

CHID Italy: Padova, Verona, Venice, Florence, Rome

Florence, Italy; Padova, Italy; Rome, Italy; Venice, Italy; Verona, Italy

**Program Terms:** Spring Quarter

#### Dates / Deadlines:

There are currently no active application cycles for this program.

#### Fact Sheet:

Field of Interest: Comparative Literature,  
Humanities

Affiliated Department: CHID

Program Type: Faculty-led Program

#### Program Description:

## CHID Italy: the Cultural Legacy of Padova, Venice, Verona, Florence and Rome

**Location:** Padova, Venice, Verona, Florence, Rome

**Department:** Comparative History of Ideas

**Dates:** April 2, 2013 - June 7, 2013

**Estimated Program Fee:** \$6,000

**Credits:** 12

**Program Director:** Raimonda Modiano

**Study Abroad Advisor:** Lauren Easterling

**Application Deadline:** November 1, 2012

**Information Session(s):** October 3, 2012, 3:30 PM, October 24, 2012, 3:30PM, Padelford C-101



## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

Our program which begins in Padova (with trips to Venice, Verona, Florence and Rome), will be organized in collaboration with the University of Padova with classes held in the historical center where students will have the opportunity to meet with Italian students and instructors. We have also enlisted the collaboration of the University of Verona for a special two-week visit, and the University of Washington Rome Center for the concluding four weeks. Please note that while Italian language proficiency can be useful for participants in this program, it is not required and we encourage students of all disciplines to apply.

The sites of Padova, Venice, Verona, Florence and Rome are ideally suited to the course objectives because these cities provide in very close proximity the convergence of multiple historical layers that allow for an ongoing comparative analysis. We will take full advantage of the unique historical character of these cities through site visits linked to the historical periods and subject matter of our courses.

The CHID program is supported by the University of Padova – one of the oldest universities in the world, the University of Verona and the University of Washington's Rome Center. These institutions will provide classroom space, faculty and student apartments, computer facilities and a library. The host community benefits from the exchange with the students at a variety of public venues, and certainly the nearby shops and restaurants benefit greatly from the economic impact of the students.



## **LOCATION:**

Padova, Verona, Venice, Florence, Rome, Italy

## **Housing:**

Students will be housed in apartments provided by the University of Padova. Similar arrangements will be made during the two-week stay in Verona. For the visits to Venice and Florence, students will be accommodated in local hotels, and for the concluding four-week stay in Rome, students will be accommodated in apartments provided by the University of Washington Rome Center.

## **ACADEMICS:**

### **Pre-Requisites/Language Requirements:**

Our program is open to students from all disciplines which fits into the CHID program objective of interdisciplinary approaches. The program offers an intensified approach to the humanities as well as an introduction to critical theory and practice. Besides CHID students, we welcome and have benefited greatly from students from all majors including Business, Finance, Accounting, Political Science, Communications, etc., but we typically also draw a number of students from English, History, Philosophy, European Studies, Anthropology, etc. The majority of our students are undergraduates, but we have also on occasion had graduate students, alumni and others. There are no prerequisites for Italian language, but we encourage students to consider a preparatory foundation in the language prior to departure and/or a foundational course during the program. Students should be proficient in writing and interested in engaging in the exploration of the historical contexts.

### **Credits:**

12

### **Courses:**

**Euro 490/CHID 471 - Florence: The Cradle of European Renaissance (5 credits)**

**Instructor: Michelangelo Zaccarello, Associate Professor, University of Verona**

The course will offer an introduction to the history and development of Florentine civilization as it emerges from period documents and artistic representations: language and education, commerce and trade, fashion and customs, entertainment and rituals. A particular focus on the Carnival period will offer students an insight into the Medici's Renaissance banquets, tournaments and plays that were used to entertain the crowds as a sophisticated form of political propaganda. This part of the course will connect to some guided tours to traditional events and relevant galleries and museums (Museo degli Argenti, Bargello, Opera del Duomo). The second part of the course will deal with the paramount contribution of Florentine civilization to the European Renaissance, with various innovations in figurative arts (perspective, anatomy, etc.) being rapidly exchanged and integrated with foreign, especially Nordic influences. The course will also investigate contemporary expressions of the "Florentine Genius" in fashion or music festivals and events. Related

excursions will include the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, the Museo Ferragamo and the city council at Palazzo Vecchio.

