

CHID Italy: Dialogues Across Time  
Rome, Italy

**Program Terms:** Spring Quarter

**Homepage:** [Click to visit](#)

**Dates / Deadlines:**

There are currently no active application cycles for this program.

**Fact Sheet:**

|                                     |         |                            |  |
|-------------------------------------|---------|----------------------------|--|
| Primary Language(s) of Instruction: | English | Foreign Language Required: | None   |
| Courses available in English?:      | Yes     | Field of Interest:         | Art History, Humanities, Language & Cultural Studies, International Studies, Social Sciences |
| Affiliated Department:              | CHID    |                            |  |

**Program Description:**

## CHID Italy: Dialogues Across Time

**Location:** Rome, Italy

**Department:** CHID

**Estimated Program Dates:** March 31 - June 6, 2014

**Estimated Program Fee:** \$7,300

**Credits:** 12-15

**Program Director:** Raimonda Modiano (English)

**UW Study Abroad Program Manager:** Karleigh Koster [kkoster@uw.edu](mailto:kkoster@uw.edu)

**Application Deadline:** November 8, 2013

**Information Session(s):** Wednesday, October 16th at 6pm and Thursday, October 17th at 2:30pm, CHID Lounge, Padelford C101

CHID Study Abroad Fair: October 24th, 11:30 -2:30, Allen Library Research Commons. Come talk to CHID International Programs staff about all of CHID's overseas programs.

## Program Description

The CHID Spring Rome Program offers two courses that take full advantage of Rome's unique character as an historical and urban palimpsest with multiple layers of development that transcend but include the preceding ages in an intertextual dialogue across time. The course on "Gift and Sacrifice" explores in a foundational way the primordial origins of all societies through relations of reciprocal exchange, obligation, and religious piety. The course on "Rome as Aesthetic Resource and Imaginative Provocation" will offer a broad view of the representation of Rome from antiquity through the nineteenth century. The program will also offer students an opportunity to become acquainted with the monuments and cultural heritage of three other cities in Italy: Verona, Padova and Florence.

The site of Rome is ideally suited to the course objectives because the historical center of Rome provides in very close proximity the convergence of multiple historical layers that allow for an ongoing comparative analysis. We will take full advantage of Rome's unique historical character through site visits linked to textual guides on the historical periods and evolution of Rome. We will also explore three other sites that are particularly rich in art works that pertain to the themes of our two courses, namely Verona, Padova and Florence.

## Location

Rome, Italy

### Site(s)

UW Rome Center

The Rome Center provides classroom space, faculty and student apartments, computer facilities, and a

library. In addition, the Rome Center sponsors cultural activities such as an Italian film festival guest lecture by visiting faculty from the UW and other academic institutions such as Catholic University's architecture program, and links to the American Academy, Cornell University's Rome Center, etc. This encourages students to consider multiple methodologies and perspectives on the site of Rome. Overall the UW Rome Center accommodates the students' needs for living and studying resources that facilitate collaboration with other study programs and a secure study space that encourages students to then extend themselves out into the broader urban culture and society of Rome and Italy.

## **Housing**

Students will live in apartments in or within walking distance of the UW Rome Center

## **Academics**

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

The spring Rome program is open to students from all disciplines which fit 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 to be able to engage in the exploration of the historical contexts.

### **Credits**

12-15 Credits

### **Courses**

#### **CHID 471A/ENGL 490: Gift & Sacrifice (5 credits)**

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, *Totem and Taboo*; Rene Girard, *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, *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 deal with specifically Roman customs of gift and sacrifice and use the rich resources in Verona, Padova, Venice, 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: Rome as Aesthetic Resource and Imaginative Provocation (5 credits)**

We call Rome "The Eternal City" for good reason. Its more than 2000 years of history have left a vast legacy of works that use the city, its empire, and its later history for important critical and cultural reflection. In this course we will be reading and looking at a set of works—plays, films and an opera—that have used Rome and its history as the focus for various kinds of imaginative representations. In every case the works engage significant intellectual, aesthetic and cultural issues. The focus of these works is Rome from the Early Republic through the first period of the Empire, and thence on to Renaissance Rome and Rome in the

Romantic period (early 19th century).

