

# Istituto Lorenzo de' Medici

THE ITALIAN INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE

## CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS at LdM Florence

**NUTRITION, ITALIAN GASTRONOMY AND CULTURE:** Italian Gastronomy and Culture • Nutrition  
**DESIGN:** Fashion Design, Marketing, and Merchandising • Graphic Design and Visual Communication  
Architecture • Interior Design • Product Design • Jewelry Design  
**CREATIVE ARTS:** Fine Arts • Restoration and Conservation

ALL COURSES ARE IN ENGLISH

 **LdM** The Italian  
International  
Institute  
Lorenzo de' Medici

# CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS *at LdM Florence*

*Istituto Lorenzo de' Medici offers Certificate Programs designed to develop student creativity, artistic talent, and technical skills within structured plans of study. Combining a strong theoretical base with practical work for the pursuit of a real profession, students can choose among:*

- Semester Certificates
- One-Year Certificates
- Professional/Advanced Certificates (one- and two-year programs)

*Experiential learning is LdM's main tool to foster students' future professional development.*

**Semester Certificates** give students the opportunity to gather the professional skills and the theoretical underpinnings of their field of choice in a single semester. These certificates address specific areas that lead to a variety of possible career options, with a balance of courses that help students advance in their field of choice. Semester certificates consist mainly of three core courses and a choice of two out of three/four track courses (Italian language study is encouraged but no language courses are required). Semester Certificate sessions start fall and spring semesters.

**One-Year Certificates** offer a comprehensive course structure addressing students' own professional goals. The class selection has been pre-planned in order to allow students to follow the most appropriate course sequence in the area of study that they wish to pursue. Sessions start fall semester only. Students with prior knowledge of the selected field of study may be admitted to the second semester (in spring only), after submitting a portfolio of their work to be assessed and approved.

**Professional/Advanced Certificates** are designed for students who have a solid background in the area of study. Students can combine the One-Year Certificate and the Professional/Advanced Certificate, or apply to either one according to their experience and education levels. Students who have successfully completed the One-Year Certificate may progress into the Professional/Advanced Certificate (according to the program selected) completing the two-year program. Students applying for the Professional/Advanced Certificate Program must provide evidence of their background in the selected area. An admissions committee will review the application and accept only those students who meet the entry requirements. Sessions for Professional/Advanced certificates start fall semester only.

## **50 Years of Growth and Experience**

Founded in 1973 in Florence, LdM is among Italy's most distinctive and established international institutes for higher education. With 50 years of growth and experience, LdM offers more than 500 different courses in 36 academic subject areas, focused on Creative Arts, Design, Nutrition, Italian Gastronomy and Culture, Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, Italian Language and Culture, Science and Mathematics, and Agriculture.

LdM hosts an average of more than 3000 students per year from all over the world. With its main campus in Florence, it also has premises in Tuscania (Lazio region), providing the opportunity for students to study abroad in multiple locations and truly experience the cultural richness of both historical and contemporary Italy.

At LdM, formal university-level learning is integrated with an emphasis on personal growth, individual engagement, and community responsibility, offering educational opportunities deeply rooted in the surrounding environment.

## **Our Mission**

Istituto Lorenzo de' Medici is committed to delivering a high-quality international learning experience through which students develop their creativity, realize their own potential, and empower themselves to impact the world around them.

## **The Faculty**

At LdM, we value the transmission of artistic and artisanal knowledge, and we are proud to be located in a city that is renowned for its heritage in these fields. Our expert faculty members are dedicated to passing on their knowledge and skills to our students, using a combination of traditional and modern techniques.





*All our certificate programs offer a deep dive into Italian excellence, balancing a strong theoretical foundation with practical skills.*



*The pre-set sequences are designed to offer a comprehensive and compact program, enabling students to become well-acquainted with and excel in their field of interest.*

# SEMESTER *certificates*

## Italian Gastronomy

The certificate allows students to explore and understand through time and culture the traditional art of Italian Cuisine.

The certificate identifies the main trends in Italian cooking and develops skills in pairing food and wine for menu planning. To round out the educational experience, students engage in the practical hand-on preparation of traditional Italian dishes.

### Core Courses

*Italian Identity Across Food and Culture*

*Current Trends in Italian Cuisine*

*An Italian Sensory Experience: Pairing Food and Wine*

### Track Courses

Students are required to choose two courses from the following:

*Not Just Italian Food: Culinary & Cultural Traditions*

*Food Photography*

*From History to the Kitchen: Savors and Traditions*

*Italian Language*

## Balance in Nutrition

The certificate provides students with a comprehensive approach to eating and understanding the positive effects of healthy food.

