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Los Angeles, California

Making+Meaning

Open to creative individuals, inspired professionals, and current college students and graduates, Making+Meaning is a four-week career exploration and portfolio building summer studio program that introduces students to architectural experimentation and transformative design techniques in a unique and lively studio setting.

Dates

June 30 - July 25, 2025

Hours

Monday - Friday, 9 am-5 pm

Location

SCI-Arc, East 3rd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90013

Submission

From January 1 to January 30, 2025.

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Reference Professor

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Coordinator

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**Credits
4 CFU**



An Introduction to Architecture and Design

The Making+Meaning program is an avenue for individuals interested in learning about architecture and design to jumpstart a profession in the field, expand existing skills, or inform a possible shift in career. No previous architectural experience is required to enroll. Beginning with a series of assignments that teach students design fundamentals, Making+Meaning projects rapidly increase in complexity and scale through hands-on production using various analog techniques and design software, from hand-built paper models to Rhino, Adobe Creative Suite, photographic documentation, 3D-scanning, and augmented reality visualization.

A Comprehensive Studio Experience

During four weeks of intensive workshops in design, fabrication, and portfolio compilation, as well as guest lectures and site visits, Making+Meaning students have 24-hour access to their own personal studio spaces. Participants also leverage the cutting-edge capabilities of SCI-Arc's state-of-the-art fabrication facilities including the Magic Box, Robot House, and Fabrication Shop, which house laser cutters, 3D scanners, 3D printers, CNC mills, multiple 6-axis robotic arms, and industrial-grade metal and woodworking machinery. The school's fabrication facilities collectively form one of the largest and most advanced at an architecture institution in the US. Expert staff assist students in their work throughout the program.

Experiencing Architecture School

Mirroring an architecture studio experience, students receive critical guidance and feedback from SCI-Arc faculty and distinguished visiting lecturers in the development of their projects, which provides participants with diverse perspectives and experienced insights on design problems while generating a portfolio of creative work. During desk crits and pin-ups, faculty help students articulate their ideas through various mediums and processes and challenge them to expand their range of production with design experimentation.

Exploring the Design Culture of Los Angeles

Through regular lectures and presentations by leading architects and designers, as well as weekly guided tours to landmark architectural sites in Los Angeles, students gain a contemporary familiarity with the expansive and historic architecture and design culture of Los Angeles.

Building and Refining a Creative Portfolio

Weekly portfolio workshops that introduce layout design and material formatting compilation strategies are an integral part of Making+Meaning, equipping students with the knowledge and tools to present their body of work in a compelling manner. Students complete the program with a fully developed creative portfolio, a critical component of any career in architecture and design.

Final Exhibition

Making+Meaning culminates in an exhibition showcasing the work completed during the program where students present their projects to a panel comprised of some of the top architects, critics, and theorists in Los Angeles.



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