



Investigating Women's
Reproductive and Sexual Health
Issues in
FLORENCE
ITALY

A Study Abroad Experience

9 CREDIT HOURS



MAY 6 - JUNE 22

**DIRECTED QUALITATIVE &
QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH**

.....

**FLORENCE UNIVERSITY OF
THE ARTS COURSE**

.....

**CULTURAL IMMERSION
ACTIVITIES**

PURDUE
HEALTH & HUMAN SCIENCES

Ciao!

I invite you to join me as we gain a deep awareness of cultural unity and regional diversity in Italy, while gaining basic research skills. Summer 2017 was the inaugural trip for this study abroad experience, with 13 undergraduate and 2 graduate students by my side. I am looking forward to doing it all over again!

This study abroad program is an immersive, 7-week, 9-credit-hour experience, which provides you with a unique interdisciplinary, research-based learning experience. You will engage in courses instructed by both Purdue University and Florence University of the Arts (FUA) faculty. The program allows you to interact with a diverse mix of students, engage in remarkable learning opportunities with Purdue University and FUA faculty, and experience extraordinary global education through practical and cultural exposures.

Our program will start with a *Cultural Introduction to Italy* field experience travel week, where we will engage with FUA faculty and students from across the world while learning about Italian history, culture, language, policy, cuisine, and so much more. Once arriving to Florence, you will engage in an FUA lecture course and *Directed Research Hours*, which will train you in basic research practices (e.g., study conceptualization, qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis, manuscript and presentation composition, various computer and software programs).

Further, you will experience culture, health, and wellness through direct lectures, cultural immersion field experiences, and site visits to health-related facilities and museums. Ultimately, you will walk away from this program with a deeper awareness of your own culture and Italian culture, and a knowledge base of how health and wellness are shaped by individual behaviors, community and social contexts, and local policies.

Space for this study abroad program is limited. Purdue University undergraduate and graduate students are eligible to apply. Applications are due by December 1, 2017, and all applicants will engage in an interview process prior to acceptance. Please email me at ademaria@purdue.edu with any questions.



DR. ANDREA L. DEMARIA

Assistant Professor and Study Abroad Program Director

PURDUE
HEALTH & HUMAN SCIENCES

PROGRAM INFORMATION

PROGRAM COSTS

Will be posted in
October 2017

Cost will Include:

Housing/WiFi

Excursions

Museum tickets

Guided tours

Group meals

Meal units

Gym and library access

..and much more!

Cost could be reduced
if you receive a
MOVES scholarship



Additional Costs

Flight

Personal expenses

Passport

\$500 Deposit due

by December 15, 2017



COURSE CREDITS (9)

CSR 390/590 - Directed Research
in Women's Reproductive and
Sexual Health (3 credits)

CSR 390/590 - Cultural
Introduction to Italy (6 credits
taught by FUA) (1-week field
learning and 3 weeks in Florence)



FUNDING YOUR STUDY ABROAD EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate students may
be eligible to receive the Purdue
MOVES Scholarship if they have not
applied for it previously. For 7 weeks
abroad, you may receive **\$2,000**. Apply
for the MOVES scholarship
at www.studyabroad.purdue.edu.

College of Health and Human Sciences
undergraduate students are also
eligible to be Tse

Scholars: https://www.purdue.edu/hhs/studyabroad/tse_scholarship.html

If you receive financial aid and/or
work study, there are more resources
available to help pay for your study
abroad experience. **The key to finding
financial aid funding is to visit the
financial aid office during the Fall
2017 semester.**

Dr. DeMaria is committed to finding
ways to reduce program costs,
including applying for grant funding
and mentoring students on other
possible funding routes.

COURSE INFORMATION

This program will build on the established relationship Dr. Andrea DeMaria has with Florence University of the Arts (FUA). FUA is a leading institution in the private educational sector of Italy that addresses education on a global scale thanks to an internationalized approach that also accounts for the impact of local and community perspectives during a course of study. FUA is comprised of nine schools, including the School of Arts and Sciences, and the Center for Cultural and Italian Studies, among others.