The program will also include a three week residence in Padova, focusing on the history of the University of Padova (and figures such as Dante, Petrarch, and Galileo), followed by a three day visit to Venice which is only thirty minutes by train from Padova.. Our visits to Venice will include a private tour, after hours, of the basilica of San Marco where the lavish interior will be gradually illuminated to fully appreciate the 4,000 square meters of stunning gold mosaics covering the five domes and massive barrel vaults decorated from the 11th to the 14th centuries. This singular experience is the only way to fully appreciate the interior of the basilica that represents the wealth and artistic refinement of the Venetian Republic. In addition, our tour will include a close view of the richly ornamented, enameled panels of the golden altarpiece decorating the sarcophagus of St. Mark, as well as a visit to the crypt below the altar.

After the visit to Venice, students will spend two weeks in Verona to consider its rich cultural heritage with its nearly intact Roman arena still used for concerts and its long lasting traditions: food and wine, art, music, folklore. Providing a general introduction to the history and traditions of the Verona region, the residence in Verona will offer students the opportunity to gain first-hand knowledge of some of the most important international events that take place in that city and will include a number of excursions outside the city (Valpolicella, Lake Garda).

The program will conclude with a four-week stay in Rome to explore its historical and cultural legacy through a concentrated focus on its ancient and imperial monuments, the medieval rise of the church, and the glory of the Renaissance.

### **ENGL 490 - Gift and Sacrifice (5 credits)**

**Instructor: Raimonda Modiano, Professor of English and Comparative Literature, UW**

This seminar will introduce students to concepts of gift and sacrifice, two foundational structures of exchange that have ruled economic, social and religious life since the inception of culture. Both raise fundamental questions about the constitution of communities by means of the binding power of gratitude, or, more ominously, sacrificial scapegoats. As a contemporary critic wrote (Mark Osteen), the study of the gift touches on some of the most fundamental concerns that define our humanity: "freedom and autonomy, calculation and spontaneity, gratitude and generosity, risk and power."

The study of sacrifice in turn generates a series of provocative as well as unsettling questions: whether conceptions of the sacred are inextricably linked with violence, whether sacrificial rituals escalate rather than contain violence, whether recuperative economies that seek gain out of loss inevitably fuel sacrificial behavior, whether capital punishment is not in effect a contemporary version of ancient sacrificial rites, and whether communities can ever escape the predicament of uniting against a designated scapegoat and resorting to sacrificial ideologies.

These and related questions will form the subject of this course which will introduce students to foundational texts in anthropology, psychoanalysis and sociology (Marcel Mauss' *The Gift*, Sigmund Freud's *Totem and Taboo*, Rene Girard's *Violence and the Sacred*) and to the representation of gift and sacrifice in the Bible, folklore, film ("The Merchant of Venice," "Babette's Feast," "Breaking the Waves") and literature (Aeschylus, Agamemnon, William Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice* and *Julius Caesar*, Shirley Jackson's *The Lottery*, selected poems by Samuel Taylor Coleridge, William Wordsworth and Lord Byron).

The course will also use the rich resources in Padova, Venice, Verona, Florence and Rome to document the various representations, especially in Medieval and Renaissance Italian art, of three founding biblical stories of sacrifice: the sacrifice/murder of Abel by Cain, the sacrifice of Isaac by Abraham, and the sacrifice of Christ.

### **CHID 471 B - General Orientation to Padova and Italy (2 credits)**

The two-credit General Orientation course deals with a general orientation to Padova and Italy as study sites with guidance for helping students to understand how to interact with Italians in a manner that is respectful to the culture, and a broad sense of the social and cultural character of contemporary Italy.

