

Year One

SOM



Apply to be part of
an entry-level experience
like no other.

SOM is cultivating the next generation of design leaders
—you— with a unique program created to jumpstart your
career in architecture, engineering, urban planning, or
interior design.



Our **Year One** program picks up where your formal education leaves off, with a suite of events and creative initiatives to help you get the most out of your first year at SOM. Alongside your day-to-day project responsibilities, we'll encourage you to expand your learning and to propose bold ideas for the future of design.

SOM offers the best of both worlds: the hands-on experience of small, dynamic studios, and the resources and diversity of a global organization. Our interdisciplinary firm affords a wealth of opportunities for emerging designers; our collaborative approach means that your ideas and creativity will be valued and recognized from day one.

In keeping with SOM's reputation for innovation, our Year One program invites you to shape the future of the practice with us. Start here to dive into the profession, chart your path forward, and make your mark.

“It’s been a wonderful bridge that has tremendously shaped the transition from a strictly academic setting into one that gives room for learning, observation, problem-solving, and personal growth on a daily basis – a confidence boosting and invaluable experience that simply cannot be found elsewhere.”

Adede Amenyah
Year One participant

Program Modules

“I was interested in working for SOM because of its international profile and the diversity of the projects. Very few companies can provide you with that kind of experience.”

Yasemin Kologlu
Director, New York



Site Visits

Out of the studio and into the world

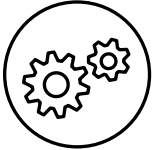
Led by our senior designers, site visits will give you an essential first-hand learning experience. From legacy projects to developments in construction, you'll gain a deeper understanding of architectural and structural details, constructability, and scale.



Graduate Show

Show us what you bring to SOM

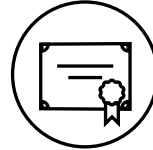
We'll welcome our "incoming class" of 2019 by giving you the stage. The SOM Forum Graduate Show allows you to introduce yourself to your new colleagues through your personal projects, and to share your skills, ideas, and passions.



Industry Involvement

Get plugged into the profession

You'll have the opportunity to attend a range of industry events, from international conferences to local seminars and workshops. We'll also keep you informed of buzzworthy architecture and design events around town, from talks to exhibition openings.



Pathway to Licensure

A personalized plan for success

With your degree in hand, licensure is the next major milestone to becoming a professional architect. Your first year out is the best time to complete the ARE exams—and our program of mentoring, workshops, and study planning will help keep you on track.



Shadowing Initiative

Putting your work into perspective

Our shadowing module enables you to draw on the experience of SOM's senior staff. Whether you're auditing a client meeting or working alongside our experts, you'll gain an invaluable new perspective on your own work and that of your colleagues.



Research Initiatives

Pushing the boundaries of our practice

Building on our history of thought leadership in interdisciplinary design, SOM has been developing a series of internal research projects that aspire to influence the industry and provoke broader discourse. Led by senior staff, a series of design charrettes—ranging from academic research to technical product development—will be fueled by your vision and creativity.

How to Apply

Application Requirements

Applicants must graduate from a professional architectural, engineering, urban design, or interior design degree program in 2021.

Submit your application online through the SOM Careers site. To choose the application form for your preferred location and discipline, visit www.som.com/yearoneapplication

We're interested in learning about **you!** Your application should communicate your passions and interests, as well as your skills and experience. SOM is a global collective of talented and passionate people—help us understand what you would bring to the table.

Your completed online application must be in PDF format and include the following:

Statement of Interest (maximum 250 words)

Resume

Work samples (maximum 10 pages)

2021 Application Dates

For the 2021 program, applications will be accepted starting April 1st and will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Offers will be extended through August 15th, with a required start date no later than September 1, 2021.

“Even on the very first day of my career, I was expected to show up with ideas, to think creatively, and to use design thinking to solve problems.

At SOM, there’s a lot of space for creative problem-solving at every level and at every scale of a project.”

Seanna Walsh
Associate, Chicago



SOM

