At the College of Architecture at Illinois Tech, our students come from around the world to study and explore architecture, landscape architecture, and urbanism in the great global city of Chicago.
Architects of tomorrow will have to be agile, carving their own paths and authoring their own careers. Illinois Tech’s College of Architecture will teach you to see architecture through a different lens—and how to become a self-constructor who glean knowledge from the world around you.

NOWNESS is our approach. There are no more boundaries, no eternal forms. We should not attempt to define architecture in an all-encompassing way but instead make possible a different lens—and how to become a self-constructer who gleans knowledge from the world around you.

Our curriculum stresses research, analysis, and synthesis as the fundamental skills that will allow you to seize opportunities and explore new territories. Beginning in your first semester, you’ll benefit from symposia, workshops, and master classes directed by architects, theorists, historians, and critics. Well versed in global issues, you will be ready to engage with the world at large.

Located in Chicago, the College of Architecture at Illinois Tech is one of the largest and most international architecture schools in the United States. With more than 600 students from 50 countries and 100-plus faculty members, our school embodies the global metropolis in miniature. The city of Chicago provides endless architectural inspiration as the testing ground for our explorations. You will learn directly from one of the world’s greatest metropolises.

Illinois Tech’s Mies Campus is a world-famous ensemble of modernist architecture, planning, and landscape design. Illinois Tech Architecture is housed in Ludwig Mies van der Rohe’s masterful S. R. Crown Hall—a National Historic Landmark and one of the most significant buildings of the twentieth century. The McCormick Tribune Campus Center, Illinois Tech’s student center, was designed by Rem Koolhaas’s Office of Metropolitan Architecture, one of the world’s most influential architecture firms.

The Bachelor of Architecture (B.Arch.) at Illinois Tech
A five-year, NAAB-accredited professional degree, the B.Arch. curriculum is centered on a studio sequence of increasing complexity. In addition to design, the courses include architectural history and theory, building technologies, structures, design communication, and professional practice as well as a range of courses beyond architecture that fill out a well-rounded undergraduate education.

While always envisioning the future, architects must also be committed to engaging reality. In our extensive fabrication workshop, you’ll learn to handle materials, explore structural systems, and refine building details. Equally, our research and design topics put you in direct contact with the realities of urbanism in Chicago and throughout the world.

Our innovative Cloud Studio brings together students from all degree programs to research and design the new metropolis. Our program of visiting teachers and lecturers contributes to these projects, so that you learn directly from the world’s leading architects, urban designers, landscape architects, artists, critics, and policymakers.

LEARN TO INNOVATE IN IPROs
In Illinois Tech’s signature Interprofessional Projects (IPRO) Program, you’ll work with students from various majors to solve real-world problems. Recent architecture-oriented IPROs include:

• Sustainable home design: Race to Zero competition
• Developing sustainable urban agriculture for a Chicago South Side neighborhood
• Integrating hydroponics into the workplace environment
• A+Architecture, an inhabitable flying platform

RESOURCES: MATERIALS WORKSHOP AND DESIGN/BUILD STUDIOS
Illinois Tech’s teaching is rooted in the connection between design and making. Today, the importance of that connection is visible in our 14,000-square-foot Materials Workshop. In this inspiring industrial space, designed by Mies, you will learn to use and apply a multitude of tools, materials, and techniques. In Design/Build studios, you’ll collaboratively design and construct full-scale buildings—definitely a “hands-on” education. These award-winning projects are true collaborations between faculty, students, professionals, and the communities in which they are built.

GO BEYOND—STUDY ABROAD
Today, with architects practicing internationally, it is essential for you to explore new surroundings during your course of study. Illinois Tech Architecture’s study abroad options are among the widest and deepest of any school in the country. Programs include full semesters, eight-week summer courses, and intensive short-term international workshops. And while many schools’ programs are limited to western Europe, our programs are truly global.

"Last summer I studied abroad through the CORBU++ Travel Program. We went to Switzerland, Italy, France, and Germany. Going was definitely the best decision of my life. The architecture program at Illinois Tech definitely pushes you to the limit and constantly tests you to get outside of your comfort zone."

—Amr Mohsen (Architecture 5th Year), Cairo, Egypt
DESIGNING (INNOVATIVE) SOLUTIONS

Katherine Darnstadt (Architecture ’05) solves architectural problems in breakthrough ways. When the firm that she founded was asked to address a South Side Chicago food desert, she designed a bus—not a building—to provide the best solution.

After acquiring an old Chicago Transit Authority bus and poring over its manual, her firm converted it into Fresh Moves, a mobile grocery store packed with produce. Fresh Moves Mobile Markets are now part of a City of Chicago initiative providing affordable fresh fruits and vegetables to underserved areas on the city’s south and west sides.

“I think my time at Illinois Tech shaped so much of what I thought of the profession, and the alumni and professors gave me the support and strength to challenge what the profession will be in the future,” Katherine says.

—Caleb Vick (Architecture 4th Year), Springfield, Missouri

“Once it came down to choosing between my final three universities, it came down to the innovative thinking here at Illinois Tech. Not only do we have history courses that start us off with the earliest architecture, but we also have professors that have dedicated thousands of hours to create a curriculum that balances the elegance of traditional architectural education and the fast-paced evolution of technology and architecture.”

—Julia Mosqueda (Architecture 5th Year), Chicago, Illinois