



Accademia Riace
Florence Italy
since 1983



ACCADEMIA RIACE

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Riace Accademia

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LOCATION



FLORENCE - TUSCANY (ITALY)

From the Romans to the Renaissance, Tuscany is one of the greatest repositories of art in the world, from exceptional paintings and sculpture to frescoes and architectural masterpieces.

Visitors come to this region for a variety of reasons: in search of fine art, or to explore the extraordinary countryside, surrounded by vineyards and olive trees. Gourmets and wine amateurs descend on Tuscany to enjoy the simple yet wonderful cuisine and wine. Florence is a mesmerizing wonder and Art is an essential element of its atmosphere: the city contains many beautiful art galleries, monumental buildings, and splendid palaces that convey a particular vibrancy that is unique to the rest of the world. Florence is home to some of the greatest designers in the world, and it overflows with shops of every style and taste.

SCHOOL LOCATION

Established in 1983, Accademia Riacci has been dedicated to providing students with an exceptional cultural and educational experience abroad. The school is located in the historic city center of Florence, Italy, a few steps from the “Duomo” (Florence Cathedral), only three minutes away from the central train station.

Accademia Riacci welcomes students from all over the world. The diverse background of Accademia Riacci’s students creates a rich multicultural community that promotes the exchange of ideas and viewpoints. The staff is multilingual and ready to assist overseas students wherever they attend our programs.



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TEACHING METHOD

EDUCATIONAL MISSION

The ultimate goal of Accademia Riacci is to transmit to its students the traditional Italian techniques and style, as well as to guide competently students in the development of their own artistic sensibility.

EXPLORE THE TRADITION, INVENT THE FUTURE

The faculty of Accademia Riacci is composed of top-level teachers, united by the mission of inspiring next-generation artists with a unique tradition and artistic knowledge. Students are encouraged to develop their originality and refine their technical skills to become the leading artists in their specific professional fields.

TAILORED INSTRUCTIONS

Just like how the great Leonardo Da Vinci used to teach to his assistants, our classes are conducted in close relationship with each student, in line with their level of expertise and preferences, and addressed to both beginners and experienced professionals.

SMALL CLASS SIZES

In order to respect the diversity of learning styles and artistic potentials, Accademia Riacci limits each class to a small group of students. Indeed, research shows that students in smaller classes perform better in all subjects and on all assessments when compared to their peers in larger classes. This educational strategy has proved to be successful, as our graduates’ learning achievements demonstrate.

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A ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

ONE-YEAR COURSE (ONE YEAR/SEMESTER)

The One-Year/Semester course is designed for international students with little or no basic knowledge of design or training, providing a wide range of majors related to arts, crafts, and design. The volume of lessons, subjects and homework will be equally challenging. Furthermore, the program includes Italian basic art lessons, weekly guided art visits, and monthly art stages. Students will be equipped with the most basic to the highest level of skill in a concentrated learning environment. All courses are taught with free English interpretation service. Diploma certificates are issued to those who succeed in the final exam.

*Atelier Course: same curriculum as the One-Year Course except for the basic art lessons

ART SHORT COURSE

Accademia Riacci short courses are designed to build confidence, develop skills and enhance learning in a supportive workshop environment. Open to the creative individual, inspired professionals, current college students, and college graduates, Art Short Courses are available for all majors, and at all levels, suitable for both beginners and advanced students.

All courses are taught with free English interpretation service. Upon completion of this course, participants will receive a certificate of attendance.

MASTER COURSE (ONE YEAR/SEMESTER)

The Master course is addressed to students who have already acquired a basic and professional foundation in their field, equivalent to the level of graduates of Accademia Riacci's academic programs as well as college graduates. The course is also open to professionals with a proven experience in a field concerning the subjects of the Master course, who wish to further their expertise.

The goal of our master courses is to offer students the opportunity to bring their specialized study to the highest level and apply it in the actual professional environment. Students perform advanced research according to the themes chosen by their own initiative, under the close guidance of the professors. During the second half of the program, students carry out a "corporate research", a joint project in collaboration with Italian companies and/or professionals, to apply their study to practice. Upon successful completion of the graduation project and final examination, a diploma certificate is awarded.

There will be an examination to be qualified to take this course. The examination includes 12 portfolios.

SUMMER INTENSIVE COURSE

Spend your summer living and learning in the heart of Florence. From May to September, Accademia Riacci offers intensive programs in all majors.

The Summer Intensive program is the perfect opportunity to experience Italian culture in a concentrated period of time, in one of the most beautiful cities in the world. The program also includes housing, daily meal vouchers, as well as several services and extracurricular activities. All courses are taught with free English interpretation service. Upon completion of this course, participants will receive a certificate of attendance.



