



DA

**DA** Department  
Architecture  
Ferrara

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Tassoni Estense Palace, Department of Architecture main office.

## THE FERRARA SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

The new Department of Architecture at the University of Ferrara currently promotes and coordinates both research programmes and educational activities, the latter managed until a few years ago by the Faculty of Architecture, active since Academic Year 1991-1992. While its history goes back little more than twenty years, the Ferrara School of Architecture offers a wealth of events, outstanding choices and a reputation gained nationally and internationally. The school focused on the direct and collaborative relationship between students and faculty, engaging in recruiting young researchers and lecturers, even from the professional world, then placing many in a stable academic career.

There has also been an equally constant effort to select a set of qualified students from all over Italy by reformulating, year after year, the entry methods and the number of those enrolled as a function of the changes generated by various university reforms, and the expansion of areas dedicated to teaching with the recovery of the large campus surrounding the monumental core of the Tassoni Estense Palace. The Ferrara School of Architecture, in order to ensure a good connection between the university and the professional world, has over the years launched internships and professional training opportunities, facilitating the entry of graduates into the labour market.

Aware of the evolution that modern society has incurred, the Ferrara School of Architecture has encouraged students to take on work experiences abroad. The relationships and international student exchanges with Universities from around the European Union, with which we enjoy the Erasmus and Atlante Programmes, are many; there are also frequent, intense collaborative initiatives with Universities from South America, North America, Africa and New Zealand.

For years, the Ferrara School of Architecture has enjoyed first place in the GENSIS classification of Italian universities, which qualitatively assesses Italian Universities, and has repeatedly ranked first among Architecture Schools.

In 2013-2014 the Ferrara School of Architecture was selected by DOMUS as one of the best 100 European Schools of Architecture and Design.

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DA

Department  
Architecture  
Ferrara

EDUCATION

## **Single-cycle Masters Degree (5 years) Class LM-4 / Construction Engineering and Architecture**

This Course aims to train the professional architect in accordance with current European directives, and leads to the conferring of the title of Masters Degree once the entire cycle has been completed.

The educational aims of the Course are those included in Class LM-4 with special reference to the field of architectural and urban design at different scales of application and architectural restoration.

The Degree Course in Architecture is the “engine” that allowed the Ferrara School of Architecture to stand out and become established nationally and internationally, with ties with over 60 European and non-European universities.

The legal duration of the Masters Degree in Architecture is five years; limited places available. To enrol, you must pass an admission test. The test is a multiple choice test, designed nationally, and it is organised around the following topics: general knowledge and logic, history, drawing and rendering, physics and mathematics.

The degree course has set up a double degree project with the University of Curitiba, Brazil.

### **First cycle**

Year 1-2

Basic  
Education

### **Second cycle**

Year 3-4

Technical, scientific  
and professional  
education

### **Third Cycle**

Year 5

Laying the  
groundwork for  
the dissertation

## ARCHITECTURE

### Degree Course Coordinator

Prof. Riccardo Dalla Negra  
riccardo.dallanegra@unife.it

### Students' Advisor

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### Degree course information

[www.unife.it/architettura/lm.architettura](http://www.unife.it/architettura/lm.architettura)

# DEGREE COURSE IN INDUSTRIAL PRODUCT DESIGN

## **Degree (3 years)**

### **Class L-4 / Industrial design**

This Course aims to train professionals capable of interpreting the explicit and implicit needs of society and to translate them into tangible, meaningful, useful and functional objects that can be produced industrially and are environmentally sustainable. Teaching is designed to provide students with the design methods and tools to operate in the market with up-to-date skills.

At various stages of the Degree Course there are activities for understanding the nature of objects, the characteristics of materials and production processes, the role of design, modelling and creation of three-dimensional prototypes, communication design leading from the concept stage all the way to the finished product and its promotion in the market. The Degree Course in Industrial Product Design has limited places available. To enrol, you must pass the admission test. The test is a multiple choice test, designed locally, and it is organised around the following topics: general knowledge and logic, history, drawing and rendering, physics and mathematics, production processes.

The degree course has set up a double degree project with the University of Curitiba, Brazil.

#### **First cycle**

Year 1-2

Basic, technical and creative education

#### **Third Cycle**

Year 3

Laying the groundwork for the dissertation

## **INDUSTRIAL PRODUCT DESIGN**

### **Degree Course Coordinator**

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### **Students' Advisor**

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### **DA course contact person**

Serenetta Brina  
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### **Degree course information**

[www.unife.it/interfacolta/design](http://www.unife.it/interfacolta/design)

## TEACHING METHODOLOGY OF THE DEGREE COURSES

In each Academic Year, teaching is organised in two semesters:

- from September to end of December (first semester).
- from February to end of May (second semester).

Class attendance is mandatory.

Exam sessions are set in the months of January-February, June-July and September.

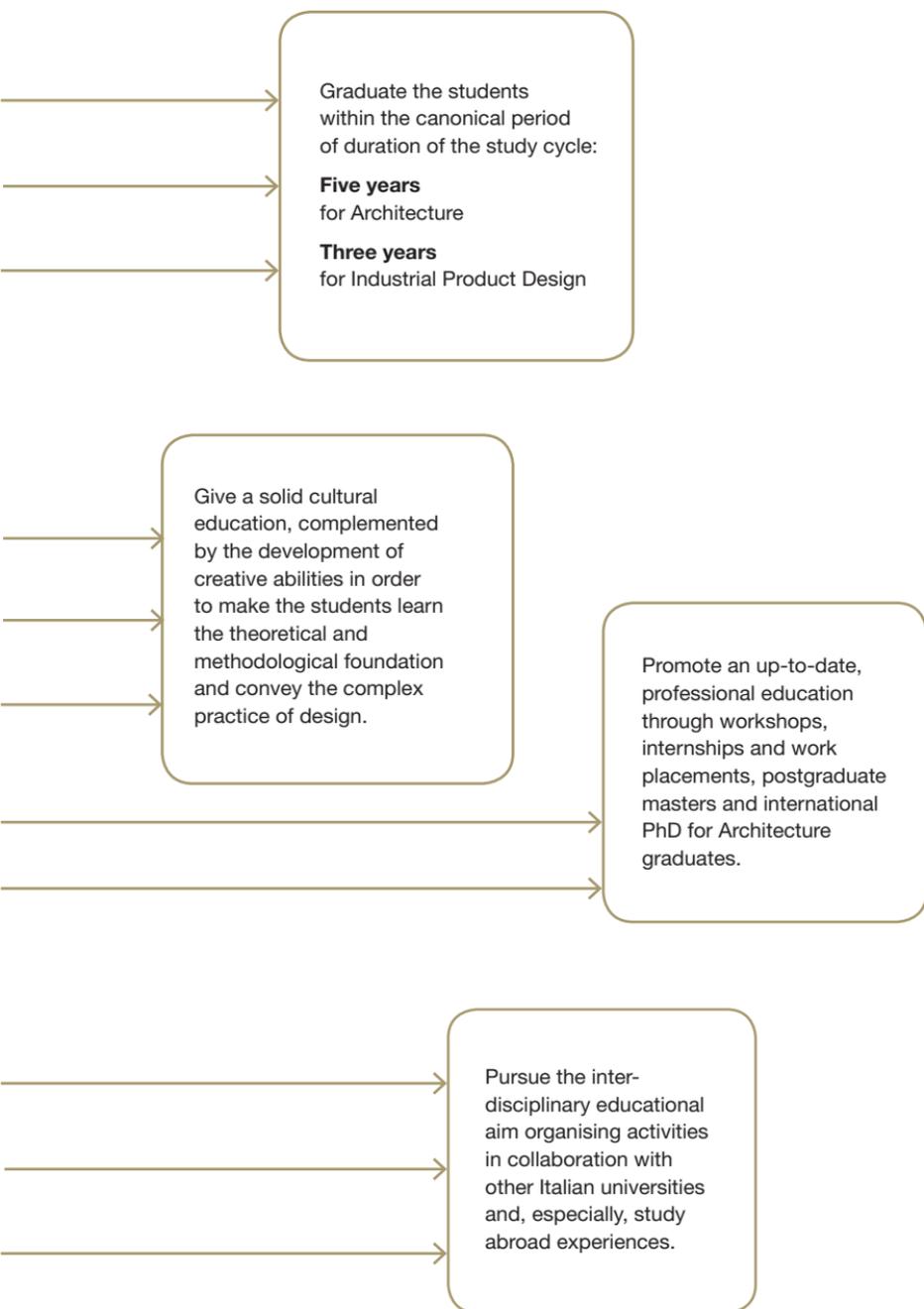
The training programme of the two Degree Courses combines theoretical knowledge with practical, professional and design skills.

