majors.

Course Structure

Liberal Arts courses are writing and reading intensive, most are a combination of in class lectures, discussions, guest speakers, and on-site visits to world-renown museums and monuments of relevance to the course topic. SRISA offers students the opportunity to study Art History in a city that possesses an extraordinarily rich cultural heritage. History and Political Science courses introduce students to the Italian political system and its history. Writing and Literature classes explore the rich written masterpieces created at the height of Italy’s artistic movement and inspires students’ critical thinking and creative skills. Marketing and Communication courses connect traditional methods to the ever-increasing digital world.

Facilities and Resources

Courses are taught in lecture class-rooms with slide and digital projectors, DVD, and computer resources; but the chief resource is the city of Florence itself, with its nearly unparalleled concentration of historically important works of art. The SRISA campus houses a library of books that students can consult. Most classes will have required readings, and the resources are available in the library.

“The job of a history professor is not to teach students history but to teach students to think historically.”

Dr. Lorenzo Pubblici

Liberal ARTS Department

Dr. Lorenzo Pubblici, Ph.D.
Professor of Italian History and Anthropology

Dr. Tina Fallani
Professor of Italian Cinema and Italian Culture

Dr. Pietro Gagliano
Professor of Contemporary Art History and Criticism

Dr. Tiziana Landra
Professor of Art History
The Department

Learning Italian brings students closer to the culture and the city where they are living. SRISA requires that students attending semester and year programs take an Italian language course. A minimal amount of language competency opens the door to Italian thought and culture in a very direct way, which makes the entire Italian experience richer and more fulfilling. All instructors are native Italian speakers who also speak fluent English and thus, when necessary, are able to give explanations in English.

Course Structure

The small class sizes at SRISA give students ample opportunity to receive one-on-one attention from instructors. Classes are organized around grammar, vocabulary, and conversation topics. Readings and discussions focus on the introduction of Italian culture, including politics, history, art, traditions, social customs, literature, cinema and daily life. Many conversation topics are taken from local newspapers, television and Italian magazines.

Course Work and Exams

Students are given daily homework assignments, quizzes, and both written and oral examinations. Students can also sign up for a language exchange partner. The exchange is coordinated by the language faculty and available to all students studying Italian. In addition, students who experience difficulties or wish to go beyond the course curriculum can meet with faculty during office hours for help on course work.

“Teaching a language is about more than communication; language encompasses history, culture, passion, and the understanding of different lifestyles and ways of thinking. Cultivating an open-minded passion for learning is what I aim to achieve. When I see the lights go on for my students, then I know that I am making a difference, and that is something very meaningful to me.”

ITALIAN Language

Dr. Matilde Zampi, Ph.D.
Prof. and Coordinator of the Italian Language Dept.

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Dr. Matilde Zampi, Ph.D.
Prof. and Coordinator of the Italian Language Dept.
Students applying to SRISA should meet the following requirements:

- Have a high school diploma or equivalent
- Be at least 18 years of age
- Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5
- Optional Portfolio for fine arts and design
- Students applying to the Post-Baccalaureate program must meet the above requirements in addition to the prerequisites for the Post-Baccalaureate program

The most important criterion for admission to SRISA is the student’s potential for success. The Admissions Committee evaluates a number of factors for acceptance, including the application essay, academic record, extra-curricular activities, artistic achievements, and portfolio.

SRISA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, ethnicity, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, political beliefs, marital, veteran, or disability status in administration of its educational or admissions policies.

SRISA counts more than forty university partnerships with colleges and universities in the United States and Mexico. Students may obtain a U.S. transcript for courses completed at SRISA and may opt for an SRISA transcript or a Maryville University transcript (fee-based). Maryville University is SRISA’s school of record. Students should check with their academic advisor at their home institution for transferability of SRISA and Maryville University credit.

We invite you to visit our website for the most up-to-date information on programs, tuition, housing, activities, internships, exhibits, and student work: www.srisa.org

Association of American Colleges and University Programs in Italy (AACUPI)
National Association of Foreign Student Advisors (NAFSA)
EDUITALIA Consortium (EDUITALIA)
Forum on Education Abroad (FSEA)
College Art Association (CAA)
Southern Graphics Council International (SGCI)
Institute of International Education
Generation Study Abroad Initiative

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