

INSTITUTE AT PALAZZO RUCELLAI

ARCH 477: Architecture in Context: City, Spaces and Urban Design

Credits: 3

Instructor: Franco Pisani, Laurea; Licensed Architect

Schedule: TBA

Prerequisite: Architecture major or completed architecture minor

Site visit fee: TBA

Course Description:

The goal of the course is to impart a method by which to understand, analyse, sketch a city/site and its context, producing tools that will be useful and applicable in Architectural Design.

The course will focus on Florence as a living city rather than an open air museum, trying to help the students in their reading and understanding of the context of the city beyond the monuments.

As architects we never draw on blank sheets of paper; hidden lines - sometimes more, sometimes less - are always present. This course will provide students with an approach and the basic tools to recognize those hidden lines.

During this semester we will cultivate the experience of looking at architecture with a different eye, focusing on the invisible links and relations between things.

Le Corbusier used to say "...one obelisque: not architecture. Two obelisques: architecture!"

Using Florence and it's built history as a case study, we will work on the various meanings of context: urban context, landscape and geography, social and human environment, historical processes and stratified layers.

Course descriptions may be subject to occasional, minor modifications at the discretion of the instructor.

During orientation at the Institute, students will receive a list of textbooks they are required to purchase. Students should not purchase any texts before orientation.