If theoretical study takes place in single discipline Courses taught by a lecturer (with independent study of texts, handouts, online resources), design and technical-practical exercises are developed through integrated Courses (where two different teachings converge in a shared topic), Workshops and Final Synthesis Studios (the latter taking place at the end of the training programme) all of a design nature.

The Workshops – which last one semester – are usually carried out through a type of dialogical and participatory teaching, are characterised by constant dialogue with faculty, and are primarily focused on design activities. The workshop takes place continuously in the classroom, where students work all day in the presence of lecturers and tutors to develop designs. The training model of the Workshops consists of lectures, drafting tests, improvised exercises, concept development, individual and group reviews, field studies, projects for completing examinations.

The Final Synthesis Studios, which last two semesters, conclude the training programme for the students of the Masters Degree in Architecture and of the Degree Course in Industrial Product Design. The aim of these Workshops is to “renew” and develop the experiences and skills gained in previous years by redirecting them towards a mature project that will be the subject of the Dissertation. The Dissertations are developed along the course of the Final Synthesis Studios.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE DEGREE COURSES





*Orientation reception hall.*

To guide incoming and outgoing students on the Degree Course in Architecture and Industrial Product Design, there is a series of services coordinated by the faculty of the Degree Courses, with the support of the Students' Advisor – the latter is responsible for giving students general and detailed information on the organisation of the Degree Courses and related services of the University of Ferrara. There is also a student-to-student orientation service done through the COS (Centro Orientamento Studenti – Student Orientation Centre). Meeting and reception areas, for both services, are located in the Tassoni Estense Palace.

### ORIENTATION

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#### DA delegate

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#### Centro orientamento studenti

Via della Ghiara, 36  
44121 Ferrara  
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The faculty delegates, with the support of the Students' Advisor, promote the work placement of students and recent graduates through internships and professional training, both curricular and postgraduate.

The Degree Courses in Architecture and Industrial Product Design actively participate in programmes of transition and placement of recent University graduates into the labour market.

Among these, we should mention the PIL University Programme (Programma di Inserimento Lavorativo – Work Placement Programme) for final year students managed through the UNIFE Job Centre.

Main destinations: national and local public bodies, land management and planning companies, professional studios, production companies.

The Ferrara University Job Centre service promotes company presentations, collects student CVs and regularly offers these profiles to companies with which the University of Ferrara has established contacts, collects company requests in a database accessible by students, offers a service on the main tools for job search.

### ORIENTATION

#### **Architecture delegate**

Prof. Alessandro Massarente  
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#### **Industrial product design delegate**

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#### **Students' Advisor**

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### JOB CENTRE

<http://www.unife.it/ateneo/jobcentre>

There are many intense international student exchange opportunities, especially thanks to the Erasmus and Atlante Programmes (as well as other projects promoted by the University and the faculty) whose exams are recognised for the Italian school career.

Around 60 students take part in the exchanges every year, almost 35% of the students enrolled in Architecture and Industrial Product Design, compared with a national average of 20%.

Around as many foreign students are welcomed in Ferrara.

The free movement of students is an excellent opportunity for growth for processes that are increasingly investing the professional world, especially creative professions, whose horizon of operation and work placement is increasingly the international market.

Orientation activities are promoted by the faculty delegates of the Degree Courses in collaboration with the Students' Advisor.

## **Universities associated with the Degree course in Architecture** Agreements with non-European universities

- Universidad Catolica de Cordoba, Cordoba, Argentina
- Universidade Catolica de Goias, UGC, Brasile
- Universidade Federal de Santa Caterina, UFSC, Brasile
- Universidade do Estado de Santa Caterina, UDESC, Brasile
- Universidade Estadual de Maringà, UEM, Brasile
- Universidad Catolica do Paraná, PUCPR, Brasile
- British Columbia Institute of Technology
- School of Construction and Environment, BCIT, Canada
- Universidad Tecnica Federico Santa Maria di Valparaiso, UTFSM, Chile
- Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile, PUC, Chile
- Universidad Central del Ecuador, UCE, Ecuador
- KIMEP University, Kazakistan
- Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, UNAM, Città del Messico, Messico

## **Universities associated with the Degree course in Architecture**

### **Agreements with European universities**

Technische Universität Wien  
Institut Supérieur D'architecture De La Communauté Française, La Cambre  
Katholieke Universiteit Leuven  
Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz  
Technicka Univerzita V Liberci  
Ceske Vysoke Uceni Technicke V PrFAze  
Technische Universität Dresden  
Technische Universitaet Muenchen  
Hochschule Fuer Technik Stuttgart  
Arkitektuskolen Aarhus  
Kunstakademiets Arkitektskole  
Universitat Politècnica De Catalunya  
Università Politecnica Di Catalogna, San Cugat Del Valles  
Universidad De Granada (ETSA)  
Universidad De A Coruna  
Universidad Politecnica De Madrid (UPM)  
Universidad De Zaragoza  
Universidad De Sevilla  
Universidad Europea Miguel De Cervantes (Uemc), Valladolid  
Ecole Nationale Supérieure D'architecture Et De Paysage De Bordeaux  
Ecole Nationale Supérieure D'architecture De Montpellier (ENSAM)  
Ecole Nationale Supérieure D'architecture De Nancy  
Kauno Technologijos Universitetas  
Arkitektur- Og Designhøgskolen, Oslo  
Technische Universiteit Delft  
Universidade Do Minho  
Instituto Superior Tecnico Universidade De Lisboa  
Universidade Do Porto  
Politechnika Bialostocka  
Universitatea Tehnica "Gheorghe Asachi" Din Iasi  
Universitatea "Politehnica" Din Timisoara  
Kungliga Tekniska Högskolan Stockholm  
Istanbul Technical University  
Izmir Yuksek Teknoloji Enstitusu

