

NABA

NUOVA ACCADEMIA
DI BELLE ARTI

SUMMER COURSES

A.A. 2025-26 SYLLABUS

Design –
for 15 to 18 years old
new*

1st session: June 30th – July 10th 2026

www.naba.it



Design - for 15 to 18 years old

School: Nuova Accademia di Belle Arti Rome (NABA)

Address: Via Ostiense 92, 00152 Rome, Italy

Phone: +39.06.90251.309

E-mail: summer@naba.it

Course Structure: 45 hours – 9 lesson days

ECTS: 3 ECTS credits*

Introductory level

*ECTS credits are only awarded to university students or participants who are completing or have completed a university or academic study path

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course aims to present the main aspects of contemporary interior and product design realm, through a series of workshops and experimental activities. In today's world, designers play a fundamental role in critically “shaping” the daily rituals of the communities that inhabit the global city (world city). This activity involves not only designing spaces or objects/products, but above all relationships for solidarity and sustainable living. The designer is a seismograph of change, an agent of humanity and empathy, and an activator of innovative processes. The course will allow participants to deal with the self-construction of a full-scale outdoor educational space (a classroom) where they will meet every day to discuss the day's work program.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- **Understand the fundamental principles of contemporary design**

Introduce students to the basic concepts of interior and product design, the culture of design practice, and the roles of the designer in contemporary society, with a special focus on empathy, sustainability, and social innovation.

- **Experience the creative process through “learning by doing”**

Encourage experiential learning through hands-on workshops in sketching, modeling, material exploration, and introduction to digital representation and fabrication techniques.

- **Develop collaborative and critical thinking skills**

Foster teamwork and the ability to critically analyze and discuss design projects and contemporary design phenomena through cooperative learning approaches and shared reflection.



- **Explore the design context within the contemporary city**

Provide direct experiences of observation and discovery of the Roman and international design scene through visits to studios, museums, exhibitions, and urban spaces, promoting a “nomadic” and global perspective on design.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

This course is intended for students who have no background in design. In order to enroll in the course, students must be between 15 and 18 years old.

OUTPUT

On the final day, students will showcase the outcomes of their creative journey through a carefully curated notebook — either analog or digital — serving as a visual and textual logbook of their experience. This collection of sketches, reflections, and design explorations will be displayed within the outdoor classroom space that the students themselves will have designed and built earlier in the course. Each student will then take their notebook home as a tangible memento of their personal and collective experience at NABA.

LIST OF MATERIALS AND TOOLS

laptop, USB Key;

sketchbook and notebook/tablet

sketching materials

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Class attendance is required for successful completion of the course. Attendance will be taken at every class period. Students should attend every lesson and try to be in class at least 10 minutes before the beginning of class. On the last day of classes, instructors will issue a **Certificate of successful attendance only to all students who complete at least 80% of the course.**

COURSE POLICY

The Faculty of NABA takes Academic integrity seriously. Instances of academic dishonesty such as plagiarism won't be tolerated. Mobile phones will be kept switched off all the time during class. Use of laptops during classes for personal purposes is forbidden.



TEACHING METHODS

Learning by doing: a mix of theoretical lessons, field trips and practical workshops.

Grading

Total number of ECTS assigned for the successful completion of the course: **3 ECTS**

Grading Weights		Grading Scale
1. Attendance	30 %	Excellent = 90-100
2. Participation and Creative Process	40 %	Good = 80-89
3. Final work / Final presentation	30 %	Average = 70-79
		Below Average = 60-69
TOTAL	100 %	Poor = 59 or below

	Excellent 90 -100%	Good 80 – 89%	Average 70 – 79%	Below Average 60 – 69%	Poor Below 60%
Attendance (30%)	On time, perfect attendance	Seldom late: attended between 95% and 90 % of the course	Occasionally late: attended between 90 % and 85 % of the course	Occasionally late: attended between 85% and 80% of the course	Frequently late, attended less than 80% of the course: FAILED
Participation and Creative Process (40 %)	Demonstrates strong understanding of the topic & thorough, creative research	Shows good grasp of the topic & good research	Exhibits average comprehension of the topic & average research	Shows some awareness of the topic & below average awareness of research	Has shallow insight into the topic & poor grasp of research
Original Project (Final work/ Final presentation) (30%)	Exhibits exceptional analysis of concepts & production of original proposal	Exhibits exceptional analysis of concepts & production of original proposal	Exhibits average analysis of concepts & production of original proposal	Exhibits below average analysis of concepts & production of original proposal	Exhibits poor analysis of concepts & production of original proposal



1ST WEEK AND 2ND WEEK

COURSE SCHEDULE	
Day 1 - Tuesday	Welcome and Registration Introduction to the course
Day 2 - Wednesday	Lecture: History and Critics Workshop for the self-construction of a full-scale outdoor educational space
Day 3 - Thursday	Lecture: Sketching, Modeling, Materials, Processes Workshop learning by doing
Day 4 - Friday	<i>*Field Trip</i>
Day 5 - Monday	Lecture: Digital manufacturing and Virtual Representation Workshop learning by doing
Day 6 - Tuesday	Lecture: Social Innovation and Service Design Workshop learning by doing
Day 7 - Wednesday	<i>*Field Trip</i>
Day 8 - Thursday	Lecture: Green transition and Cooperative design processes Workshop learning by doing
Day 9 - Friday	Editing and closing remarks Final Presentation

*The school reserves the right to:

- amend or cancel courses, change course location or substitute course leaders, professors, guests, visit's location.
- make any changes that in our absolute discretion we consider necessary or appropriate for reasons of operational efficiency or due to any other circumstances that are beyond our control.