JEWELRY MAKING

In this course, students will learn how to build jewelry pieces from the design to its creation and decoration completely handmade, while maintaining the traditional techniques of the Florentine style. The classes are progressive, starting with the construction and structure of a jewelry piece and then incorporating from basic to more complex techniques.

Small-sized classes allow for customized lessons for each student, who will learn how to work the metal and then will be encouraged to experiment with all possible techniques and materials to develop a personal style.

In the afternoons, the use of the workspace is available for practice, for the students to become autonomous and move further alone.

Students will learn how to use different hand tools and learn techniques of; cut with the saw, weld, file, the finishes, among others, and reach different levels depending on the duration, experience and goals of the student, and create diverse jewelry such as rings, pendants, earrings, etc.



JEWELRY DESIGN

The global jewelry design industry is constantly seeking skilled designers with the expertise to execute aesthetically appealing designs for a broad range of markets, from private customers to major accessories firms. As jewelry design plays a crucial role in jewelry production, giving specific instructions to the jewelry makers, a jewelry designer must have design skills to precisely convey his/her image, with appropriate expression skills.

Students will learn how to express each part, metals, how to draw different color and reflection angles or characteristics of each precious stones and realize various types of jewelries, exploring jewelry design as both manual and 3D art. After having mastered the hand-made representation techniques, student will learn advanced computer applications, through the use of professional software: jewelry scale, feature-specific modeling techniques, photorealistic rendering are part of the academic curriculum.



SHOE MAKING

MAJORS

Students will come in contact with Italian professional leather artisans with several years of experience as shoemaking teachers, learning how to make high-quality handmade shoes following the traditional rules of the "Made in Italy". The learning process includes explanations and practical training on how to take foot measurements, drawing the patterns, cutting and sewing of the leather, lasting the shoe and finishing the soles after attachment. Cutting, dexterity and precision are the essence of well-made shoes. In our Shoe Making course, students can learn how to make any type of shoe styles, such as "Derby" shoes, "Oxford" shoes, dress shoes, pumps, moccasins, and will practice the "Blake" and the "Goodyear welt" constructions.



SHOE DESIGN

Made-in-Italy footwear is prestigious for its design, quality, and fine techniques, and Italian shoe design is highly appreciated all over the world. The main purpose of this course is to expand the students' knowledge and skills in shoe design to prepare them to assume more advanced positions in the field. Through a high-level hands-on training, students will start learning the basic constructions of shoes and how to design fashion and casual types, starting from the ideation of the concept until the creation of their own collections. Particular attention is also given to an up-to-date trend forecast and to improving drawing and rendering skills. It is highly recommended that students be equipped with their own laptop.



BAG MAKING

MAJORS

In our Bag Making course students will be taught by authentic Italian artisans all the techniques from a to z, learning how to make patterns, cut, skive and sew the leather, following the traditional rules of the "Made in Italy". The goal is producing high-quality leather bags for which Italy is well known in the world. During this time, you will have the opportunity to fully develop your creativity, mastering every leather-related technique, exploring all fields of employment and manufacturing methods. You will finally produce a wide range of different works, from small objects to handbags, until interior components and pieces of furniture.



BAG DESIGN

Have you ever wanted to design and create your own range of bags and leather accessories? All international famous brands, like Gucci and Bottega Veneta, which are famous for their handbags and clothing, are constantly looking for professional and creative designers to create new collections. Take the first step towards a career as a bag designer and enroll in this exciting course. This is a professional course to design bags and accessories, composed of three different stages: design, planning and product presentation. Mainly the project is developed through hand sketching and through the use of Illustration and Photoshop. Upon completion of this course, students will have the skills necessary to introduce their own portfolio. It is highly recommended that students be equipped with their own laptop.



PAINTING & DRAWING

MAJORS

In our Painting and Drawing course, students will have the chance to become acquainted with various techniques and methods, working independently, under the supervision of the instructors. The program encourages students to create and interpret their projects with the intellectual rigor and refined skill required to become professional artists. Instruction is conducted primarily through a tutorial method emphasizing equal attention to each participant. Students will acquire a comprehensive understanding of both the material elements that compose artworks and the concepts that make them meaningful.

Our extensive educational approach cultivates in students the awareness of what is being done in the present and what has been done in the past, encouraging them to relate their own practice to both the current context and earlier historical ones.



RESTORATION OF PAINTINGS

This program offers students the opportunity to develop a practical approach to paintings preservation study area, through a series of hands-on experiences in laboratories, integrated with the direct study of the artworks.