The certificate highlights the connections between products and environment; the existence of a shared dietary pattern in the Mediterranean lifestyle and its health benefits; the basics of the chemistry and biology of nutrition and the physiological principles that underlie a balanced diet.

### Core Courses

*The Journey to Well-Being*

*Where Food Meets Health: The Mediterranean Diet*

*Italian Foodways: The Connection Between Nutrition and Culture*

### Track Courses

Students are required to choose two courses from the following:

*Vegetarianism Between Culture and Lifestyle*

*The Science of Food, Health, and Well-Being*

*Sustainable Food and the New Global Challenge*

*Italian Language*



# SEMESTER *certificates*

## Architecture in Urban Context

This certificate is focused on designing architecture in urban environments.

Students improve skills in technical and 3D drawings, and apply them while developing a project in an urban context, where they consider all the influences from the site and surroundings.

Furthermore, students learn from case studies and from involvement with the host city: they analyze, evaluate and critique architectural projects in terms of their sustainability.

### Core Courses

*Public Space Design*  
*Sustainable Architecture*  
*Architecture in its Environment*

### Track Courses

*Students are required to choose two courses from the following:*  
*Contemporary Architecture*  
*Architecture Studio: Special Topics*  
*Technical Drawing*

## Interior Design in Contemporary Living

This certificate develops analytical and technical skills in creating design solutions for contemporary living spaces.

Students learn to address client needs, present projects effectively, explore design solutions and illustrate plans in 3D, with attention to materials, constructive techniques and technologies.

### Core Courses

*Technical Drawing*  
*Design for Living Spaces*  
*Interior Design II*

### Track Courses

*Students are required to choose two courses from the following:*  
*Lighting Design*  
*Furniture Design*  
*Textile Science*

## Product Design Towards Sustainability

This certificate combines functional design and environmental awareness.

The core courses allow students to sharpen skills in technical 3D drawing/rendering and in creating specification sheets. Students also focus on designing viable projects, using different methods of drawing and modeling.

They learn to analyze, evaluate and critique design projects in terms of their sustainability.

### Core Courses

*Technical Drawing*  
*Product Design II*  
*Sustainable Design*

### Track Courses

*Students are required to choose two courses from the following:*  
*Aesthetics of Design: Theory and Practice*  
*Introduction to Environmental Issues*  
*Design Materials*



# SEMESTER *certificates*



## Visual Communication for Fashion

The core courses of this certificate provide an overview to facilitate the understanding of design and visual communication in the fashion industry.

The diverse fields of study offer students insight into the areas of communicating fashion through illustration, retail merchandising displays, fashion reviews, blogs, and through the lens of fashion photography.

Students learn to understand fashion as a significant cultural expression, and to use brand positioning strategies to convey fashion identity through both traditional and digital channels.

### Core Courses

*Introduction to The Fashion Industry*  
*Fashion Illustration I*  
*Fashion Communication*

### Track Courses

*Students are required to choose two courses from the following:*

*Anthropology of Fashion and Desirability*  
*Visual Merchandising*  
*Principles of Fashion Photography*



## Fashion Sustainability

This certificate gives students insight to understand the issues surrounding sustainable thinking. The program provides awareness to eco-friendly methods and processes in contributing to the preservation of our planet.

This course of study offers an examination into emerging trends implemented to meet consumer demands for product transparency and effective communication in consumer's purchasing habits.

The curriculum addresses diverse areas of sustainable practices within the fashion industry and material alternatives while broadening an understanding of the Italian perspective of experimental design, sustainable textiles and responsible business.

### Core Courses

*Introduction to Fashion Industry*  
*Sustainable Materials*  
*Fashion and Sustainability*  
*Experimental and Sustainable Fashion Design*

### Track Courses

*Students are required to choose one course from the following:*  
*Corporate Social Responsibility*  
*Environmental Philosophy*  
*Sustainability: Science, Political Economy and Business*

## Global Luxury

Addressing the increasing growth of the luxury sector and sales, students gain a broader understanding of the brands and strategies encompassing diverse industries. The concentration of courses offer a specialized pathway with components of history, communication and business segments of the international luxury markets. Includes emerging trends and business practices with a focus on Italian and European brands.