Cultural Introduction to Italy Field Experience (3 Credits)

This course will provide students with a deep awareness of cultural unity and regional diversity in Italy. The first week will feature on-site learning and assessment in unique locations (e.g., Rome, Tuscany, Cinque Terre) spanning different regions, territories, and cultural landscapes.

FUA Course (3 credits)

These three credits will come from a lecture course that the student will choose. Potential courses include: Food, Culture, and Community; Food, Wine, and Culture in Italy; Social Psychology; and Italian Language. This course will be a collaboration with FUA faculty and will allow students to engage with students from around the world.

Directed Research Hours (3 Credits)

Students will learn basic research skills, including qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis procedures, and professional manuscript and presentation composition strategies.

For more information about FUA, please visit <http://fua.it/>



"The experience impacted my personal and professional life."

TESTIMONIALS

Check out shared experiences from students who participated in the Summer 2017 study abroad program.



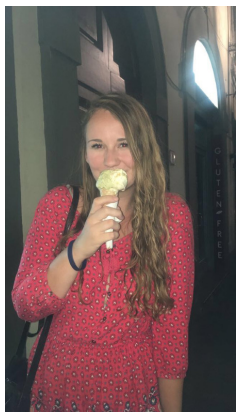
Chandler (left) and her roommate Morgan enjoying the Amalfi Coast

"After completing this seven-week program, I can truthfully say the experience impacted my personal and professional life. I left Italy with greater confidence, independence, and assertiveness. I learned the importance of collaboration and delegating individual responsibilities within a large group project. I was also challenged with the task of identifying research candidates, networking, and conducting interviews. Throughout the course of this program I sharpened my reading and comprehension of scientific literature. As I continue my pre-med education, I am now better equipped to face challenging coursework and lab assignments that previously would have seemed overwhelming. I was also able to learn from experienced graduate students and grow as a leader for undergraduate research. Overall, the study abroad experience exposed me to new challenges that transformed my raw talents into a diverse set of developed skills and knowledge. My absolute favorite memory was spending my birthday weekend on the Amalfi Coast with my roommate. Our Saturday was spent swimming in the beautiful turquoise sea, eating lemon sorbet, and drinking our favorite Prosecco. We stayed the night in a hotel wedged on the side of a cliff overlooking the picturesque town of Positano and the Mediterranean Sea. It was a weekend that I will never forget." -Chandler Dykstra, Class of 2020



Jalynn sitting by the Arno River

"This study abroad exposed me to a new culture and way of life. For almost two months I didn't drive and I walked nearly everywhere, which is very different from US culture where most locations are too spread out to walk. It changed my view on walking because now I don't see things as "so far" and I'm more willing to walk. It also allowed me to truly experience another country on a deeper level as we were there for seven weeks. Professionally, I am able to interact with people that I don't know very well as well as get projects done with people whom I may not necessarily agree with normally. This study abroad was my first experience with research so everything surrounding that subject was new to me but I have so much that I can take with me. I feel that my writing has grown more than ever with practicing and embracing the tips given. My favorite memory is a hard one because there's so much I can list but one of my favorite nights was when Dr. DeMaria, Audrey, and my roommates went and had a picnic on a dam in the middle of the Arno river with pizza and watched the sunset. It was relaxing to just sit there and enjoy conversation with each other." -Jalynn Evans, Class of 2018



Hannah enjoying gelato

"With this study abroad I was able to not only see the research process, but be actively engaged in it. I learned how to recruit participants, conduct and transcribe interviews, and code the data. The manuscript we produced at the end is not just a cool resume booster, it also shows all of the hard work we did during the program. Personally, the Italy study abroad helped me get out of my comfort zone. I learned how to feel comfortable exploring on my own and how to appreciate and embrace the differences in cultures. My favorite memory from our time in Italy was hearing all of the music from the street performers. They made my nights more enchanting." -Hannah Calvert, Class of 2018