## **Universities associated with the Degree course in Industrial Product Design**

### **Agreements with European universities**

Hochschule Fuer Technik Stuttgart  
Arkitektuskolen Aarhus  
Universidad Politecnica De Madrid (UPM)  
Universidad Politècnica De Valencia  
Ecole Nationale Supérieure D'art De Nancy  
Istanbul Technical University  
Izmir Yuksek Teknoloji Enstitusu

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## International PhD in Urban Planning (IDAUP)

The international PhD lasts three years, has English as the official language and includes two curricula: Architecture and Urban Planning. The University of Ferrara and Tirana Polis University will confer a double doctoral degree. The aim of the PhD is to train high-profile researchers who can work on the most current topics of scientific research in contact with industry (tangible and intangible), public administrations, research bodies, the construction market.

The aim of the Architecture curriculum is to pursue mutually supportive strategies between the reasons for the project, process and production, by opening up to technologies using innovative materials, industrial design, restoration and redevelopment interventions, while respecting environmental sustainability. Curriculum:

1) Theories and methods of design and sustainable construction; 2) Inclusive and sustainable design, access for all, access to spaces, products and services; 3) Innovative materials and technologies for architecture and structural design; 4) Innovative techniques and materials for the restoration and preservation of historic building heritage, recovery and maintenance of constructions and considerations on buildings' life-cycles (LCA). The Urban Planning curriculum tackles subjects of "public space" associated with the evolution of the social, economical, environmental context, with an in-depth study of the role of discipline as a critical, reading, design tool of urban and territorial transformations through the lens of sustainable development, with an interdisciplinary and international approach. Curriculum: 1) The city of today and tomorrow, between protection of the environment and redevelopment of existing urban fabric: requirements for retrofitting and new social demands for housing quality and urban liveability; 2) The role of the historical and cultural heritage of the built environment and landscape in urban development in a post-industrial economy, with special reference to local sustainable development policies; 3) Land, landscape and redevelopment of the built environment, between infrastructural interventions, new sources of energy and climate change. 4) Government of the territory through targeted development policies such as soil management and planning tools and resource management.

### PhD

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International PhD Programme –  
29<sup>th</sup> associated cycle between:

University of Ferrara –  
Department of Architecture  
(Home Institution)  
Polis University – Tirana (ALB)

University of Malta –  
Faculty for the Built Environment  
Associate Member 2014

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DA Department  
Architecture  
Ferrara

RESEARCH

Through this brief publication, the Department of Architecture of the University of Ferrara presents all the various facilities that operate within.

Professors and researchers from over ten Scientific and Disciplinary Sectors are part of the DA. The organisation of various work groups – which in many cases brings together multiple sectors – is based on a system divided in Departmental Centres, Workshops and Research units, and on a model that takes into account the multi-disciplinary composition of the operative units, the flexibility of the structures, and, above all, the capacity to adapt the distribution of available resources and forces to the needs and priorities of the sectors where the research activities are being developed.

Today, three Departmental Centres, six Research Laboratories, eight Research Units are active in the DA. This arrangement is the result of a maturing process which has benefited from the contribution of, on the one hand, the development and consolidation (or sometimes the radical transformation) of structures in operation since the first years of activity of the Department of Architecture; on the other, the birth of new work groups that have progressively broadened the sectors of scientific research and production.

From the documents regarding the areas of expertise and the activities of the Centres, Workshops and Research Units, two particularly significant aspects emerge concerning the identity itself of the Department of Architecture: the multidisciplinary structure that characterises most of the operative units and the central role of international relationships in the development strategies of research activities.

These two factors have played a decisive role in the steady increase of the number of activities and projects in which the DA collaborates with the Departments and Research Centres in our own and other Universities, with foreign Universities and with public and private institutions from the European Community and many other countries.

Another area that registered constant growth, is our collaboration and research conventions with Local Administrations, Public Bodies, and Companies; this is an extremely important factor, not just for the resources that it produces, but above all in terms of recognition of the role of service that the University must be able to provide to the community.

Lastly, a policy of diffusion of research results and knowledge sharing includes training activities, both in the area of postgraduate studies, as well as in that



*Centres, Workshops and Research Units.*

of professional development and refresher courses. The Centres and Workshops of the Department of Architecture also organise seminars, workshops, summer schools, professional refresher and training courses for designers, technicians and operators in the construction industry, together with other public and private groups.

The DA is also home to the International PhD in Architecture and Urban Planning (IDAUP).

The Department of Architecture is a body with financial and administrative autonomy.

The Department Dean is responsible for its management and is elected from the Ordinary Professors by the members of the Board of the Department, a collegial body for planning and managing activities.

#### DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE

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## CENTRES, WORKSHOPS AND RESEARCH UNITS

### Departmental research centres



**CIAS** Research centre for Pollution in high sterility environments  
Director Prof. Sante Mazzacane  
sante.mazzacane@unife.it



**DIAPREM** Departmental Centre for the development of integrated automatic procedures for the restoration of monuments  
Director Prof. Marcello Balzani  
diaprem@unife.it – [www.diaprem.unife.it](http://www.diaprem.unife.it)



**SEALINE** Departmental Research Centre for the development of coastal systems and tourism  
Director Prof. Luca Emanuelli  
sealine@unife.it – [www.sealine.unife.it](http://www.sealine.unife.it)

### Research laboratories



**AE** Centre for Architecture and Energy  
Director Prof. Pietromaria Davoli  
ae@unife.it – [www.unife.it/centri/centro/architetturaenergia](http://www.unife.it/centri/centro/architetturaenergia)



**ARCADES** Centre for the development of integrated design services for the city, the environment and landscape  
Director Prof. Alessandro Massarente  
arcades@unife.it – <http://www.unife.it/dipartimento/architettura/attivita-di-ricerca/centri-di-ricerca-2/arcades>



**CITER** Laboratory of urban and territorial design  
Director Prof. Romeo Farinella  
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**LABORA** Laboratory of Architectural Restoration  
Directors prof. Riccardo Dalla Negra, Rita Fabbri  
labora@unife.it



**LEM** Laboratory of construction and environmental management and maintenance  
Director Prof. Roberto Di Giulio  
lem@unife.it – [www.lem.unife.it](http://www.lem.unife.it)



**MD** Laboratorio Material Design  
Director Prof. Alfonso Acocella  
materialdesign@unife.it – [www.materialdesign.it](http://www.materialdesign.it)

