

Shaping future leaders in architecture with an education that will change their world.

Chosen as one of the 10 best architectural educational institutions in India for 2018 by The Knowledge Review



“At its most vital, architecture is an agent of change. To invent tomorrow; that is its finest function”

Charles Correa in “Architects of the World”

ABOUT US

Why

At the Wadiyar Centre for Architecture (WCFA), we see our students as the agents of change, future-shapers who are free to embrace multidisciplinary methods to do so. We take pride in our unrestrained approach that encourages exploration of every aspect of the time-space-design continuum.

Who

WCFA is owned and run by a stellar team of professionals comprising architects, engineers and educationists. Recognised by the 'Council of Architecture', New Delhi, and affiliated to the 'Visvesvaraya Technological University', Belgaum, WCFA was formed in 2015 as a collaboration with Design Foundation for Study, Education and Research (Design Foster), a charitable trust formed by architects and engineers, along with the Sri Jayachamaraja Ursu Education Trust, who have pioneered some of Mysore's most well-known institutions.





ABOUT US

What

WCFA is a space that encourages learning through a confluence of cultures, ideas, and art. For this reason, we attract a diverse cross-section of talent, from the artistically gifted to the technically adept. We impart learning through our accomplished faculty in-house, as well as visiting academicians, design critics, and educators from all over India.

Where

Mysore has long been acknowledged as the cultural capital of Karnataka and a hub of learning since the 15th century, when the rule of the Wadiyars began. We are located right at the heart of this illustrious city. We have opened our gates to continue that strong educational legacy of Mysore and welcome anyone with curious, inquiring minds.

AT A GLANCE



Diversity in students and instructors



Exclusive lectures by practising architects



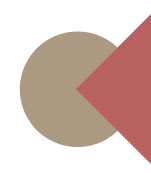
Masterclasses by visiting experts from all over India



Skill workshops spanning everything from design, dance, comic art to origami



Melange of cultural activities including theatre, dance, music, and artistic performances



A thriving student community of cultural clubs and societies, including a student-run magazine and podcast



A sprawling two-acre, verdant campus that incorporates heritage structures and complementary contemporary additions



Open plan studios, teaching and exhibition spaces, a library, a material museum are among the facilities that promote creative, liberal thinking