The program focuses on the identification of traditional and modern materials and fabrication techniques, the assessment and documentation of the physical condition, nature, and extent of deterioration of the artifact, the damage prevention measures during the storage, display, and shipping. Furthermore, students will be introduced to a wide variety of techniques and materials for artworks conservation, learning about the physical, aesthetic, and pragmatic factors underlying the selection of preservation treatments, the application of physical and chemical principles, as well as various scientific methods of conservation.



CERAMICS

MAJORS

Students of ceramics techniques, under the guidance of our local professional artisans, working directly in their own ateliers.

The course specializes in upper-level production skills, encompassing: clay and glaze technology, wheel throwing techniques, kiln theory and operation, surface treatments, hand-building sculpture, as well as the history of pottery and contemporary practice. Special attention is given to the study of Italian traditional Terracotta techniques and the famous tin-glazed Majolica pottery, dating from the Renaissance.

In addition, students build specialized skills focused on concept development, drawing and design, with the final purpose of creating a body of innovative works.



GLASS ART

Glass Art is a discipline – performed in our artisans' ateliers located in the province of Florence – with limitless potential and a unique history that brings together sculpture, architecture, craft and decorative art.

The program mainly encompasses "Tiffany-style" stained glass, mosaic and fusing techniques. After mastering basic techniques, such as soldering, students will produce various hand-made works, following his/her own creativity and originality. Through an individualized instruction, each participant can decide to focus on his/her preferred techniques: from glass fusing to grinding, smoothing and polishing, painting and grisaille-firing techniques.

Upon completion of this course, the students will bring back home their own creations.



INTERIOR DESIGN

MAJORS

Accademia Riacci's design department boasts the instruction by a top designer who has high reputation as the leading designer for the shops of Salvatore Ferragamo worldwide, including its head-quarter in Florence, among many other works. He taught at the National Art Academy for 30 years and gained a high remark on his teaching methodology and many excellent designers have grown under his instruction.

Our Interior Design course presents fundamental design concepts and explores all aspects of the interior: human factors, building structure and technology, environmental and other building systems, contextual issues, design theories and methods, and communication.



PRODUCT DESIGN

Our product design teacher always recommends his students: "when you design a new product, always remember that you are designing for people".

Each student will choose and develop an individual theme under the guidance of a professional instructor. The students will propose sketches, rendering, technical drawings, and will realize their final book, complete in all parts. Students will be also taught about the materials, both traditional and modern, and the technologies that are used to realize industrial products. The teacher will show the students the transformation of some products, from their birth to their present situation and characteristics.



GRAPHIC DESIGN

The course curriculum addresses in a comprehensive way both the theoretical and operational topics that typically characterize the professional activity of a graphic designer. The main objective of this program is to provide students with specialized skills, in order to pursue relevant careers successfully, within design studios or advertising agencies. For this purpose, at the end of the course, students will develop a career-oriented portfolio that will represent at best their academic achievements, as well as their style and conceptual world.



FASHION DESIGN

MAJORS

In our Fashion Design course, we do not teach just design but culture, productivity, marketing, and communication as well and their connections.

Fashion design is closely related to the industries that research new trends for the market. The market is constantly looking for professional fashion designers. Students will be given an overview of the "Italian Fashion System" and stimulated while learning to develop their ideas and their potential to the fullest.

At the end of the course, students will have learned to do fashion sketches, to carry out research on a given theme and to properly use the materials gathered from that research to develop a fashion project.



FASHION BUSINESS

Retailing and fashion business are stimulating, fascinating, and in a process of continual change. Communicating fashion today means being able to design and manage integrated communication strategies, follow campaigns, liaise with the media and operators in the sector, organize events and fashion shows, take care of public relations, but also develop launch plans for products, designers, fashion brands.

Our Fashion Business program emphasizes on learning fundamental principle of marketing, as well as acquiring basic knowledge to understand the economic, sociological, and psychological aspect of fashion, with the scope of succeeding in the global fashion industry. Students learn to analyze different business strategies, and how to apply such evaluations in the retail politics of a brand.



TEXTILE DESIGN

Textiles are currently on the cutting edge of contemporary art and design practice.

In our Textile Design course students will receive a comprehensive overview of the textile industry, and will learn the art of batik, tie-dye, water paint, linoleum, geometric patterns, natural motif patterns, solarization patterns, scenic photo patterns, knitted fabric design and the base of weaving, in order to create an actual work using any method of these expressions. This course encourages participants to experiment with contemporary design looking at influences on surfaces and fabrics.