Works to be studied include Petronius's Satyricon; Shakespeare's Coriolanus and Anthony and Cleopatra; Ben Johnson's Sejanus; Shelley's The Cenci; and Byron's Childe Harold's Pilgrimage, Canto 4. In addition, we will look at later Modern and Postmodern imaginative engagements with Rome in opera and film (Puccini's Tosca, Stanley Kubrick's Spartacus, Monty Python's Life of Brian and Fellini's Satyricon).

What Enobarbus says of Cleopatra in Shakespeare's famous play has obvious reference to Rome itself: "Age cannot wither her, nor custom stale/Her infinite variety." But the words can be applied as well to the host of works that have taken Rome as their point of departure. We will study only a small set of these, but the set is such that we may get a sense of the variety of available themes, perspectives, and media. Ultimately this course is as much about the possibilities of artistic expression as it is about how Rome inspired such forms.

### **CHID 470 A: General Orientation to Rome (2 credits)**

The two-credit General Orientation course deals with a general orientation to Rome 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 B: Independent Study (Optional) (3 credits)**

Students have the option of considering a three-credit independent study project on some aspect of the history and culture of 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 Directors & Staff**

**Professor Raimonda Modiano, UW Department of English**

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

**Professor Jerome McGann, University of Virginia and UW CHID**

[jmcgann@virginia.edu](mailto:jmcgann@virginia.edu)

## **Program Expenses**

### **Cost**

Estimated Program Fee of \$7,300 (which includes \$300 CHID Fee), the UW Study Abroad Fee (\$300), airfare, food (about \$30/day), UW Study Abroad Insurance (\$40/month), other health expenses/immunizations 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 will be charged to your MyUW Account once your signed contract has been received by the UW Study Abroad Office. Check your MyUW Account periodically for due dates.

| <b>Payment Type</b>                | <b>Payment Amount</b> | <b>Payment Due Date</b>                                |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Non-Refundable Program Deposit     | \$350                 | Charged to student account after contract is processed |
| CHID Fee                           | \$300                 | 4/18/2014  |
| Non-Refundable UW Study Abroad Fee | \$300                 | 4/18/2014  |

|                           |                |           |
|---------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| Program Fee Balance       | \$6,950        | 4/18/2014 |
| <b>TOTAL FEES CHARGED</b> | <b>\$7,600</b> | -         |

## Orientation

To be eligible to study abroad, all program participants must attend an in-person pre-departure orientation facilitated by the UW Study Abroad Office. You are also required to attend all program-specific orientations offered by your Program Directors.

You must register for orientation through your online study abroad account in order to attend a scheduled session. 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 might not apply so you will need to verify that these funds are eligible for use with study abroad by contacting the funding office.

Financial aid and most scholarships are 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 prior to your departure. If your program starts after the first day of the quarter, your financial aid will be disbursed at the start of the program. In either of these cases, you will have to finance any upfront costs such as airfare, health insurance and the start of your time abroad on your own. Please take this into consideration when you are making plans.

### Revision Request:

In some instances you may qualify for an increase in your financial aid award (typically in loan funds). Check with the [Financial Aid Office](#) about your options. To request a revision in your aid, you will need to submit the following paperwork to the Financial Aid Office:

1. [Revision Request Form](#)
2. Budget of student expenses for your program: The UW Study Abroad Office will upload this budget to your study abroad account after a signed contract has been submitted to the UW Study Abroad Office. You can request an unofficial copy of this budget by emailing [ipe@uw.edu](mailto:ipe@uw.edu).

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, three short answer questions, two faculty recommendations, and electronic signature documents related to UW 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 an admission decision has been made regarding your application, you will be notified by the study abroad system via email.

## Disability Accommodations

The University of Washington is committed to providing access and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, and education for individuals with disabilities. To request disability accommodation for this program, contact Disability Resources for Students at least 8 weeks in advance of your departure date. Contact info at [Disability Resources for Students](#).

## Withdrawals

The \$350 program deposit and \$300 UW Study Abroad Fee are **non-refundable and non-revocable** once a contract has been submitted, even if you withdraw from the program. Students withdrawing from a

program are responsible for paying a percentage of the program fee depending on the date of withdrawal. More details about the withdrawal policy are 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 UW Study Abroad Office. Notice of withdrawal from the program must be made in writing by 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 UW Study Abroad Office, 459 Schmitz Hall.

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

Please see the CHID website for information on the CHID Fee withdrawal policy:  
<http://chid.washington.edu/study-abroad-fees-financing-and-withdrawal>

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