*“You love your work.
God help you, you love it!
And that’s the curse,”*

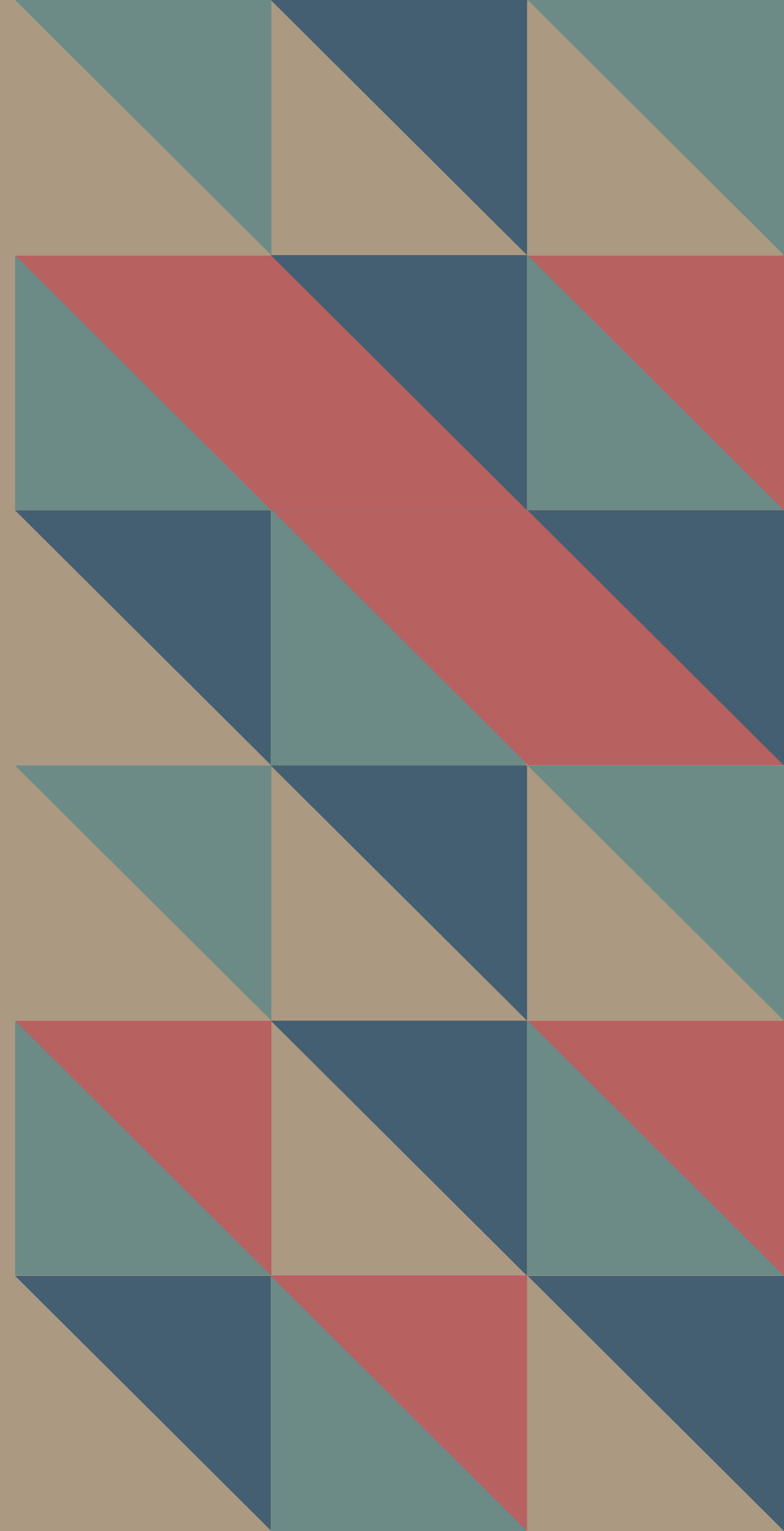
Henry Cameron warns Roark in
Ayn Rand’s *The Fountainhead*.



MISION AND VISION

Architecture has that effect. It has the power to improve people's lives. Our mission is to help students do that effectively by adopting a hands-on approach to everything backed by a keen awareness of their milieu.

Our vision is to help students achieve a complete education in Architecture derived from a deep understanding of their social environment, cultural heritage, and their own place within these contexts. We want students to forge identities, in the process, by exploring inner selves, and emerge as leaders fully equipped for a responsible and ethical practice.





TRUSTEES & FACULTY

Our teaching faculty is a cross-functional, diverse team comprising architects, educationists, artists, urbanists, social anthropologists, conservationists, structural engineers, landscapists, planners, interior designers, practising architects, and others. Each member of our faculty is known for possessing leadership and expertise in their designated fields, brought together by a common passion for education and academic research.

The vast multiplicity of our faculty allows students to get a grasp of design and architecture at different levels creating a fulfilling academic experience. We also encourage our faculty members to spend time on research and engage in architectural practice to foster both theoretical and practical learning.

WCFA is more than an institution - we are a learning space that encourages the fusion of ideas, discussions, and engagement to build bridges among people from all fields of learning.



THE WCFA CAMPUS

Fostering wholesome learning

WCFA's two-acre campus is a seamless architectural blend of the past, present, and future. We have carefully preserved the library and the administrative block, two of the historic buildings on campus.

