



FACULTY-LED TRAVEL

STUDY ART IN NEW YORK CITY



2

WEEKS

3

CREDITS

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SUMMER
2026

CITY AS STUDIO

A Research-Driven Studio Intensive


COURSE OBJECTIVES

City as Studio is designed to provide **maximum access to indelible real-world experiences** that are possible only by walking the neighborhoods, galleries, museums and public spaces of New York City.


As an antidote to our increasingly mediated, digitized interactions with art and design, students will conduct **direct personal encounters with actual physical artworks** they may know only from books, social media and Pinterest boards.

The goal is to galvanize new modes of conceptual and material making, strengthen the skills of exploration foundational to an inspired studio practice, and create a rich body of reference material to inform and nourish that practice for years to come.

STUDIO / CLASSROOM



With 200 spoken languages and three million foreign-born residents, New York City is the most culturally diverse city in the world. This diversity has given birth to many major cultural movements, including Hip Hop, Punk, Salsa, Abstract Expressionism, Pop Art, Conceptual Art and the Harlem Renaissance.



Artists have always been drawn here. Today, New York City is a global hub for publishing, fashion and modern dance, and the capital of the contemporary art market.

During these two weeks, students will fill their minds, sketchbooks and photo albums with the unparalleled cultural vibrancy and legendary artistic resources of New York City.



NYC x YOU

This immersive, intensive, around-the-clock program is built around daily walking tours to world-renowned cultural institutions and art spaces such as the High Line, the Whitney Biennial, MOMA and the Guggenheim as well as visits with local curators, artists and art dealers.



Each day's time will be balanced between structured group investigation and unscripted independent exploration. With a focus on experiential learning, students will be encouraged to wander, observe and engage at their own pace and in their own ways. Through it all, they will gain exposure to the incredible ways the city's myriad of forces and ideas continually intersect, intermingle, infect, inflect and iterate each other.

ITINERARY

NEWYORKCITY

June 10-23, 2026

Weekdays 9am-6pm

Programmed group and independent explorations of cultural institutions, public spaces and neighborhoods.

Weekends

Individual research and reference gathering projects, conducted solo with faculty guidance and recommendations.





Learning to navigate New York City is an integral part of the course. Students will be housed in a beautiful, centrally located neighborhood near major subway lines with excellent connectivity to the whole city. As they find their way around the city, they will also be mastering one of the world's largest and most complex public transportation systems. Students will take turns researching tour destinations and providing background information to the group.

Jarrett Mellenbruch earned a BFA in painting from the Rhode Island School of Design and an MFA from the Maine College of Art. He has taught at the Kansas City Art Institute for 12 years as an Assistant Professor of Sculpture, Social Practice and Foundation, reflecting his transdisciplinary studio practice.

Prior to joining KCAI, he lived for 12 years in Brooklyn and Manhattan, working as an artist, running an art project space in SoHo, and exploring the city by bike, foot and subway. He returns often to New York for creative projects and contemporary art exhibits.