Holly during her trip to Pisa

"I grew professionally with this trip. I had never studied in a foreign country or conducted research. Over the course of the program I was able to connect with the Florentine locals, communicate with them about the best cafes and gelaterias, and build relationships with my professor and professionals in the community. My favorite memory from our time in Italy was when I visited Sport Clinic and was able to shadow an occupational therapist. I was able to learn about the advanced technology and techniques the Italian therapists utilize." -Holly Jones, Class of 2018



Florence

Florence is the capital, and most populous city, of the Italian region of Tuscany. This beautiful and historic city originated as a Roman city, and later, after a long period as a flourishing trading and banking medieval commune, it was the birthplace of the Italian Renaissance. Florence was politically, economically, and culturally one of the most important cities in Europe--and the world--from the 14th to 16th centuries.

While in Florence, we will connect and collaborate with faculty and students at Florence University of the Arts, visit local museums and historic sites, and engage in field-based research and cultural learning experiences. You will fall in love with this beautiful city.

In Italian: Firenze



Rome

Rome, the largest and most populated Italian city, is the capital of Italy and of the Lazio region. The city's history spans more than two and a half thousand years. While Roman mythology dates the founding of Rome at only around 753 BC, the site has been inhabited for much longer, making it one of the oldest continuously occupied sites in Europe.

While in Rome we will visit many historic sites, including: the Trevi Fountain, Spanish Steps, Colosseum, and Roman Forum, among others. We will learn about Italian history, art, and landscape, and experience the country's finest food and wine culture. Bring your walking shoes!

In Italian: Roma



Cities We'll
Visit

Venice

Venice is a city in northeastern Italy and the capital of the Veneto region. It is situated across a group of 115+ small islands, and is famous for its intricate transport system of interconnected canals. Gondolas are quite popular in Venice, and serve as a means of transportation used to cross the 400+ canals passing through the city. Venice has been described as the most beautiful city built by man and one of Europe's most romantic cities. The city is also known for its art, architecture, and culture.

While in Venice we will explore the coastal culture, including: the Basilica di San Marco and Palazzo Ducale, the city's Gothic and Byzantine architecture via a gondola ride, and the local lifestyle and cuisine at the Rialto Market. We will also learn about glassblowing as a livelihood.

In Italian: Venezia



Amalfi Coast

The Amalfi Coast sits on the Sorrentine Peninsula in the Campania region. It is along the western coast of Italy south of Naples. The beachside villages sit on the Tyrrhenian Sea, and the towns up the side of the mountains and above the cliffs have magnificent views overlooking the coastline.

Positano, a favorite Amalfi Coast destination, is filled with bright colored boutiques and honeymooners bathing in the sun. Ancient Amalfi (to the east) is known for its Arabic-Norman cathedral, and Ravello sits on the mountaintop and is lined with villas. To the west lies Amalfi Coast gateway Sorrento, the gateway to the Amalfi Coast, lies to the west and has cliff-top resorts.

Beautiful scenery aside, the Amalfi Coast is known for some of Italy's finest hotels, restaurants, and scenic hiking trails.

In Italian: Costiera Amalfitana



Parma & Modena

This excursion will give you a chance to experience the production processes of three typical Italian products: Parmigiano Reggiano, Prosciutto di Parma, and Aceto Balsamico Tradizionale di Modena. We will learn the secrets behind these high quality products, which is what makes each of them unique and superior to the imitations that can be found all over the world.

We will be led through all the steps of cheese production at a local cheese farm, including elaboration, maturation, heat branding, and sealing of Parmigiano-Reggiano (also known as Parmesan cheese), and will end with a tasting. Then we will go to a Prosciuttificio (ham factory) in the area of Parma. Prosciutto di Parma is unique for its authenticity and sweetness. To finish the day, we will go to an Acetaia (vinegar factory) where there will be an explanation of the steps for producing the highest-quality traditional Balsamic Vinegar of Modena.