Our new learning spaces include lecture halls, studios, computer labs, exhibition halls and canteen, among others, built with an open plan design to encourage interaction and collaboration. All of them converge around the Courtyard, a serene space for thought-provoking discussions also doubling up as a small amphitheatre.



WCFA COURSES & PROGRAMMES

A 360-degree growth plan

The typical route to a degree in architecture involves a combination of academics and a few practical projects. But similar to the discipline of architecture itself, there's nothing typical about us.

We follow an interdisciplinary approach to learning that incorporates both theory and practice, enabling students to arrive at holistic conclusions. As part of an innovative pedagogy, we explore new forms of learning, assessment, and teaching that we envisage will change the way education is perceived.

To this end, the architecture curriculum at WCFA incorporates design, history, art, visual studies, construction, technology, and practical projects, which give students the freedom to choose their journeys. Through our programmes, we aim to foster a thorough understanding of everything that influences the discipline of architecture, leading to a reflective practice.

The Curriculum

WCFA has a five-year rigorous, comprehensive programme that accommodates a total of 80 students to each year. The course of study provides a solid foundation across design, construction, history, theory, professional practise, art, social environment and other aspects related to architecture. We place great emphasis on developing design skills through independent thinking and plenty of practical applications.

Our courses and academic activities are set in place by the distinguished members of our Academic Council with the larger objective of shaping an inclusive, ever-evolving ethos.

We believe this ethos can only be moulded by going above and beyond the curriculum with activities that add immense value to a student's overall understanding. We include events and activities from interconnected fields like dance, drama, music, philosophy, literature, and science, among others.

With our additional learning programmes, where we leverage our expansive network, we give students a unique opportunity to nurture their natural skills and interact with experts, renowned academicians, and professionals from related fields.



SPECIAL EVENTS & LEARNING PROGRAMMES

We have built a wholesome ecosystem of learning by organising special events and learning programmes enabling students to be acutely aware of their milieu. They aim to help students develop designs based on their immediate environment and contexts, and eventually establish a socially responsible, culturally sensitive architectural practice.

