



EUROPEAN CULTURAL ACADEMY

You love art, architecture and design. You want to connect with people that move creative ideas forward right now. Experience Venice and the Venice Biennale together with like-minded participants from all over the world. Here, you and your peers are immersed in inspiring environment led by the renowned faculty and industry experts. Gain new skills to create greater impact with your work immediately.

ABOUT US

The Academy organizes short courses in art, design, and architecture. Courses run in parallel with the Venice Biennale and start on various dates from May until November. Each course is a combination of lectures, workshops and guided visits to architecture studios, museums and the Venice Biennale. Courses are aimed to give you exclusive insights and teach you practical skills in a short period of time. All of the courses are in English.

ORGANIZER

The Academy is organized by the European Cultural Centre, the second largest cultural space in Venice after the Venice Biennale. Four exhibition palaces welcome 250,000+ annual visitors. Over the last decade, the Centre hosted 11 National Pavilions and official Venice Biennale exhibitions as well as organized special projects with Yoko Ono, Hermann Nitsch, Lawrence Weiner, Curtis Fentress, Peter Eisenman, and Denise Scott Brown, among others.

LOCATION

Classes take place in historic palazzos in the heart of Venice: Palazzo Rossini, Palazzo Bembo, Palazzo Michiel, and Palazzo Mora.



OUR VALUES

Our education approach is based on the following principles:

HONESTY AND TRANSPARENCY

We advocate an honest and constructive approach to education that makes you more confident and understanding, whether it is a leisurely exhibition visit or an important business meeting. We openly discuss artistic, commercial, and networking challenges in the creative industries. Our students deserve to know the true stories behind big exhibitions and projects. We share real cases and teach you practical skills that make an immediate impact on your career

ENGAGING WITH HIGH-QUALITY PEOPLE

The Academy brings together high level practitioners from government, academia, and business sector. Our faculty includes artists, architects designers, curators, gallerist, and scholars that will help you to build the necessary skills and enable you to navigate through such a competitive industry. Having workshops and discussions with them in Venice is a unique experience.

PROVIDING INSIDER'S EXPERIENCE

Venice has an extraordinary concentration of facilities and organizations dedicated to culture. Leveraging our 15-year experience working in this incredible city, we will guide you to its most alluring locations. Classes take place in historic palazzos, students visit palazzos that are closed to the public, private art residences, design, and architecture studios.

"One of the impressive reasons for a student to come to Venice is an incredible mix between historic and contemporary. You enjoy the architecture that is hundreds of years old and, at the same time, the Venice Biennale shows some of the most cutting edge contemporary art in the world"

Lucia Pedrana, ECA lecturer, Senior Organizer at the GAA Foundation



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

WHO CAN APPLY?

Our participants come from all backgrounds and the course is open to anyone with an interest in the Arts, Architecture, and Culture.

HOW TO APPLY?

This is an open-enrollment non-degree study programme for participants of all ages. Apply online on our website or send your request to study@europeanculturalacademy.eu. Please note that only 25 people per group will be accepted so the earlier you apply the better.

CERTIFICATES

A certificate is given upon completion of the programme. Some universities recognize the course as a summer internship; please contact us for more information before the start of the course.

BOOKING DETAILS, FEES & SCHOLARSHIPS

Application deadline: 3 days before the start date. Groups fill up quickly, so the sooner you apply, the better.

Tuition fee: One week €950 Two weeks €1,650

Housing: Accommodation is available at an extra cost starting from EUR 500/per 7 nights.

European Cultural Centre provides several scholarships for talented international creatives. Please email us for details.

ECA x CONNECT CUSTOM PROGRAMMES FOR GROUPS

If you are a university or agency representative and you would like to arrange a custom programme, we provide education that is tailored to your students' specific curriculum and that follows your requests.



ECA x ART PROGRAMME GUIDE

VENICE BIENNALE REVEALED -BEHIND THE SCENE EXPERIENCE

May 7 - 12 | November 18 - 23, 2019

The course connects you with experts of the art market and allows you to experience the reality behind the Venice Biennale and its parallel events.

You will discover the exhibition in conversations with artists, curators, gallerists and, of course, the Biennale team. It is a structured and inspiring experience.

The May programme takes place during the Opening week. The November programme is scheduled during the final week, making it a special experience at the Biennale. Next to the sessions we will visit the Biennale at Giardini and Arsenale, Personal Structures exhibition and the Peggy Guggenheim collection.

CONTEMPORARY ART - STRATEGIES TO DEVELOP & REFINE YOUR IDEAS

July 15 - 27, 2019

The programme focuses on the contemporary market and the ways to get involved in it. The goal of the course is to transform you from consumer to maker in the cultural field.