Cinque Terre

Cinque Terre, meaning "five lands," is a colorful city on the coast of the Italian Riviera, and comprises five villages: Monterosso al Mare, Vernazza, Corniglia, Manarola, and Riomaggiore. Over the centuries, people have carefully built terraces on the rugged, steep landscape right up to the cliffs that overlook the sea. Part of its charm is the lack of visible corporate development. Paths, trains, and boats connect the villages, and cars cannot reach them from the outside. Given its location on the Mediterranean, seafood is plentiful in the local cuisine.

While in Cinque Terre we will explore our adventurous sides as we hike from town-to-town to compare and contrast the unique cultures and landscapes. We will also enjoy perfecting our photography skills in this very picturesque part of Italy. Along the hillside there are vineyards, olive groves, fig trees and herbs, which we will sample in the local restaurants.



Region We'll
Visit



Tuscany

We will visit various cities in the Tuscany region of Italy, including: Versilia, Capalbio, Viareggio, and Carrara, among others. Known for fashionable Riviera resorts, Versilia consists of numerous clubs that are frequented by local celebrities, while Capalbio is renowned for the beautiful Garden of Tarot Cards. Viareggio boasts an elegant 3 kilometer promenade that is lined with an array of liberty-style buildings, shops, bars, restaurants, clubs, and art galleries. Carrara is a town most famous for its legendary marble quarries used to build the Pantheon and Trajan's Column in Rome.

While in the Tuscany region we will learn about Italian food and wine culture, visit various parks and gardens, gain exposure to Italian business and tourism, explore Italy's social history, and tour a marble quarry. We will also spend the day at a Tuscan spa resort to discuss and experience ways to improve health and wellness through complementary and alternative approaches. Tuscany is a region full of geothermic activity--thermal baths have been an important wellness ritual for centuries dating back to the Etruscan times.

In Italian: Toscana



Forte dei Marmi

Forte dei Marmi is a sea town in northern Tuscany, famous for its tourism and for being the holiday destination of many VIPs, including Italian captains of industry, writers, and film stars.

While in Forte dei Marmi we will extend our exploration of outdoor spaces by taking a bike tour through this beautiful town, where we will ride along the breezy beach promenade and through the old, shaded streets. We will also tour an outdoor market to learn about local leather goods, local artisan crafts, and designer clothing, among other regional items.

In Italian: Forte dei Marmi means "Fort of the Marbles"

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Connecting Cultures

Italian Family Club
Community Outreach
Chat Pal

Sports Night

Soccer is the mainstay of Italian athletics and the focus of sports night. Even if you are not an athlete, everyone is welcome, to both have fun on the field, or just cheer on your classmates from the stands.

Blending

BLENDING is a journalistic collaboration that offers students the opportunity to express ideas through inquisitive, investigative and creative writing and photography, printed on a dynamic, easy-to-read format for FUA readers. Each semester FUA publishes three newsletters and one magazine written by FUA students, alumni, and faculty.

Activity Highlight: Community Outreach

This experience allows students to give something back to our host city, by offering their time and services to various social and cultural organizations, such as museums, canteens, churches of various denominations, associations such as La Tinaia Center for Expressive Arts or even teaching language in local schools. Community Outreach is an exceptional opportunity for students who want to be actively involved in the everyday life of the city during their studies in Florence.

It is also an enriching experience that will contribute both to personal and emotional growth as well as cultural consciousness, in order to create global citizens that are sensitive to the needs of others. Most of the organizations that collaborate with FUA do not require particular skills or ability to speak the Italian language, but all require a weekly commitment from students; one shift, typically 2-4 hours per week, depending on the association's needs.

Musing

The Musing Club offers music lovers and musicians the chance to share their passion through a common language. Organized activities include music events, and visits, along with the possibility to include creating a band (or two!).

Taste Italy

Taste Italy is a series of special hands-on workshop, where you can learn to make items such as fresh pasta or gelato. These workshops allow students to experience the culinary world up close and personal with the intent to develop a deeper awareness of Italian food culture.