### Core Courses

*Made in Italy: A Culture of Excellence*  
*History of Italian Fashion*  
*Luxury Brand Management*

*Students are required to choose one course from each group below:*

### One course from Communication

*Visual Culture in Italy since 1945 (Art, Design, Media)*  
*Communication and the Art of Leadership*

### One course from International Business

*International Marketing*  
*Global Sales Management*



# STUDENT *works*

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At Istituto Lorenzo de' Medici, we believe in the importance of effective communication. Communication surrounds us in various forms, including speech, art, music, fashion, and design. Our students' projects convey different stories, each with its own unique narrative. Let's take the time to listen to them!

### Student Works

1. Eleanor Hasley, Mia Maniscalco, Olivia Cirocco, Megan Vriezelaar, Fashion Styling
2. Charlotte Allsbrook, Etching
3. Madeline Ambrosino, Jewelry Design
4. Ainsley Walter, Fashion Illustration
5. Paloma Quantilla, Brand Design
6. Cassie Luehring, Exhibit Design
7. Jack Masters, Painting
8. Harrison Rubis, Graphic Design
9. Juliana Kish, Drawing
10. Julie Anne Garza, Jill de la Luz, Architecture Studio: Special Topics

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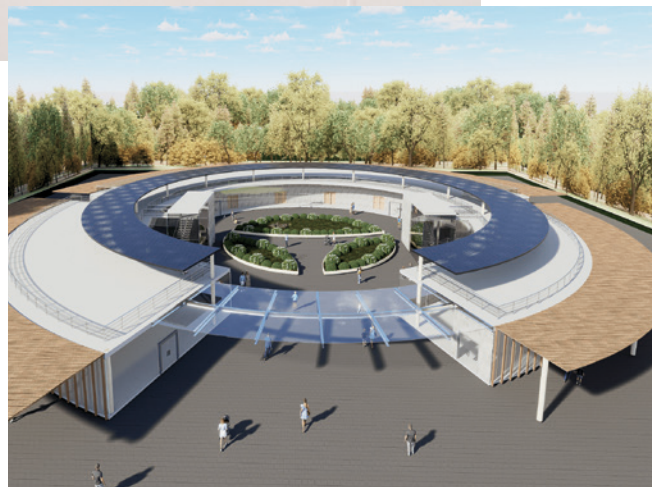
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# ONE-YEAR *certificates*

## **Graphic Design and Visual Communication**

The Certificate offers students the opportunity to learn and analyze the graphic rules, the aesthetic balances and the communication strategies which underpin a good design.

Students acquire a solid methodology for solving graphic and visual projects, learn how to combine traditional and digital media, to manipulate images, and to analyze the expressive power of color and the way it relates to space and composition, while they work on multimedia communication projects, create graphic identities and realize practical projects in global, real-world work scenarios.

### **Year 1**

#### **1st Semester - Fall Only**

*Digital Graphic Techniques Fundamentals*

*20th-Century Graphics and Illustration Digital Sketchbook*

*Foundations of Visual Communication Fundamentals of Art and Design: Color Theory*

#### **2nd Semester - Spring Only**

*Graphic Design*

*Web Design*

*Rendering Essentials*

*Workshop in Graphic Design*

*Graphic Design Project Development*



## **Fashion Marketing and Merchandising**

The program focuses on the dynamics of retail buying, market strategy, brand identification and management within a global context. Emerging trends are examined and implemented to meet the consumer demand for product, distribution and effective visual communication.

The certificate prepares students with business knowledge and skills while providing a foundation for a wide range of career opportunities in fashion merchandising, management, buying, visual merchandising, marketing, public relations and diverse areas in retail and promotion.

### **Year 1**

#### **1st Semester - Fall Only**

*Introduction to The Fashion Industry*

*Textile Science*

*Fashion Marketing*

*Fashion Consumer Behavior*

*Visual Merchandising*

#### **2nd Semester - Spring Only**

*Retail Management*

*Fashion Buying Concepts*

*Luxury Brand Management*

*Fashion Entrepreneurship*

#### **Choice of one of the following:**

*International Business Negotiation*

*Global Fashion Merchandising*

## **Fashion Design**

The program is designed to develop students' ability to perform in today's evolving fashion industry, to think critically and to find innovative solutions. It offers a rich experience and an opportunity to acquire industry skills in the areas of design, illustration, textiles, pattern development and digital technology.