### **CHID 470 - Independent Study (2-3 credits)**

The program also encourages students to consider an optional three-credit foundational Italian language course taught by a local instructor. Students meet twice a week for hourly intensive language instruction that can serve to facilitate their close engagement in the experience of Italian culture and society. This course can assist students in feeling more confident in interacting with locals as part of their exploration of the study site of Padova.

Alternatively students have the option of considering a three-credit independent study project on some aspect of the history and culture of Padova, Venice, Verona, Florence and Rome. This project allows students to take up a particular historical site for closer analysis guided by research materials available

through the University Libraries of these locations.

Students will work in consultation with the instructor to develop a project proposal culminating in a 6-8 page paper.



## **PROGRAM LEADERS:**

**Raimonda Modiano, CHID, English**

[modiano@uw.edu](mailto:modiano@uw.edu)

## **PROGRAM EXPENSES:**

### **Estimated Cost:**

\$6,000 This does not include the Study Abroad Fee (\$300), airfare, food (about \$35/day), Study Abroad Insurance (\$37/month) and personal spending money.

### **Average Airplane Ticket Price:**

\$1,500\* roundtrip \*Subject to when & where you buy your ticket

### **Payment Schedule:**

Program fees will be posted to your MyUW student account and can be paid the same way that you pay tuition and other fees. A \$350 non-refundable program deposit and \$300 non-refundable Study Abroad Fee will be charged to your MyUW Account once your signed contract has been received by the Study Abroad Office.

<b>Payment Type</b>	<b>Payment Amount</b>	<b>Payment Due Date</b>
Non-Refundable Program Deposit	\$350	Charged Upon Receipt of Contract
Non-Refundable Study Abroad Fee	\$300	4/12/2013
Program Fee Balance	5,650	4/12/2013
<b>TOTAL FEES CHARGED</b>	<b>\$6,300</b>	-

## **Orientation**

To be eligible to study abroad, all program participants must attend an in-person pre-departure orientation facilitated by the Study Abroad office as well as your program-specific orientations, offered by your program director.

You must register for orientation through your online study abroad account in order to attend scheduled

orientations. You can visit the [Orientation section](#) of our website to view the current orientation schedule.

Orientation must be completed prior to the enrollment deadline for the quarter that you are studying abroad.

## Financial Aid and Scholarships:

Most forms of financial aid can be applied to study abroad. You can verify that your financial aid award will apply to your program costs by contacting the Financial Aid Office. Financial aid or scholarships awarded as tuition waivers or tuition exemptions may not apply so you will need to verify that these funds are eligible for use with study abroad by contacting the funding office.

Please remember that financial aid and most scholarships will be disbursed according to the UW academic calendar (at the beginning of the quarter). If your program starts before the start of the UW quarter, your financial aid will not be available to you until after you have left the country. If your program starts after the first day of the quarter, your financial aid will be disbursed on the first day of the program. In either of these cases, you will have to finance any upfront costs such as airfare and health insurance and the start of your time abroad on your own. Please take this into consideration when you plan your foreign study.

Please visit the [Finances section](#) of our website to learn more about disbursement, revising your aid package, short-term loans and scholarships.

## Application Process

The application includes a Personal Statement, 3 short answer questions, 2 Faculty recommendations and electronic signature documents related to University policies and expectations for study abroad. Following the on-line application process students may be contacted by the Program Director for an in-person interview. Once admissions decisions have been regarding your application, you will be notified by the study abroad system via email.



## Withdrawals

The \$350 program deposit and \$300 Study Abroad Fee are **non-refundable**. Students withdrawing from a program will be responsible for paying a percentage of the program fee depending on the date of withdrawal. More details about the withdrawal policy will be included in your payment contract. No part of the program fee is refundable once the program has begun. The date of withdrawal is considered the date (business day) a withdrawal form is received by the Study Abroad Office. Notice of withdrawal from the program must be made in writing, completing the following steps:

1. Provide notice in writing to the program director that you will no longer be participating in the program for which you have signed a contract and accepted a slot.
2. Submit a signed withdrawal form to the Study Abroad Office, 459 Schmitz Hall.

Please visit the [Withdrawals section](#) of our website for more information.