Q&A sessions, lectures and dinners with the makers of the Biennale and its satellite exhibitions will give you insider knowledge of creating art projects.

You will work on a group project dedicated to the Venice Biennale and create a roadmap for your personal creative goals. We will work together on your skills and provide the support and financial advice you need to turn your idea into reality.

In collaboration with Danielle Krysa aka The Jealous Curator.



ECA x ARCHITECTURE PROGRAMME GUIDE

CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE -HOW TO MAKE YOUR IDEAS STAND OUT.

July 8 - 20, 2019

During the course we will review the most powerful communication strategies for architects and learn how to integrate them into your daily practice.

During the first week in Venice you will visit and study the best architecture projects in the city, review strategies and narratives around them.

In the second week our experts share the insights on how to use the communication tools in the right way. You will practice to present your design choices publicly and use sketches, diagrams, models, video and renderings to get your ideas noticed.

CITY LAB VENICE: SPACE - PEOPLE - POSSIBILITIES July 2 - 6, 2019

In our one-week course we critically and playfully explore public space not only as a "generosity" that architecture can offer to society but also as a political, social and deeply urban condition. Public space is not simply found or even designed, it is lived and made; in a nutshell, public space is emancipatory. For such reflections we use both the Biennale exhibitions and the city of Venice as our field sites.

In a diverse set of lectures, hands-on workshops, discussions, and tours with local and international experts we will enquire into the conditions - potentials and restrictions - that make public space possible for different groups of people in Venice, but also in cities in general.

ARCHITECTURE IN VENICE -CHALLENGES OF A HERITAGE CITY October 9 - 11, 2019

This intense 3-day course will introduce you to the magical combination of new and the old in Venice. You will discover the most recent renovation projects by Rem Koolhaas and Tadao Ando. Best architecture studios from Venice will share their insights on local (interior and exterior) projects and together we will examine innovative solutions for the city that is claimed to be stuck in time.

We will discuss restoration and conservation challenges as well as sustainable solutions for the city of Venice and beyond.

YOKO ONO VISITNG ECC PALAZZO BEMBO

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CORE TEAM

Every day these people are working to ensure you have the best experience in Venice.

RENE RIETMEYER

Program Coordinator / Contemporary Art

Rene Rietmeyer is president of the European Cultural Centre and an artist mostly known for his own art form of the "Boxes", stimulated by American minimal art and the so-called new abstraction. He has organized events with artists such as Yoko Ono, Lawrence Weiner, Hermann Nitsch, Marina Abramovic, and Mike Parr. He uses his vast network of artists and architects as well as his experience in education to coordinate the curriculum and lead strategic projects at the Academy.

JAMES TAYLOR-FOSTER

Program Coordinator / Contemporary Architecture & Design

James Taylor-Foster is the contemporary curator at ArkDes, Sweden's national centre for architecture and design. Formerly the European editor-at-large at ArchDaily, the world's largest online platform for architecture and urbanism, he has also practiced architecture in the UK and The Netherlands. In 2016, he co-curated the Nordic Pavilion at the 15th Biennale Architettura di Venezia.

MARIA NEKRASSOVA

Maria is in charge of strategy, programming, and partnerships. Her mission is to help participants build the necessary skills to succeed in the competitive fields of art and architecture.

ALEXANDRA LAQUEUR

Head of Education

Alexandra is responsible for the program content, groups and marketing. Write or call her if you have any questions about strategic initiatives and curriculum.

SIMONE STUNZ Student Experience Manager

Simone is your first point of contact online and will welcome you in Venice! Write to her if you like to learn more about the Academy or have any practical questions about the courses.



TAKE THE NEXT STEP

PLAN YOUR EXPERIENCE IN VENICE NOW

Become an insider in the world of art, design, and architecture. Get new perspectives and advance your career in the creative industries.

LEARN MORE AND APPLY

Visit our website to find out about the program dates, curriculum, and faculty. Apply online on the home page.

ANY QUESTIONS?

For strategic inquiries contact Alexandra Laqueur, Head of Education. For further assistance on programs or admissions, contact Simone Stunz, Student Experience Manager.

study@europeanculturalacademy.eu

+39 320 2450 631

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- Palazzo Rossini, 4013 Campo Manin, 30124 Venice, Italy
- www.europeanculturalacademy.com

"Professionals shared the secrets of the trade in a personal setting and we were challenged to try things out ourselves in a group exercise. The program also includes a visit to the Biennale, to local workshops, which makes the week intense, but also fun and very rewarding."

Hisham Tawfeeqi, Architect