## Research units



**ACHE** Study Centre of Astronomy and Cultural Heritage  
Development of Integrated Disciplines for the Study  
and Promotion of Cultural Heritage of astronomical interest  
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**CISPC** International Study Centre on cultural landscapes  
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**CITTÀ E PATRIMONIO (CITY AND HERITAGE)**  
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**INCLUSIVE DESIGN/SUSTAINABLE DESIGN**  
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**GAR** Research Unit for geothermal applications  
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**PSU** Research Unit of Strategic Urban Planning and Territorial Marketing  
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**SOSTENIBILITÀ E INNOVAZIONE (SUSTAINABILITY AND INNOVATION)**  
Environmental design studies and research  
Director Prof. Michela Toni  
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**SMART-SARU** Smart Structural Analysis Research Unit  
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## Teknehub



**TEKNEHUB** Technopole of Ferrara, Thematic Platform on Construction  
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DA

Department  
Architecture  
Ferrara

CULTURE

Today, it is imperative for every organisation – be it institutional, productive, social – to attract and cultivate thought, vision, creativity and innovation, developing – at the same time – relationships based on listening and discussion with respect to their reference audiences. Research, innovation and culture now represent indispensable resources – intangible added value – even for products, goods, services. Within this evolutionary framework of modern-day society, even a University is required, ever more insistently, to be present and active in the areas in which it is established, discussing with actors in civil society and real economics, with the aim of making their skills a common factor.

Those academic institutions that know how to open up to society focusing on up-to-date research and educational models, on innovative cultural and scientific projects, structurally involving external partners more and more, will be able to achieve an updated redefinition of the role of University, investing in a future different from the present, which is deeply marked by crisis conditions, substantial deadlock, poor design innovation.

In addition, it appears that a synergistic and collaborative process between a public University and the private business world today can no longer be postponed due to the drastic reduction in State funding for research and, even more so, for culture. Supporting cultural activities through fundraising campaigns has become the only practical strategy for University institutions; fundraising campaigns that, inevitably, assume the concept of “good cause” and the compelling levers of *relationship* and *communication*, the latter capable of exploiting and publicising the initiatives for which financial support is required to broad reference audiences.

Since its inception, the Ferrara School of Architecture has avoided closing in on itself by promoting cultural projects – developing relationships on national and international levels and raising the necessary resources through fundraising – focused on fuelling a debate within the university community, by “opening” it – at the same time – to international experience.

The celebration of the Tenth anniversary of the founding of the Ferrara School of Architecture – which took place at the start of the new millennium and was part of the disciplinary topic “Design and Construction” – represented the first comprehensive institutional cultural project that lasted a whole year, with architectural, artistic and design events through the organisation of workshops, talks, exhibitions, *lectio magistralis*



*Lectio magistralis (2003) by Peter Zumthor in the Great Hall.*

in the presence of internationally renowned personalities. Against such an event, in crowded *lectio magistralis* held in the Great Hall, there was a succession of figures such as Baumschlager & Eberle, Hans Kollhoff, Greg Lynn, Michael Hopkins, Shigeru Ban, Kengo Kuma, Thomas Hergoz, Future Systems, Eduardo Souto de Moura, Sauerbruch & Hutton, Aires Mateus & Associados, Mecanoo, Dominique Perrault, Peter Zumthor, who would be conferred – at the end of the celebrations, in December 2003 – an honorary degree by the Ferrara School of Architecture.

The tenth anniversary celebration – particularly by the network of international relations that stemmed from it – gave rise to the International Prize for Sustainable Architecture in collaboration with Fassa Bortolo industry and the tradition of maintaining, in subsequent years, events of broad appeal and resonance through the organisation of conferences, workshops, honorary degree conferments (Thomas Herzog, Ippolito Pizzetti, the industrialist Paolo Fassa).

In 2011, the Ferrara School of Architecture turned twenty years old – two decades that saw in quick succession: the foundation of the school (thanks to the work of the founding Committee, which included Paolo Ceccarelli, Carlo Melograni, Mario Zaffagnini); the start of innovative university teaching projects; the establishment of the school at a national level (eleven times in first place in the last twelve years in the CENSIS-La Repubblica rankings); the above-mentioned celebration of the tenth anniversary of the foundation; the creation of a solid international network of relationships; regularly carrying out the International Prize for Sustainable Architecture and, more recently, the DOMUS International Architectural Restoration Prize; the expansion of the University Campus of the school with the restoration and development of the monumental Tassoni Estense Palace (2009) for institutional activities and cultural events; the

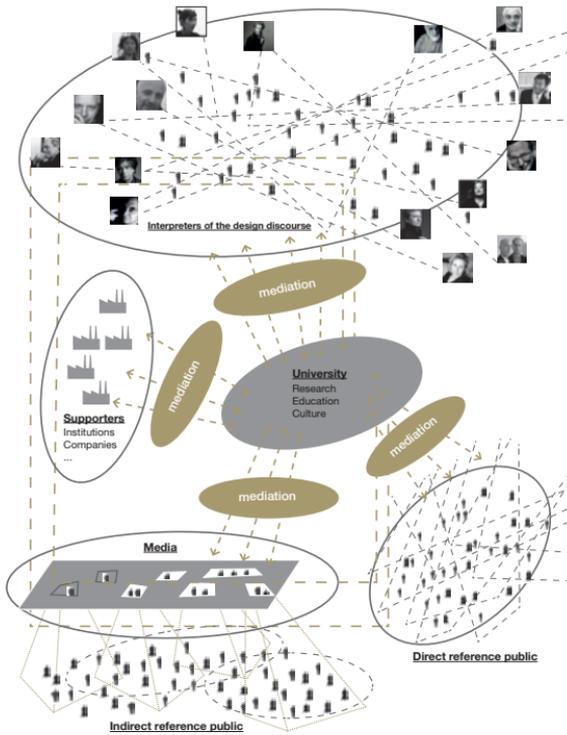
expansion of educational offerings with the institution of the new Degree Course in Industrial Product Design. In the spirit of the Tenth anniversary, the Twentieth anniversary of the foundation of the school was celebrated in 2011-2012 through the themed festival format with the title "To design today". Even on this occasion the critical framework of the university governance (characterised by the scarcity, if not outright lack, of public resources) was surpassed, relying solely on the attractiveness of the cultural project on offer, the value of the ideas of international players of design discourse invited within various events, the visibility and development of relationships between those – Institutions, Associations, Foundations, Production Agencies – who decided to financially support it in the spirit of social responsibility towards the world of education, research and culture.

An intense and demanding institutional fundraising activity helped collect the financial resources necessary to create the vast and challenging festival "To design today".

Present at the Twentieth anniversary events in Ferrara: Massimiliano Fuksas and Doriana Mandrelli, Hermann Kaufmann, Francisco Mangado, Max Dudler, Kjetil Thorsen of Snøhetta Architect, Massimo Iosa Ghini, Guillermo Vázquez Consuegra, Luisa Bocchietto, Giuseppe Finessi, Stefano Casciani, Andrea Branzi, Matteo Thun, Christoph Ingenhoven, Diébédo Francis Kéré, Massimo Morozzi, Francesco Binfarè, Giuseppe Rivadossi.