Masterclasses

Expert classes

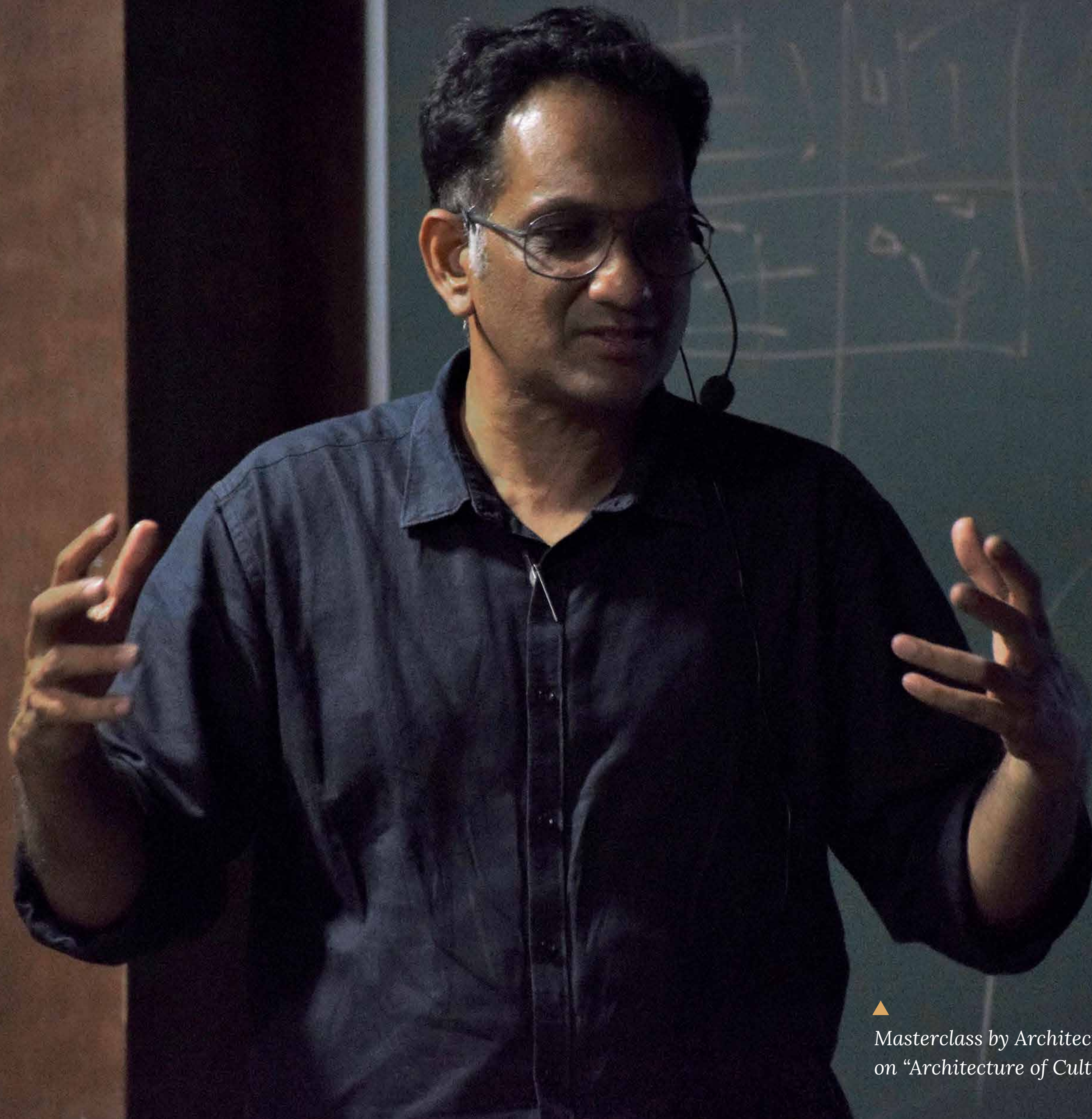
Workshops

Vertical studio

Related study programmes

Study tours

MASTERCASSES



▲ Masterclass by Architect Riyaz Tayyibji, Ahmedabad
on "Architecture of Cultural Confluences"



At WCFA, we conduct Masterclasses by notable experts from related fields to lecture and present. These classes are a path for students not just to broaden their horizons, but also to deepen their understanding of different aspects of architecture, architectural history, art, philosophy, environment, politics and literature, among others.

Architect and Academician
◀ Sneh Shah, Ahmedabad
presented a masterclass lecture
on “Learning from History”

EXPERT CLASSES



The content of our expert classes is closely aligned with the syllabus and tailored around semester-specific topics. We invite eminent personalities in their recognised field from all over India to elaborate on specific modules in the course syllabus or talk about the newest frontiers in construction, practically applicable to solve industry-related problems. This helps enrich the student experience and inculcates real-world thinking. Keeping with this pragmatic academic style, we have previously arranged classes on gothic architecture, professional practice, glass manufacturing, and architectural lighting in buildings, among others.

- ▶ Prof Francis D K Ching, Professor Emeritus, University of Washington and Author, presenting his lecture “Seeing, Thinking, Drawing”

Throughout the year, we run a wide range of workshops based on strategies to help students develop a broad as well as granular understanding of architecture. Our workshops are divided into Skill-based and Construction workshops

▼ *Mohiniyattam dance skill workshop by Shruthi Purushotham*





Skill based workshops

This is where we encourage students to enhance their skill-sets and pursue their interest in different domains. Workshops in interconnected subjects support the professional development of the students, pushing them to explore and develop all-round competence. Previously, our workshops have included yoga, Bharatanatyam, Mohiniyattam, theatre, stained glass art, comic art, origami, glasswork, etc.

