**Southern California Institute of Architecture (SCI-Arc)**

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| About partner | About partner | The Southern California Institute of Architecture (SCI-Arc) is a centre of innovation and one of the few independent architecture schools in the US. SCI-Arc is dedicated to educating architects who will imagine and shape the future.  The SCI-Arch campus is housed in a long, narrow building that was once a railroad freight depot. Located in the heart of Los Angeles in the artist's district, SCI-Arc is known for the vibrant atmosphere of its studios, providing students with an inspiring environment in which to study Architecture.  SCI-Arc offers students a distinctive experience as they pursue undergraduate and postgraduate degrees. Approximately 500 students and 80 faculty members—most of whom are practicing architects—work together in a fluid, non-hierarchical manner to re-think assumptions and test the limits of architecture through exploration. |
|  | About Los Angeles | When people think of Los Angeles they often think of Hollywood, the home of the world’s movie and entertainment industry. Yet there is much more to Los Angeles than that. Due to its vast size (in terms of population, Los Angeles is the second biggest city in the US) you will find that an eclectic mix of cultures is entwined throughout the city. There is never a dull moment in the city, from Beverly Hills and Sunset Strip to the communities of Santa Monica and Venice Beach, you will be charmed by the varied enclaves of Los Angeles. |
|  | Did you know? | The 2013 America’s Best Architecture Schools survey from DesignIntelligence ranks SCI-Arc as the #1 architecture program in the Western US, with national rankings placing it at #2 undergraduate and #6 postgraduate program in the US overall. |
| Academic information | Main areas of study | * Architecture   **Note:**   * The listed areas of study are not necessarily exhaustive and other fields of study might also be available at the partner institution. Moreover, names for fields of study may be different overseas. * A discipline being listed does not in indicate the suitability of the program, nor does it indicate that the discipline is taught in English. * Approval to study particular subjects at any institution is always at the discretion of the departmental/discipline and faculty advisors at RMIT University and subject to available places at the host institution. |
|  | Language requirements | Programs are taught in English. |
|  | Full time load [Equivalent to 96 RMIT Credit Points] | 12 – 15 US credits is considered the full-time load per semester. |
|  | Link to courses | Download the SCI-Arc Course Catalog here: <http://www.sciarc.edu/portal/programs/overview/index.html> |
| Living | Accommodation | SCI-Arc does not offer on-campus accommodation. Most students live in apartments in the downtown area or in the surrounding communities – the Arts District, Little Tokyo, Echo Park, Chinatown, Silverlake or Koreatown.    For more information on how to search for housing go to: <http://www.sciarc.edu/portal/admissions/housing/index.html> |
|  | Health insurance | Health insurance is compulsory for exchange students at SCI-Arc. |
|  | Living cost | A number of external services provide comprehensive overviews of global living costs, for example:   * [www.expatistan.com](http://www.expatistan.com) * [www.numbeo.com](http://www.numbeo.com)   **Note**  RMIT University is not affiliated with any of these page |
| Funding Opportunities | OS-HELP information | [OS-HELP Information page](http://www.rmit.edu.au/scholarships/os-help)  <http://www.rmit.edu.au/scholarships/os-help> |
|  | Link to scholarships page? | [All travel scholarships](http://www.rmit.edu.au/scholarships/travel)  <<http://www.rmit.edu.au/scholarships/travel>> |
| Useful information | Link to partner exchange page | <http://www.sciarc.edu/portal/admissions/apply/international_students.html> |
|  | Visa | Exchange students need a J-1 visa to study in the US.  Please note that immigration requirements are subject to change. Please visit <http://www.state.gov/> for the most updated information. |