Once again, the main thrust of the institutional project was to promote a broad debate to question the framework of international contemporary disciplinary trends, confirming – by the Ferrara School of Architecture – the commitment to close oneself in a narrow cultural context and the desire to look out at the whole world. The multiple opportunities for discussion were made possible by the organisation of a series of events, of international scope, spread over a very wide time frame: from May 2011 to December 2012. These events were an opportunity for the creative elements of architecture, design and communication to meet and engage in dialogue with academic, institutional and productive ones.

The cornerstone of the Twentieth anniversary celebrations was structured through a series of themed conferences intended as an updated review of the *lectio magistralis*, a scholarly and exceptional lesson compared with ordinary university teachings, that can be seen



# undraising for university

as significant institutional moments, opportunities for meeting and discussing, for the academic community and the outside world involved in the Twentieth anniversary initiatives, as Supporters, Technical Partners, Sponsors.

Along with carrying out the cultural programme of the Twentieth anniversary, a cross-media Institutional communication plan was developed; the latter is instrumental for both fundraising goals and the success of the initiative in terms of mediated content sharing and incentive to participation in the initiatives.

A tradition of large cultural events open to international discussion, capable of creating a memorable and stirring experience due to the direct involvement of the beneficiaries; a tradition the Ferrara School of Architecture intends to constantly keep alive for the future.

## DA INSTITUTIONAL COMMUNICATION

If producing research, providing education, promoting culture are still today the cornerstones of the University's mission, it is also clear – and this should not be delayed much longer – that there is a need to formulate innovation hypotheses of such an asset, implementing sharper tools and strategies for outsourcing, dissemination and internationalisation of the current activities and projects.

Within this scenario, institutional communication plays a key role as a lever for the development of the University by making it known to the civil and productive society in which it operates.

Institutional communication has the main goal of spreading the flow of information, disseminating ideas and establishing quality relationships between the institution,

the public, and the society with which it has a relationship; to this end, the emergence and strengthening of those values and qualities that each organisation expresses are also connected. Values and qualities that may be “collected”, “shared”, “widespread” as an expression and representation of the Institution itself.

The communication of an institution cannot but be *identity-making*, that is, fuelled by its *history* (roots), *uniqueness* (singularity of the organisation), *heritage* (tangible and intangible), *human resources* (living and vibrant community), purpose.

Identity and purpose are the two strategic poles of communication itself, from which then plans, programmes and projects can be consistently derived. What makes an institutional communication appropriate and appreciable – together with the identity-making characteristics and the values that it *collects*, *defends*, *promotes* – is the specific quality of the distributed contents (messages) that must be inspired by principles of clarity, transparency, ethics, and a correspondence between the reality of the Institution and the image conveyed.

Inspired by these principles, we have attempted, over the years, to create an institutional communication with cultural content, planning quality, innovativeness to serve the Ferrara School of Architecture, first under the auspices of the Faculty of Architecture and, today, the new Department of Architecture.

A dynamic and multichannel institutional communication, evolving together with the changes in contemporary productive and civil society.

### EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND DA COMMUNICATION

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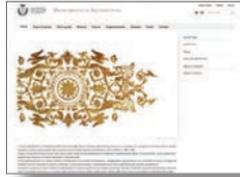
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DA web site



DA Carnet



Flyers of the Degree Courses in Architecture and in Design



DA letterhead and envelope



DA business cards



DA cardboard envelope



Presentation of the Degree courses in Architecture and in Design



Presentation of the Degree Course in Design



Presentation of the Degree Courses in Architecture and in Design



Presentation (short) of the Degree Course in Design



Presentation (short) of the Degree Course in Architecture

# stitutional communication



*Lo spirito dell'Addizione.  
Una lezione di Vittorio Savi,  
DA press, Ferrara, 2013, pp. 54.*



### **International Awards for Sustainable Architecture**

Established in 2003, the year the first decade of the founding of the Ferrara School of Architecture was celebrated, the International Award for Sustainable Architecture is promoted by the Department of Architecture and Fassa Bortolo SpA, both interested in developing awareness on the issues of conscious use of resources to preserve the environment.

The Award, which takes place every two years, is aimed at raising awareness in the professional and educational worlds concerning the issues of sustainability, by selecting architectures and projects to make known to a wide reference audience. As the announced in the 2015 11th competition, currently under way: “architectures that can relate in a balanced manner with the environment, conceived to cater to the needs of mankind, able to satisfy the needs of our generations without limiting – through pollution and an indiscriminate use of resources – those of future generations”.

In particular, the award is aimed at selecting both new architectures and redeveloping and regenerating pre-existing constructions or the landscape, as long as they value an optimal balance between mankind and the man-made environment. The most recent competitions, thanks to a special section, have also given prizes to designs, doctoral research theses and dissertations. Beginning with the 2014 competition, the award reserved for thesis projects will occur every two years, alternated with the prize for works made by professionals, and will be dedicated to projects undertaken at Italian universities, with the aim of further enhancing the level of quality reached in our schools in the subject of sustainable development.

The permanence in time, the increasing number of participants and the growing presence of excellent candidates from an international arena, are the elements that vouch for the validity and success of the initiative, which, over the years, has become much more than “just a competition”, instead becoming a horizon of disciplinary discussion and a way for the Department of Architecture to “produce culture” through events and communication formats related to the Prize, such as publications, exhibitions, conferences that brought life to the educational spaces of the Ferrara School of Architecture, opening its door to both national and international outside participation and experiences.



*Gold medal 2013.*

*Housing for elephants and their caretakers  
in Hathigaon, India.*

*RMA Architects, Mumbai.*

The Prize, in subsequent various competitions, managed to attract the participation of leading names in international architectural research and experimentation, such as Shigeru Ban, Kengo Kuma, Dominique Perrault, Baumschlager & Eberle, Sauerbruch Hutton, Eduardo Souto de Moura, Diener & Diener, Christoph Ingenhoven, Georg Reinberg, Alejandro Aravena, Philippe Samyn. In recent competitions, the works selected and awarded with a prize, which come from all over the world, express in the solutions adopted, the diversity and distinctiveness of the use of material, climactic, environmental resources, achieving architectural results far removed from any form of classification. These works are closely tied to their geography and local climate, their location's topography and material resources, and are witness to differing approaches in the management of energy resources with respect to natural lighting, protection from overheating, generation of electric energy for heating and cooling; just as, in general, the technological and architectural language choices appear different and distinctive.

As the main objective of the Award is to select and award high quality architecture, the successful choice of the Department of Architecture and Fassa Bortolo, the learned supporter of the Award, was to create high profile juries – different each time and for every competition – able to express authoritative and independent decisions. The names of the Award jury members over the years identify a panel with a very high scientific and professional profile, among these: Thomas Herzog, Glenn Murcutt, Erik Bystrup, Peter Rich, Li Xiaodong, Francisco Mangado, Francine Houben, Françoise Hélèn Jourda, Sir Michael Hopkins, Juhani Pallasmaa, Alexandros Tombazis, Wilfried Wang, Hermann Kauffmann, Matteo Thun, Brian Ford, Mario Cucinella.



