INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM IN ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING

INI DESIGN STUDIO

NIRMA UNIVERSITY
INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING
NAAC ACCREDITED 'A' GRADE

An Industry-Academia collaborative program offered jointly by Nirma University and INI Design Studio

INTRODUCTION

The International Fellowship Program offered jointly by INI Design Studio and Institute of Architecture & Planning, Nirma University (IAPNU) aspires to provide a comprehensive experience of research and practice in the emerging market economies. The program offers a full, 16 weeks (Module 1 & 2) or partial, 8 weeks (either Module 1 or Module 2) semester in Ahmedabad, India that will have an in-depth research-based studio and a mainstream practice experience. Conducted with a learning by doing approach, the student at the end of the program shall have a thorough understanding of the issues, design process and deliverables in a fast-growing economy like India.

The program focuses on providing a holistic study and practice experience in India to students from across the globe. Presently, this exposure is limited to academics through exchange programs between universities. This collaborative programme being offered jointly by a university and an established multi-disciplinary design firm shall mainstream practice orientation and also help develop industry-academia linkages.

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

The programme shall be offered in two modules – research-based studio and practice experience. Each module will be of 8 weeks duration. The student will have the option of attending either one of two modules through a partial semester or both modules through the full semester. Those attending both shall be entitled to equivalent credits. The modules will be linked with each other to provide a holistic experience and understanding of the theme and its application in real world.

MODULE 1 – RESEARCH BASED STUDIO (WEEK 1 - WEEK 8)
In this, the student shall engage into a research based field experience in various cities and other interesting sites in India. The studio shall focus on real-world problems and situations. The focus of the studio exercise shall be on field-based inquiry, analysis and documentation. The module shall delve deep into problem solving, guiding the student such that they acquire a thorough understanding of the interface between research and practice.

MODULE 2 – PRACTICAL TRAINING (WEEK 9 - WEEK 16)
The practical training shall provide the student a first-hand experience of design process, application of theoretical concepts in practice, project management and the interface between people and design in an emerging economy. In this module the student shall work on the real design projects with the professional teams at INI Design Studio and gain an exhaustive understanding of design and delivery process.

IMPORTANT DATES AND APPLICATION INFORMATION

PROGRAM START:
July of each year

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:
4th & 5th year students from the disciplines of design, architecture, planning and other related fields

APPLICATION PROCESS:
The entry to the International Fellowship program shall be based on the evaluation of the application form submitted by the candidate.

TUTION FEE:
None

TO APPLY:
Please fill in the attached form and send along with your work samples to info@inidesignstudio.com

LAST DATE FOR APPLICATION:
May of each year

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
www.nirmauni.ac.in/IANU
www.inidesignstudio.com

PROPOSED THEMES

- Heritage Mapping, Adaptive Reuse and Theme Design
- Urban Density, Social mapping and Low Cost Housing
- Traditional Architecture and Transformative Sustainability
- Inclusive Public Spaces and Urban Design

PEDAGOGY

The programme shall use a learning by doing approach, exposing the student to the real design problems and their interface with the social, physical and environmental parameters.

The studio exercise shall be led by the Institute of Architecture & Planning, Nirma University and the Practical Training shall be steered at the INI Design Studio. However, the core teams from both organizations shall work together and the student shall experience an engaging and continued interface between practice and research during the entire semester.

A guide or an anchor shall be assigned to each student from both organizations. The anchor shall support the student in their explorations and help build their individual capacity for problem-solving and decision-making.

The programme shall also have guest lectures by eminent experts in the field. Being collaborative in nature, the programme shall provide various opportunities of interaction with eminent academicians, practitioners and also experts from the corporate, NGO's and government.

COURSE CREDIT

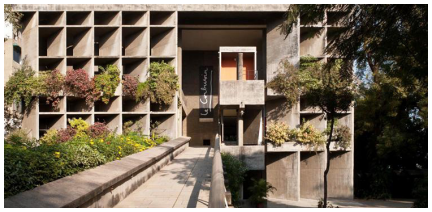
The students will attend 24 to 30 hours of coursework and field study per week at Institute of Architecture and Planning, Nirma University as part of Module One and 35-40 hours of professional practice at INI Design Studio in Module Two. As the credit system differs with each University, Nirma University and INI will provide certificate declaring total hours spent in teaching - learning and professional practice and successful completion of fellowship program. The teaching – learning approaches include Design studio, field studies, lessons, recitation / discussions and electives. The professional practice shall use varied approaches such as studios, site visits, design charrettes, client interactions expert lectures, research and application.

SCHEDULE AND HOURS

- Each module shall be of 8 weeks duration.
- There will be 24-30 contact hours per week in Module One.
- Module Two shall have 35-40 contact hours.
- Field trips and site visits shall be part of the exercise and shall be undertaken within the module duration.

EVALUATION

Both modules shall have their respective evaluation. There will be a comprehensive evaluation for students opting for the full semester programme. The expected output for the studio exercise will be in form of a document or a report that shall explain the problem, methodology, design process and the solution. For the practical training, the student shall be expected to prepare a document or a report along with a presentation to the jury and the core project team.



LIVING IN AHMEDABAD

Ahmedabad is a first world heritage city of India is also known as historical and industrial city of Gujarat, India. Ahmedabad, a historic city of western India, is located on the banks of the river Sabarmati. It is the seventh largest city in India with a population of 7.2 million.

Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation, launched Indian freedom struggle from the renowned "Sabarmati Ashram" located in Ahmedabad. Historic monuments and modern architectural edifices of futuristic visions stand side by side in this medieval city. The famous Gir National Park, the sole habitat of the majestic Asian lion and other wildlife, is about 325 km from the city.

The city houses remarkable buildings, excellent museums, and fabulous night markets. Ahmedabad has always been known for its rich history that reminds us of the Delhi Sultanate rule, Mughal rule and Maratha rule and even the freedom struggle of India. Eminent architects such as Le Corbusier and Louis Kahn designed many Modern iconic structures in Ahmedabad.

For more details on the city -
http://www.welcometoahmedabad.com/

The accommodation for the students shall be facilitated by the program organizers. Upon admission, the students shall receive the options for accommodation, the monthly rental and details of the other living logistics.

APPROXIMATE MONTHLY LIVING EXPENDITURE:
Approximately 850 USD or 700 Euro

ABOUT INI DESIGN STUDIO

INI Design Studio is an award winning, multidisciplinary design firm with a diverse portfolio in Architecture, Engineering, Planning, Urban Design, Landscape Architecture, Sustainability, Interior Design and Architecture, Research and Art. The firm, established in 2007, has an enduring commitment to deliver solutions based on research, sustainability and integrated design. INI Design operates through four office locations in India, i.e., Ahmedabad, Mumbai, Pune and Kolkata with two representative office in Atlanta (USA) and London (UK). INI Design Studio shares a strategic partnership with Stantec Inc for the South Asian region.

ABOUT NIRMA UNIVERSITY

Nirma University is one of India's leading universities based in Ahmedabad (Gujarat). The University was established in the year 2003. It is recognised by the University Grants Commission (UGC). The University is duly accredited by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC). The University is a member of Association of Indian Universities (AIU) and the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU).

Institute of Architecture & Planning Offers five year graduate programme in Architecture and four year graduate programme in Planning, Doctoral programme in Architecture, Planning and Design. The Institute has commenced its pioneer session from 2014 for B.Arch and 2016 for B.Plan. The Institute aims to establish itself as one of the leading architecture & planning institutes of the country in line with the existing institutes of the University. It has established national and international alliances with reputed institutions and provides platform to the students to have global exposure through current architecture and planning pedagogy.