FLOWER ARRANGEMENT

MAJORS

In Accademia Riacci's Flower Arrangement course, students will practice in an atelier of a popular flower shop in Florence. Students will learn crucial techniques through practical training in arranging large bouquets and wreaths, tabletop arrangements, various vase arrangements, to name a few. We invite participants to freely express themselves using a variety of flowers and vases at the shop.



FURNITURE MAKING & RESTORATION

Florence has a 500-year tradition in Furniture Making and Restoration. Artisans have worked to keep their skills and knowledge and pass on them from the master to the followers.

Classes take place entirely in an artisan laboratory, directly in contact with the craftsmanship atmosphere of the Italian atelier. We keep the number of participants very small in order to facilitate the teacher-student interaction and feedbacks and to learn effectively and quickly in a stimulating environment.



BUSINESS & MANAGEMENT

MAJORS

ARTS MANAGEMENT

Cultural institutions are looking for capable managers with an understanding of the arts and business to head museums, theatre, cultural centers and arts organizations. The Master course in Arts Management trains the student to become arts administrators across performing and visual art disciplines. The program blends the basic principles of administration along with an in-depth study of the cultural sector in the global economy.



EVENT MANAGEMENT

The Master Course in Event Management helps students develop the tools and business skills in law, finance, human resources and marketing that are pertinent to the events industry.

As companies push for more international business relations, the demand for event managers is expected to rise, making it one of the strong-growing professions in the global marketing industry of the next years.



DESIGN MANAGEMENT

Design Management teaches the business side of design, encompassing the operational aspects of managing teams of designers, as well as business decisions and strategies that create not only innovative products, but also a culture of design at the corporate level. Along with business-related subjects, students will explore advanced applied design techniques, identifying, assessing and developing pertinent design concepts, through the usage of professional software.



RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT

The Restaurant Management master course is designed to equip students with business skills to succeed in a wide variety of food service industry work settings, including owning your own business. Students gain top-level hands-on experience, as they work in modern commercial kitchens, under the supervision of renowned culinary management professionals.



OTHER PROGRAMS AVAILABLE MAJORS

Preparation Course for Accademia di Belle Arti

This program is intended to provide students with a preparation for "Accademia di Belle Arti" in Italy. Compulsory courses include Drawing, Art History, Workshop and Italian Language. Elective courses include Oil and Water Painting, History of Architecture, and a Portfolio Preparation.

Professional Interpretation

This course offers candidates to acquire the linguistic, cultural and technical expertise. Interpreters must have an excellent command of their native language, as they generally work from their second language into their native language.

Bookbinding

The course is designed for those who are interested in the artisanal aspects of bookbinding, book restoration and gold blocking.

Wood Carving

This course is designed for beginners, but it's also suitable for those who have some carving experience.

Handmade Soap

In this course, students will learn how to make all-natural handmade soap using the cold process method.

**For more details, please inquire.*



HOUSING

Accademia Riacci provides housing for its international students in fully furnished and equipped shared apartments located in the city of Florence, around 20 min by bus/bicycle (~ 30min by walk) from the school. Students share kitchen, living room and bathroom (with washing machine) and they can choose between twin (shared) or single rooms.

Housing options include hotels, family stay, and independently-arranged housing.

Accademia Riacci is pleased to facilitate the housing arrangement process, but students are welcome to make their own direct accommodation plans.

HOW TO APPLY

The Office of Admissions seeks to admit a diverse, talented pool of students each year. We are looking for students who seek a unique international environment, challenging dynamic classes, and who will take full advantage of the opportunities that studying and living in Florence provide.

To apply, please follow the steps below:

1. Complete the application form and submit it together with a passport copy to the Office of Admissions (accademiariacci@accademiariacci.info).
2. The Office of Admissions will notify applicants of admissions decisions within 7 days of receipt of a complete application.
3. After ACCADEMIA RIACI confirms your payment, a Certificate of Enrollment will be issued.
4. Students can be admitted only upon the receipt and review of a complete application.

For more information, visit our website www.accademiariacci.info or email us: accademiariacci@accademiariacci.info.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. Formal admission to ACCADEMIA RIACI and payment of tuition and fees are prerequisites to registration. All students, by virtue of registering, agree to comply with the regulations of the school and to pay all applicable tuition and registration fees before the course start date. Payments can be made exclusively by wire transfer to the bank account indicated by the Office of Admissions. ACCADEMIA RIACI will provide the student with a certificate of payment confirmation. The certificate of enrollment will be issued only after receiving the confirmation of the wire transfer by the Office of Admissions. ACCADEMIA RIACI may, at its sole discretion, exclude from any course and/or examinations any registered student who fails to pay the applicable Tuition Fee within the period stated above or any other period as may be agreed with ACCADEMIA RIACI. ACCADEMIA RIACI reserves the right to claim back from any such student any reasonable expenses incurred in reliance upon his/her registration on the course.