A solid theoretical foundation with practical application is at the heart of the program while promoting a collaborative and interdisciplinary approach to learning within a global context. The focus is the development of creativity, technical and visual communication skills for a broad range of career opportunities including fashion design, product development, technical design, patternmaking, textile design, trend forecasting and more.

### **Year 1**

#### **1st Semester - Fall Only**

*Introduction to The Fashion Industry*

*Construction Techniques*

*Fashion Illustration I*

*Textile Science*

*CAD for Fashion Design I*

*History of Costume*

#### **2nd Semester - Spring Only**

*Patternmaking*

*Fabric Styling*

*Fashion Illustration II*

*Draping*

*Knitwear I*



# ONE-YEAR *certificates*

## Interior Design

The Interior Design Program gives students the opportunity to work in teams on a project for a real customer.

Professors and lecturers provide an inside view into what to expect from the professional world and how to navigate it successfully. Field trips to furniture factories, designer offices, and artist studios offer students a hands-on experience of all aspects of Interior Design.

### Year 1

#### 1st Semester - Fall Only

*Interior Design I*

*Product Design I*

*Perspective Drawing and Rendering*

*CAD for Interior Design I*

*Digital Graphic Techniques*

*Fundamentals*

#### 2nd Semester - Spring Only

*20th-Century Design and Architecture*

*Technical Drawing*

*Design Materials*

*Interior Design II*

*CAD for Interior Design II*



## Jewelry Design

Florence has a long-standing tradition in jewelry making and the LdM School of Design offers an artistic and cultural reference point for students, who start with the history of jewelry design, and pair with various jewelry techniques.

LdM encourages experimentation; each project is designed to stimulate individual learning and skills development, and students learn to channel their creative inspiration through the manual skills acquired.

### Year 1

#### 1st Semester - Fall Only

*The History and Symbolism of Jewelry*  
*Jewelry Design I*

*Metals in Jewelry Making*

*Wax Carving and Casting Techniques I*

*Jewelry Making I*

#### 2nd Semester - Spring Only

*Gemology*

*Jewelry Design II*

*Jewelry Making II*

*Jewelry Brand Identity*

*Stone Setting I*



## Fine Arts

In the Fine Arts Program at LdM, students have the opportunity to discover their own creative genius by utilizing everything Florence has to offer: inspiration from the finest painters of the Renaissance, unparalleled access to museums, contemporary artists' studios in the richest of art environments.

Every year, students produce art in the form of sculptures, ceramics, paintings, drawings, and printmaking, and showcase their work as part of LdM initiative The Art Is in the Square, an open-air exhibition taking place every May in the centre of Florence.

### Year 1

#### 1st Semester - Fall Only

*Art History II: High Renaissance to the Present*

*Principles of Drawing and Composition*

*Foundation Oil Painting*

*Basic Printmaking*

*Ceramics and Well-Being*

#### 2nd Semester - Spring Only

*Avant-Garde and Modernist Art (1900-1950)*

*Fundamentals of Art and Design: Color Theory*

*Intermediate Drawing*

*Intermediate Painting*

*Etching*

# ONE-YEAR *certificate*

# PROFESSIONAL/ ADVANCED *certificates*

## Restoration and Conservation

Through the LdM Restoration and Conservation Certificate, students are provided with the skills required to restore precious artworks from around the world.

The students participate in the restoration of frescoes and murals, work with self-made oil paints, and learn the techniques of gilding and egg tempera. They also explore the differences between fresco techniques on wet and dry plaster and work directly on original artifacts from the 14th to 19th centuries.

### Year 1

#### 1st Semester - Fall Only

*Fresco Painting and Restoration I*  
*Painting Conservation I*  
*Drawing for Conservators*  
*General Chemistry I with Lab*  
*Art History elective*

#### 2nd Semester - Spring Only

*Historical Painting Lab I*  
*Fresco Painting and Restoration II*  
*Painting Conservation II*  
*Art History elective*

#### Choice of one of the following:

*General Chemistry II with Lab*  
*Fine Arts elective*

## Fashion Design

The Professional program emphasizes creativity, originality, technical excellence, and marketability. It fosters an interdisciplinary approach rooted in Italian and Florentine haute couture traditions.

### Year 2

#### 1st Semester - Fall Only

*Accessory Design*  
*Advanced Pattern Development*  
*Product Development*  
*Trend Forecasting*  
*Experimental & Sustainable Fashion Design*

#### 2nd Semester - Spring Only

*Collection Development I*  
*CAD for Fashion Design II*  
*Portfolio Development*  
*Interdisciplinary Design*

#### Choice of one of the following:

*Knitwear II*  
*Fashion or Business elective*  
*(to be selected by candidate)*

## Interior Design

Professional students explore design within a global context, inspired by renowned Italian and international designers. Interdisciplinary projects promote a collective approach, honing students' critical and analytical skills, preparing them for today's multidisciplinary work environment.