*The jurors who followed one another in the ten years of the Prize.*

## INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE

**Promoters**  
Department of Architecture  
Fassa Bortolo SpA

**President of the Jury**  
Prof. Thomas Herzog

**Manager on behalf of DA**  
Prof. Marcello Balzani  
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[www.architettura.unife.it](http://www.architettura.unife.it)  
[www.premioarchitettura.it](http://www.premioarchitettura.it)

## **DOMUS International Architectural Restoration Award**

A second cultural initiative, matured over the years of the success of the International Award for Sustainable Architecture, was the establishment of the DOMUS International Architectural Restoration Award by the Department of Architecture and Fassa Bortolo SpA in 2010.

The new Award is designed to select those architectural restorations that consciously declined the “conservation principles” (to which the Italian community contributed much in maturing at an international level), without excluding interventions fuelled by responsible and sensitive inputs of contemporary materials, technologies and expressive languages.

The competition initiative, at the same time as awarding interventions made on historical heritage, is aimed at emphasising and valuing those work organisations – i.e. restoration companies – that, thanks to their mastery cultivated by an intangible heritage of expertise and technical knowledge gained over generations, have allowed the achievement of the excellent results of the winning interventions.

The first few competitions for this Award occurred every year, and were divided into two categories: restoration interventions promoted by public or private clients and projects in the form of a dissertation, master’s or doctoral research or specialisation thesis. Beginning in 2014, the prize reserved for thesis projects will be awarded every two years, in alternation with the prize for works achieved and will be dedicated to projects undertaken at Italian Universities.

Even for this Award, the Department of Architecture, with the collaboration and support of Fassa Bortolo SpA, is committed to the valorisation of winning or selected works and projects through a series of initiatives and events such as exhibitions, conferences, publications, in order to attend the disciplinary debate through the discussion of ideas, work methods and, at the same time, contribute to the production of culture.

### **DOMUS INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURAL RESTORATION AWARD**

#### **Promoters**

Department of Architecture  
Fassa Bortolo SpA

#### **President of the Jury**

Prof. Giovanni Carbonara

#### **Managers on behalf of DA**

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[www.premiorestauro.it](http://www.premiorestauro.it)

DA Department  
Architecture  
Ferrara

DA COMMUNITY

## UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Over 1,000 people – professors, technical-administrative and service personnel, students – who cross each other's paths, meet, work or study together on the campus of the Department of Architecture, form, ever since the Ferrara School of Architecture was established, a university community strongly cemented by common goals, identity and a sense of belonging.

Such a community finds in the educational programmes of the Degree Course in Architecture and Industrial Product Design – as well as other distinctive activities of the University, such as research, development of cultural projects, career guidance – the fundamental elements of sharing, collaboration, identification and action.

The faculty is made of around 140 professors, of which 40 are lecturers for an indefinite period and fixed-term researchers, while the rest are involved in teaching as Lecturers on contract, a formula that employs, in addition to research Doctors and Fellows, a significant number of carefully selected outside professionals.

The Ferrara School of Architecture has focused on hiring professors by drawing freely and strategically from the world of culture, institutions and occupations. A strongly motivated faculty, constantly present in teaching and active in research, the profession and cultural projects.

In terms of numbers, the students (around 800 attending the Degree Course in Architecture and 150 the Degree Course in Industrial Product Design), undoubtedly represent the most significant human component in terms of presence, liveliness and vitality: the very future of society and Italian Universities.



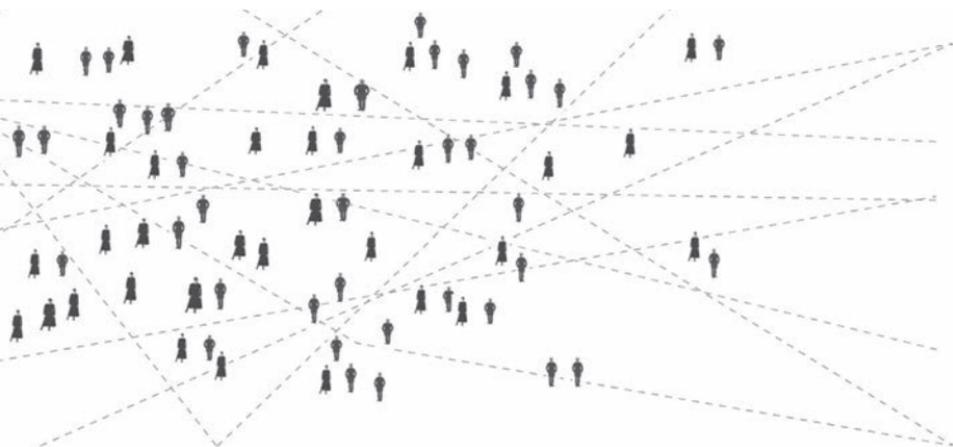


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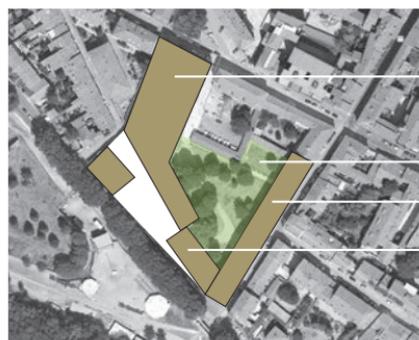


DA Department  
Architecture  
Ferrara

DA CAMPUS

## THE DA UNIVERSITY CAMPUS AND FERRARA

The areas available for teaching, research and socialisation – which coincide with the large urban sector located next to the Renaissance walls of Ferrara and recovered by the University beginning in 1986 – greatly expanded in 2009 with the addition of the Tassoni Estense Palace, which was completely retrofitted thanks to a scientific restoration of the historic building, almost completing the process of establishing a veritable university campus nestled in the historic fabric of the Este family city.