- ◀ Stain-glass skill workshop conducted by artist Robert L'Heureux, Auroville Art Service, Pondicherry



Construction workshops

Architectural education is not complete without emphasis on the foundations. Our construction workshops provide students a comprehensive overview of the physical aspects of architecture. Through these workshops, students acquaint themselves with technical design, engineering technology, and other skills necessary for a well-crafted, sustainable design through hands-on application and practice. Some of our previous workshops have been on tensile architecture, geodesic domes, vaults and domes, woodworks etc.



Construction workshop on Hyperbolic Paraboloid structures.

VERTICAL STUDIO



At WCFA, we conduct design workshops led by principals of notable architectural practices from around the country, who prompt students to explore, discuss, and exchange ideas collaboratively. The workshops are a path for students not just to broaden their horizons but also deepen their understanding of different aspects of architecture.

◀ Vertical Studio Workshop Installation - intended to be abstract and free of interpretations



RSP students being briefed at Gemittege Agrahara, Hariharapura, Chikmangaluru District ▲

Related Study Programmes (RSP) are short excursions to selected villages, towns or cities, to camp and study the history, culture, built form and architecture of the place. They focus on specific topics in each semester and help students gain a practical, immersive overview of theoretical concepts when placed in different living spaces and cultural contexts.

STUDY TOURS



WCFA takes students on a tour to various parts of the country to visit historic and contemporary sites for an overall understanding of how architecture evolves with time, gaining insights through architecture, planning, landscape, development, and urban design. Students can personally experience architecture, get to see varied architectural practices, meet and hear established practicing architects and a real and visual grasp of structures, culture and urban settings through engaging tactile stimulation.



JURIES & REVIEWS

Our integrated approach to learning is reflected in every activity here at WCFA including the selection of juries for final design reviews. Our unique format involves forming panels comprising academicians from peer schools of architecture and partners of well-known architectural firms across India to review student projects. This enables the students to obtain a pragmatic take on their work, and also gives them exposure to people from the industry, which eases their path into internships and job opportunities later.

▼ *Design Studio review of students by an invited jury panel of Academicians and Architects*



CULTURAL PROGRAMMES & ACTIVITIES





An amalgamation of creative voices

WCFA's strong spirit of unity and respect for cultural diversity is evident in the programmes held at the college. Every year, we take great pleasure in organising a variety of events in the college to mark special days. We celebrate Foundation Day by inviting noted architects to present their acclaimed works. Festivals like Onam and Dussehra are celebrated with multiple student-driven activities. We organise Fresher's Day and Aroha to warmly welcome new students and bid farewell to the graduating students. We also host classical music, jazz, and musical band performances on our campus.

◀ *Swarathma - Indian folk and fusion band performed on the campus*

We believe every artistic thought deserves an expression. WCFA provides a venue for students to explore their creative potential to the maximum and facilitate student interaction. Student clubs at the WCFA include poetry, reading, drama, history, and many others whose objectives are to develop not just the students' artistic but also leadership potential.

The Courtyard

WCFA's student-run magazine is the independent voice of every student at our institution. Covering campus activities and student life, and reporting on the latest in-campus developments, The Courtyard captures the WCFA's zeitgeist with sure editorial hands and is a reflection of our collective spirit.

<https://wcfacourtyard.in/>

On the Pod

WCFA's very own student-run podcast is running live now. In Conversation with Students, Music, Cooking and some fun, yet important conversations that line the corridors of WCFA. Aired on Spotify, Google Podcasts, Apple Podcasts, RadioPublic and other mediums.

<https://wcfacourtyard.in/category/on-the-pod/>

Student council meeting in the courtyard ▼

STUDENT CLUBS &
ORGANISATIONS





<http://wcfa.ac.in>

Please visit our website for information on college, faculty, curriculum, admission criteria, activities, updates, etc

Admission enquiries: admissions@wcfa.ac.in

General enquiries: mail@wcfa.ac.in



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