### Year 2

#### 1st Semester - Fall Only

*Product Design II*  
*Retail Design*  
*Lighting Design*  
*Computer Rendering for Interior Design*  
*Sustainable Design*

#### 2nd Semester - Spring Only

*Web Portfolio Presentation*  
*Concepts and Strategies in Retail Design*  
*Furniture Design*  
*Exhibit Design*  
*Interdisciplinary Design*





# PROFESSIONAL/ ADVANCED *certificates*

## Jewelry Design

Professional Jewelry students experience a professional working environment and focus on hands-on projects, developing a jewelry collection from research and concept to realization. The project is presented in a public exhibition, enriching their portfolio.

### Year 2

#### 1st Semester - Fall Only

*Florentine Jewelry Engraving Techniques*

*Jewelry Design III*

*Jewelry Making III*

*Wax Carving and Casting Techniques II*

*Individual Jewelry Project\**

#### 2nd Semester - Spring Only

*Stone Setting II*

*Portfolio Development in Jewelry*

*Jewelry Making IV*

*Professional Jewelry Experience*

*Individual Jewelry Project\**

*\*The Individual Jewelry Project consists of mandatory lab hours during which students develop their own projects, giving space to creativity, experimentation, and self-expression. A Jewelry instructor will be available at the Jewelry Lab.*

## Fine Arts

Advanced Fine Arts students, after mastering the basics, develop their own style while studying major contemporary Italian, European, and American artists. They explore aesthetics and compositional balance, consolidating techniques in drawing and painting across various media.

### Year 2

#### 1st Semester - Fall Only

*Contemporary Art*

*Expanding Creativity*

*Advanced Drawing I:  
Observation and Interpretation*

*Advanced Painting I:  
Observation and Interpretation*

*Introductory Sculpture*

#### 2nd Semester - Spring Only

*Images and Words*

*Studio Art Professional Portfolio*

*Advanced Drawing II*

*Advanced Painting II*

*Major Project in Fine Arts*

*Intermediate Sculpture*

## Restoration and Conservation

In the Professional program, students master traditional and contemporary conservation techniques and materials, and learn formal documentation methods, from photography to historical research, crucial for authentication. Advanced students apply these skills to evaluate and develop post-restoration care plans.

### Year 2

#### 1st Semester - Fall Only

*Theory of Conservation*

*Science for Conservators II*

*Historical Painting Lab II*

*Advanced Fresco Painting and Restoration*

*Advanced Painting Conservation*

#### 2nd Semester - Spring Only

*Furniture, Wood Objects and Gilding Conservation*

*Special Topics in Restoration*

*Advanced Project for Painting Conservation*

*Advanced Project for Fresco and Mural Painting Restoration*

*Art History elective*





*Certificate programs are tailored for students seeking a strong foundation and professional experience in their field of study.*

# HOW TO *apply*

*LdM welcomes thousands of students from all over the world. The admissions process varies according to program of interest and credit-seeking status.*

Non-native English speakers are required to provide certification of proficiency in English, or other evidence.

Students applying for the One-Year Certificate with prior knowledge of the selected field of study may be admitted to the non-beginning semester after submitting a portfolio of their work to be assessed and approved. Students applying for the Professional/Advanced Certificate Program must provide proof of a solid background in the selected area.

Students who have completed LdM Certificate Programs are eligible to apply for transfer to the corresponding Marist-LdM Bachelor's Degree Programs. US credit for work already completed is granted on an individual basis after evaluation.

Please visit our website to learn more or contact us for personalized information: [info@ldminstitute.com](mailto:info@ldminstitute.com)



[www.ldminstitute.com/  
admissions/](http://www.ldminstitute.com/admissions/)

## APPLICATION *deadlines*

**Fall Semester:** June 15

**Spring Semester:** November 15

For any further enquires contact: [www.ldminstitute.com](http://www.ldminstitute.com)

## FOLLOW US *on social media*



Istituto Lorenzo de' Medici | @Istituto\_LdM

*Restoration student working on  
an authentic artwork attributed to  
Florentine painter Plautilla Nelli,  
16th century. Private collection.*



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