*Palazzo Tassoni Estense*

*The quadrangle*

*Architectural wing on Via Quartieri*

*Architectural wing on Via Baluardi*

### CAMPUS ACCESS

#### Motorways

From Bologna:  
A13 Bologna-Padova,  
Exit Ferrara Sud

From Padua:  
A13 Padova-Bologna,  
Exit Ferrara Nord

From Ravenna:  
Ferrara-PortoGaribaldi spur route,  
Exit Ferrara-Via Ravenna

#### Trains

Ferrara station, Venezia-Bologna  
railway line

#### Taxi

Tel. +39 0532 900 900

#### Bus

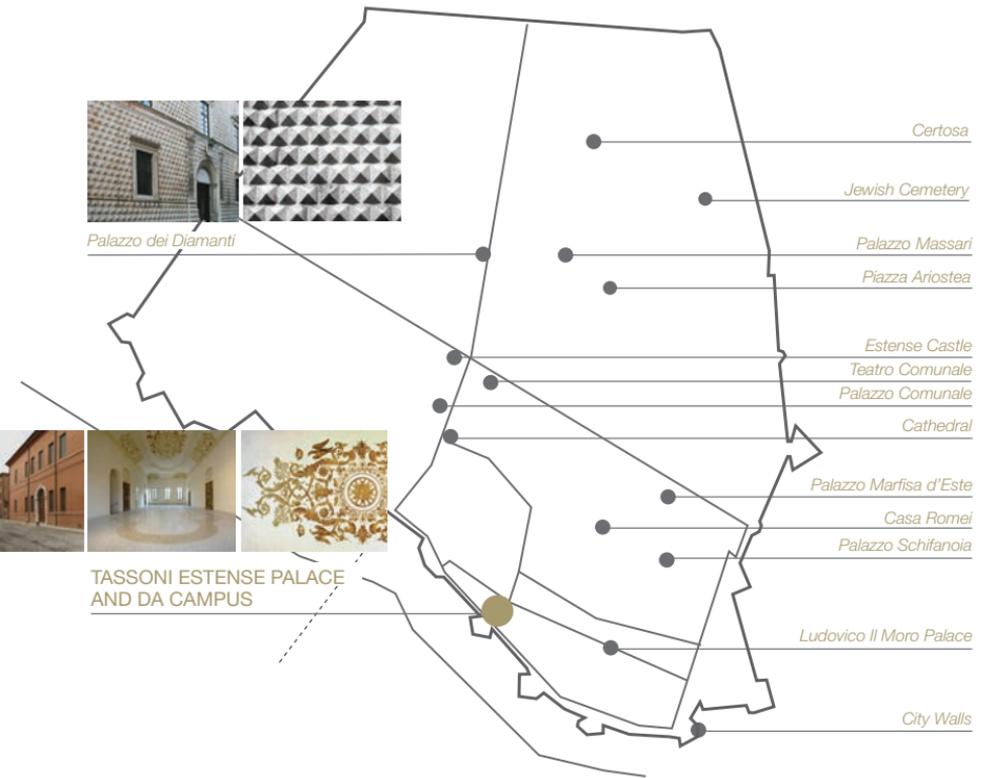
Line 2 from the train station,  
every 20 minutes  
Porta San Pietro stop

#### Airports

Bologna: 40 km; Venice: 110 km



Roofscape of the Ferrara historical centre.



Historic buildings and areas of Ferrara.



## TASSONI ESTENSE PALACE

The Department of Architecture has recently made a set of buildings – the monumental heart of the noble residence of the Tassoni Estense family – fully functional. The Palace was built during the Borsian Addition around the mid 15<sup>th</sup> century (the letter signed by the architect Biagio Rossetti stating that he's following the renovations is dated 1491), and remained the residence of the Tassoni Estense family until 1858.

Since then, the building housed various Institutions and activities that “distorted” the original function of the complex; only around the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century did management of the Palace pass into the hands of the University, which restored it, adding it to the “Project to Promote Ferrara's City Walls and Museum System”. Since 1997, the Tassoni Estense Palace has been the object of research and studies that spawned a project and an intervention of scientific restoration drafted by a group of professors of the Department of Architecture, including Pietromaria Davoli (general coordination and architectural design), Claudio Alessandri (structural design), Sante Mazzacane (systems design), with the involvement of the Superintendence for Architectural Heritage and Landscape represented by Andrea Alberti (supervision of works).

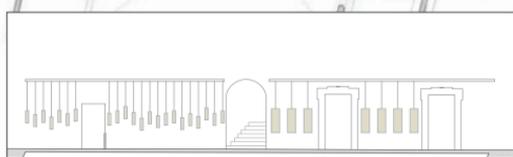
In addition to teaching and research activities, the Palace – especially the piano nobile, or main floor, where there is the great Salone d'Onore – are home to institutional and representational activities together with the organisation of cultural events such as study days, *lectio magistralis*, international conferences, architectural and design prizes.

On the ground floor of the Palace, the Salone Passante, which connects to the brick-paved courtyard with portico, has the function of distribution filter and, at the same time, a flexible and well-equipped monumental area for exhibitions, workshops, installations.

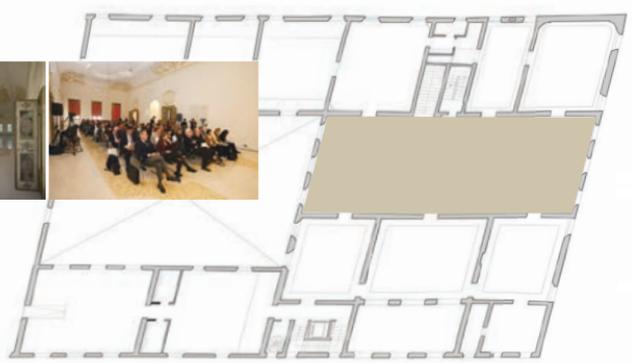
Other areas of the Palace, smaller in size, are available for meetings, roundtable discussions and seminars based on timed scheduling in close collaboration with private and public institutions, cultural associations, manufacturing organisations, from Ferrara, nationally and internationally.



Ground floor.



First floor.



Salone d'Onore.



Meeting room.



DA Dean's office.

On Via Quartieri – perspectively projected in the direction of the Renaissance city walls – you can find the complex of buildings that formed the foundational core that started the university campus.

Past the large entry door, normally surrounded by countless bicycles, symbols of the city, you can quickly and easily reach a whole series of areas dedicated to education, organisation, study and socialisation, part of the university structure: the Stairwell and Mario Zaffagnini Library, the Lecture halls, the modelling Workshops, the Professors' Small offices and the same large quadrangle whose access is opposite and near the entrance on Via Quartieri.

### **The stairwell**

An architectural element that connects the various floors of the architectural wing on Via Quartieri, the Stairwell has become over time a lively and vibrant meeting space for the students, replacing and enhancing its plain role of vertical connecting structure.

The ground floor areas (equipped by the students themselves with bulletin boards, tables for drawing, wireless printers and computers) and those adjacent to the ramps going to the two floors above, allow studying, reading and at the same time a place for the student community to socialise. In this vertical structure for passage or taking a break, many connections, informational and design initiatives related to activities directly managed by the students are created.

On the middle level, or the first floor of the Stairwell, you can access the Mario Zaffagnini Library. Going down to the ground floor, past the Stairwell, you can quickly reach the many lecture halls.



*The stairwell.*



*Corner between Via Quartieri and Via Baluardi.*

## **Lecture halls and Great Hall**

The Degree Courses in Architecture and Industrial Product Design are held in many lecture halls, of various sizes and organisational and functional structure. Altogether, the Lecture halls and complementary areas are adequately equipped for the various forms of educational activities, whether of a theoretical nature or for practical applications.

The medium and small-sized Lecture halls – equipped with tables for drawing, wireless network, projectors and screens – are generally used for Design Workshops.

The Great Hall stands out for its central role and extensive size, and is located on the first floor of the architectural wing on Via Baluardi. This sizeable room looks out on the large quadrangle of the university campus through wide windows.