2. Enrollment Fee and Deposit paid to ACCADEMIA RIACI are non-refundable unless ACCADEMIA RIACI decides not to grant the student a place on the relevant course. If cancellation occurs not less than 180 days prior to the course start date, ACCADEMIA RIACI will refund 100% of the Tuition (excluding Enrollment Fee and Deposit); 50% of the Tuition (excluding Enrollment Fee and Deposit) will be refunded if cancellation occurs at least 30 days before the course start date. No refund will be made if cancellation occurs less than 30 days before the course start date. For students who do not hold an EU passport, there will be no refund after the Certificate of Enrollment has been issued.

3. Tuition includes a Certificate of Attendance or a Diploma issued after completion of the course.

4. ACCADEMIA RIACI will be responsible for preparing a basic equipment for student use. However, expenses for any materials needed for each student's course and projects are not included in the course fees.

5. Specific information during the course such as detailed timetable of the course shall be communicated to the student upon course start. Examinations must be taken at the end of the relevant course. No student shall be allowed to take the examinations after the end of the relevant course. If the student does not take the examinations at the end of the course, or does not achieve the required pass mark in the examinations, ACCADEMIA RIACI shall not issue

any final certificate of completion or the official diploma to the student.

6. Class attendance is MANDATORY. No student will be allowed to the final examinations unless he/she attends at least 80% of the lessons. No certificate of attendance shall be issued unless the student maintains the required attendance record until the end of the course. If a student does not attend lessons, tuition and fees won't be refunded.

7. By enrolling in any course offered by ACCADEMIA RIACI, students agree to comply fully with the disciplinary rules of ACCADEMIA RIACI as this represents a condition of the agreement between students and ACCADEMIA RIACI. Compliance with the disciplinary rules shall involve a good attendance record, a rigorous respect of the schedule of lessons and a responsible attitude towards the staff of ACCADEMIA RIACI. Failure to adhere fully to these rules may result in disciplinary measures being taken against the offending student (which, for the avoidance of doubt, may involve the expulsion of the student from the relevant course). To the fullest extent permitted by Italian law, ACCADEMIA RIACI reserves the right to claim damages in relation to any loss caused by the student.

8. Courses are organized according to the schedules, dates, and programs established by the teachers appointed by ACCADEMIA RIACI, which reserves the right, at any time, to amend any aspect of the course as may be necessary.

9. The examination papers, together with any material produced by the students during classes shall be deemed to be the property of ACCADEMIA RIACI. Students hereby assign all copyrights arising in any material produced by the students to ACCADEMIA RIACI and in particular allow ACCADEMIA RIACI to exhibit, reproduce and/or publish such material.

10. Changing a course (the subject or the course start date) is possible only if the new course begins within 365 days from the initial start date, and within the following conditions:
a) if course change request is notified until 180 to 30 days before the course start date:
For Academy Courses: by paying the enrollment fee of the registered course.
For other courses: by paying the 20% of the sum of tuition and enrollment fee of the registered course.

For Package courses: 20% of the total course fee.

b) if course change request is notified after 30 days before the course start date:
For Academy Courses: by paying the enrollment fee of the registered course and 50% of its tuition.
For other courses: by paying the enrollment fee of the registered course and 50% of its tuition.
For Package courses: 50% of the total course fee.

There is NO REFUND of the fees already paid. Students can allocate the fees already paid, deducting the above course change fees, to the payment for new courses.

11. ACCADEMIA RIACI reserves the right to cancel a course due to low enrollment or other circumstances beyond the school's control. Students who are registered in a course that is canceled will be notified, and the course fees will be fully refunded.

12. ACCADEMIA RIACI assumes no responsibility for damaged, lost, or stolen personal items.

13. Students who damage or vandalize school property will be responsible for its repair and/or replacement.

14. ACCADEMIA RIACI is closed on Italian public and school holidays, such as spring break, fall break, summer, and Christmas holidays.

15. No variation of this agreement shall be effective unless in writing and signed by or on behalf of each of the parties.

16. For all programs held by ACCADEMIA RIACI, including those held off its campus, the agreement between ACCADEMIA RIACI and students shall be subject to the Italian law and the parties hereby agree that the Italian courts in Florence shall have sole jurisdiction over any dispute arising out of this agreement.

By completing the application form for any of the courses offered by Accademia Riacci, you acknowledge that you have read, understand and agree to the "General Conditions".