

Training model proposed for the Artisans' Residency Training Programme in Rome, based on the School of Arts and Crafts of the Fabric of Saint Peter, Vatican

The training course for aspiring artisans lasts 600 hours.

Each day alternates between classroom lessons and workshop sessions: study and work are continuously intertwined, forming a path that leads students to master the craft through direct experience, enriched with historical, technical, and design content, the principle on which the school's teaching plan and method are based.

Core modules include classroom lessons dedicated to the history of artistic techniques, knowledge of materials and their uses, and construction and architectural principles (**approximately 120 hours**).

To complement the lessons, the programme offers **in-depth seminars and educational visits**, providing opportunities for direct interaction with specialists and workplaces (**approximately 20 hours**).

These experiences will allow students to connect crafts, materials, and processes, showing how each area contributes to the construction and care of a work. This overview prepares each student to develop their specific skills with greater awareness and a sense of belonging.

Each student then follows a specialization course in their chosen craft:

- Bricklayers, plasterers, and decorators follow a course dedicated to traditional construction techniques, plastering, and finishing, with in-depth studies of decorative wall and surface finishes, and traditional wall painting techniques done on wet plaster.
- Marble workers and stonemasons follow a course focused on knowledge of stone materials and manual and mechanical working techniques, from cutting and chiseling to smoothing and polishing surfaces, to the creation of inscriptions and decorative elements;
- Mosaicists learn the historical and technical study of mosaics, from classical to modern times, and deepen their knowledge of materials and techniques, with exercises aimed at creating miniature mosaics;
- Blacksmiths work with iron and metals, from traditional forging and welding techniques to the use of contemporary tools and the design of decorative and structural elements;
- Carpenters learn about wood and its essences, carpentry and cabinetmaking techniques, and the construction and finishing of artifacts and structures.

To complement **the workshop activities (approximately 400 hours)**, each of the five training courses includes **theoretical lessons dedicated to the physical and chemical properties of the materials covered in the course** and their use in history and art (**approximately 60 hours**).

At the end of the training course, **the School issues students with a certificate of participation** listing the theoretical lessons and workshop activities they have completed.