It can accommodate up to 250 persons and, in addition to regular teaching activities, it is also used for conferences, seminars, conventions, ceremonies for conferring the title of degree.



*Design workshop.*

### **Design workshop rooms**

The Workshop rooms are structured as joint student-teacher workrooms, in the form of design studios, and represent one of the pillars of the educational programme of the Degree Courses in Architecture and Industrial Product Design.

### **Computer labs**

On the Via Baluardi wing, directly facing the quadrangle, there are two rooms equipped with computers (about 50 stations), laser scanners, photocopiers and large screens for exercises in computer science and digital culture. These rooms, open non-stop from 9 am until 8 pm, are available for students and teachers even outside of lesson hours.

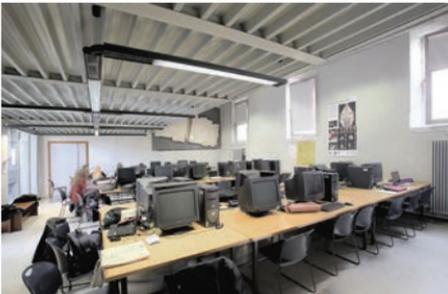
### 3D prototyping and modelling workshop

Next to the computer labs, is the Modelling workshop, equipped with machines and materials available to students for acquiring “know-how” skills, the construction of scale models, prototypes and scale details related to architecture or product design projects.

The Workshop is fitted with equipment for the construction of three-dimensional physical models from digital designs, using both traditional and innovative materials and production procedures.

In addition to basic equipment, the modelling workshop has the following tools available to students:

- three axis milling machine for use with various materials (wood, foam plastics, etc.);
- rapid prototyping machine for use with plaster;
- rapid prototyping machine for use with resin.



*Computer lab.*



*3D prototyping and modelling workshop.*

## Mario Zaffagnini Library

The library has an extensive array of books and journals specialised in architecture and design, and is part of the University Library System. Thanks to a personal library pass, you can access the reading rooms and borrow books for studying.

Next to print publications, you can also consult all the dissertations (from Academic Year 1991-1992 for Architecture and Academic Year 2011-2012 for Design) both in paper and multimedia form.

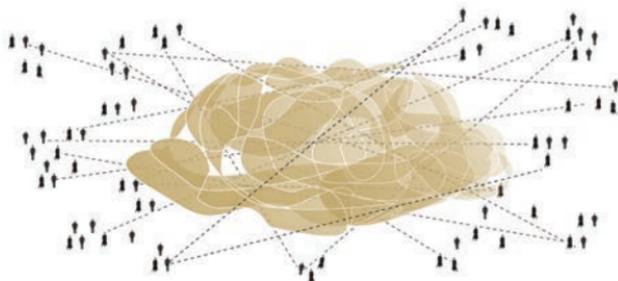
There are also interlibrary loans and access to databases available online through the Library services. Visit: <http://opac.unife.it/SebinaOpac/Opac> to consult the Ferrara Unified Library Centre catalogue and search (by title, subject, author) to find out the availability and location of publications in various Ferrara libraries.

## The quadrangle

This large, leafy quad plays a central role as a junction between the various buildings of the university campus, connecting the architectural wing on Via Quartieri with the Tassoni Estense Palace.

The quad, which is equipped with tables, comfortable seating and wireless internet, is an outdoor public place open most of the year, a pleasant and enjoyable place for meeting people, taking a break or relaxing.

From March to November, under the shade of tall trees, you'll often see students reading, studying intently, or even enjoying an al fresco lunch on this lawn.





*The quadrangle.*

## **Wi-Fi**

Thanks to the WIFE service (Wireless Internet uniFE), you can connect to high-speed internet from any location on the university campus, both in outdoor areas and in lecture halls and study rooms.

All students can access the internet through a laptop, device or smartphone by logging in with their registration number and password (i.e. the same codes used for their university email address), which are issued at the time of enrolment.

In fact, every student enrolled in the Degree Courses is issued a free email address, which is key for communications between the central university facility, lecturers, degree course contact persons, students.



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI FERRARA  
- EX LABORE FRUCTUS -

UNIFE



The University of Ferrara is one of the oldest in Italy: established in 1391 by the Marquis Alberto V d'Este, by permission of Pope Boniface IX. The first subjects taught were: Arts, Theology and Jurisprudence, and the first teachers were well renowned: Bartolomeo Saliceto, an expert among jurists, Guarino Guarini da Verona, who had the future Pope Pious II among his students, Enea Silvio Piccolomini.

During the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries, the University enjoyed the golden age of the city, which became one of the centres of Italian culture during the Renaissance.

The whole University enjoyed great fame and was blessed with the presence of illustrious intellectuals: the Portuguese botanist Amato Lusitano; Copernicus' teacher, Domenico Maria Novara; Celio Calcagnini, mathematical scholar, poet, philosopher and jurist.

Among Ferrara's illustrious students, there were: Nicolaus Copernicus, who obtained a degree in "Canon Law" (recorded on 31 May 1503), and Theophrastus von Hohenheim Bombastus, better known as Paracelsus.

Other students here were Niccolò Leonicensino and Giovanni Manardo, who became Doctor of Medicine.

After assimilation into the Papal States in 1598, the University, once the thriving educational heart of the Este family city, went into a period of decline. In 1797 the first Chair of Constitutional Law was established in Europe, by Professor Giuseppe Compagnoni, who had deep ties to the history of the Italian flag.

During the Napoleonic era, the University of Ferrara lost the ability to confer degrees. Normal university activities resumed in 1816.

After the unification of Italy, the University of Ferrara became a free university. At the start of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, with over 500 students, it was the most frequented of all free Italian universities.

Currently, the University is divided into twelve Departments: Architecture; Economics and Management; Physics and Earth Sciences; Jurisprudence; Engineering; Mathematics and Computer Science; Morphology, Surgery and Experimental Medicine; Specialist Surgical and Biomedical Sciences; Chemical and Pharmaceutical Sciences; Life Sciences and Biotechnology; Medical Sciences; Humanities.

The Departments and Study Libraries are located throughout the city. Some of them are located in modern buildings, such as the Chemical Biomedical Centre and the Scientific Technological Centre, real meeting centres for medical and biological, scientific and



*The monumental great staircase  
of the Chancellor's office.*

mathematical disciplines; others, instead, are located in old prestigious palaces.

The absolute jewels of the Este University are: the Bevilacqua Costabili Palace, a stunning example of renovation of a 16<sup>th</sup> century noble palace, where the Department of Economics and Management is located; the Tassoni Estense Palace (also a 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> century noble residence), which is home to the Department of Architecture; the Santa Maria delle Grazie Library, fruit of the restoration of an ancient convent.

The Chancellor's office of the University of Ferrara can be found in the Renaissance Renata di Francia Palace, built between 1475 and 1485, under the direction of Biagio Rossetti.

Currently, at the University of Ferrara there are over 50 degree courses on offer. Next to its broad selection of degree courses, the University also offers many opportunities for postgraduate education.

*(Excerpt from the University's website)*

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# NOTES



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