Who We Are

Santa Fe University of Art and Design focuses exclusively on career preparedness in innovative and creative industries. Experience the unique benefits of a small, safe, clean community to nurture your artistic and creative lifestyle – SFUAD was founded as a Liberal Arts college and still maintains those roots! You’ll be able to learn in an academically rigorous setting, network with professionals in your industry, earn your degree, and get ready for a career.

Go Outside!
Santa Fe has countless opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts:
» 1.5 million acres of natural forests
» A ski/snowboarding resort in the city, and 3 more within a 2-hour drive.
» Ranked top mountain biking town in the USA
» Ranked top trail-running town in the USA
» Horseback riding, hot-air ballooning, river rafting, exploring ancient ruins, and more.

Residential Campus
Our residential campus means everything you need is comfortably in one place:
» Dormitories to call home
» Award winning, convenient, on-campus Café serves organic, healthy dining options with locally grown foods.
» On-campus fitness center
» On-campus movie theatre
» Concerts, readings, performances, art and photography shows, and more.

Facilities
State-of-the-art artistic facilities let you start creating immediately:
» One of only two schools in the USA with Hollywood green-screens
» Professional theatre, darkrooms, artistic studios
» Music production and recording studios
» Digital labs
» Performing and exhibition spaces for all majors - from film, to performing arts to music

Affordability
SFUAD might feel far away and in an exotic location but we can still make studying abroad affordable – we offer international talent scholarships and the coveted Robert Redford/Milagro Institute scholarship.
Where We Are

The most welcoming environment in the USA: The Land of Enchantment. We’ve been ranked as having the Cleanest Air by the American Lung Association, and we have over 320 days of sunshine per year! It’s a perfect environment for artists, with unique light, an expansive sky and natural peacefulness that will enhance your creativity. We’re also one of the fastest growing locations for film and television in the United States, and host some of the largest art festivals in the country.

Food
Try food you’ve never eaten before! We’ve been ranked Top 5 Food/Drink in the USA. Fall in love with the cuisine of NM, and or have a taste of home at our Asian and Indonesian food markets.

Climate
Santa Fe is a mountain town – with all of the glorious views and big sky that comes with it. We experience all four seasons without humidity. The warm spring and summer days give way to cool evenings. And the snow in the winter provides great skiing. We’re over 2,000 meters above sea level – that’s why the air is so clean and the sun is so bright! These natural features are what bring artists to the city – great landscape, filming never gets rained out, and there’s always something to be inspired by.

Location
Coming to Santa Fe makes other American landmarks close and accessible: we’re also just a road trip away from the Grand Canyon or Las Vegas. Have an American adventure! You can also fly to Los Angeles, California, home of Hollywood, in just one hour.

What You’ll Experience

Why You Should Come

Cultural Experience
Gain the necessary global perspective that will make you successful in your chosen career. Creativity is a global language – and to succeed at it, you need to understand multiple cultures and how to work among them!

Study where the native language is English. Meet people from all over the world. There’s value in a degree from an American university. Try something new! Just think how inspiring it will be to experience life and learning in the USA. The life-changing experience of living in another country helps evolve and expand your abilities to network in the world.

Academic Support
Our academic support system will help you on your path to success: our faculty work closely with our students, and serve as student mentors on an individual basis. SFUAD class sizes are small (12:1), our career services counselor will help you arrange internships and employment opportunities – the list goes on and on!

Government Endorsements
SFUAD has the legitimacy and endorsement of both the United States and the Chinese government:

» We’re on the Chinese Ministry “White List”
» We’re regionally accredited by one of the most rigorous and strict accreditation committees in the USA.
» SFUAD meets the rigorous standards required to be recognized by Department of Education

Industry Connections
We’ll connect you to your professional industry before you graduate – for most of our programs, a professional internship is a requirement of your degree. That means you’ll have a network of professional peers that you can call on when you transition from the academic world to the workplace. Students have interned at Netflix, Cirque du Soleil, NBC, Hollywood production companies, regional theatres, and more.

Day in the Life of a Study Abroad Student

Food
Here are some more THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT when you come to Santa Fe:

» We’re the Most Artistic City in America – and the third largest Art Market in the USA
» Santa Fe is ranked as the third best town to live and work as a filmmaker.
» We have great boutique shopping and fashion outlets – find clothes unlike anywhere else in the world!
» We have spas and natural hot mineral springs.
» We have the best Farmer’s Markets for freshly grown food!

Shopping
During your stay in the USA – you’ll have access to new brands and stores to shop in! Ralph Lauren, Coach, Under Armour, Aeropostale, Nike, Levi’s, Puma, Tommy Hilfiger, and more.

Multicultural Student Body
You’ll study with students from over 12 other countries and throughout the USA. Every year, 20 percent of our student body is made up of artists from places outside the USA! That means our student body is welcoming, accepting, and multicultural – no matter where you’re from.

Find Your Space to Create
Many of our international visitors talk about never having had the peace, quiet, and concentration needed to focus on their studies until they came to Santa Fe. Leave

Career Preparation
You’re ambitious, hardworking, and brave – and ready for your adventure in the USA. All of our students get to learn by doing from the very first day at SFUAD. That means no waiting to start making films, designing, writing, acting – whatever it is you want to do. Our faculty of award winning and working artists are here to work closely with you to make sure you’re prepared for a career. More than 78% of our graduates were employed in their field within one year of graduating.

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