Mind & Body

“Mens sana in corpore sano” is the philosophy behind the Mind and Body activities. This series includes fitness opportunities meant to inspire and empower students, through guided runs/power walks within new neighborhoods, motivational yoga classes, and self-defense training.

Italian Culture


Culture programs may include compelling films, interesting lectures, or panel discussions on contemporary cultural, social or political themes. A great way for students to expand their understanding of Italy, and its language, art, culture, and people.

For More Information: <http://studentlifeflorence.it/extracurricular-activities.html>

**non puoi insegnare
niente a un uomo. puoi
solo aiutarlo a scoprire
ciò che ha dentro di sé.**

**YOU CANNOT TEACH
ANYTHING TO A MAN.
YOU CAN ONLY HELP
HIM FIND OUT WHAT
HE HAS IN HIMSELF.**

G A L I L E O G A L I L E I



MEET YOUR

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

DR. ANDREA DEMARIA

Dr. DeMaria is an Assistant Professor in the Public Health Graduate Program and Department of Consumer Science, and a member of the Department of Consumer Science Health Disparities Research Lab. Her research has encompassed an interdisciplinary approach to understanding women's sexual and reproductive health behaviors and issues. She is committed to a comprehensive approach to women's health research, drawing from the behavioral, social, and clinical science fields. Dr. DeMaria's research methodology has largely focused on the importance of incorporating qualitative and quantitative methods, specifically to inform program development, implementation, and evaluation in community and clinical settings.

Dr. DeMaria's scholarship on the topic of pubic hair removal, including a widely referenced piece on clinical implications of the behavior, has drawn much attention nationally and internationally. Other recent projects have included understanding natural alternatives for labor induction (a collaboration with certified nurse-midwives), investigating contraceptive choice, access, and compliance (including developing, implementing, and evaluating a comprehensive long-acting reversible contraception (e.g., IUD, Implant) health communication campaign), and increasing access to women's health care through telehealth initiatives. Her work has been published in top tier journals, including the *American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology*, *Health Communication*, and the *Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health*, among others.

She has developed and implemented policy, advocated for various women's health issues and rights, and served as a superior mentor to her students. Prior to joining the faculty at Purdue University, Dr. DeMaria was an Assistant Professor of Public Health at the College of Charleston in Charleston, SC (2012 - 2016). During her tenure she was awarded two Outstanding Faculty Member of the Year awards (2014, 2015), directed the first Public Health study abroad program (in Florence, Italy), and co-founded an interdisciplinary research team that investigated health issues specific to women and adolescent girls.

Dr. DeMaria leads a 7-week women's health research-focused summer study abroad program to Florence, Italy. She will also be leading a 2018 spring break program to the Dominican Republic, which will focus on public health and healthcare.

HEALTH DISPARITIES RESEARCH LAB

Department of Consumer Science



Health disparities are critical public health challenges requiring dedicated research attention with over 33% of the US population identifying as a member of an ethnic group or minority. Faculty and students in the Health Disparities Research Laboratory work to address health disparities in Indiana, the United States, and throughout the world.

Our team works with vulnerable, minority, and marginalized populations who experience health inequities based on numerous social conditions. We research topics such as obesity, food insecurity, reproductive and sexual health, mental health, access to care, cancer, dignity at the end of life, and socio-economic empowerment.

Dr. Stewart Chang Alexander is a Faculty Scholar, Associate Professor in the Department of Consumer Science and Public Health Graduate

Program. Dr. Chang Alexander is a leader and innovator in the field of provider-patient communication and has helped develop a successful funded research program that focuses on ways to help providers and patients improve communication.

Joining him in the lab is Dr. Andrea DeMaria, Assistant Professor in the Public Health Graduate Program and Department of Consumer Science. As a new scholar, Dr. DeMaria's work in the fields of women's reproductive and sexual health have gained national and international recognition. She conducts translational research that bridges the gap between theory and practice, which informs community-based public health interventions.

Students who excel in the study abroad program can be invited to join the lab when we return to the US.

STUDY ABROAD

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

Florence, Italy



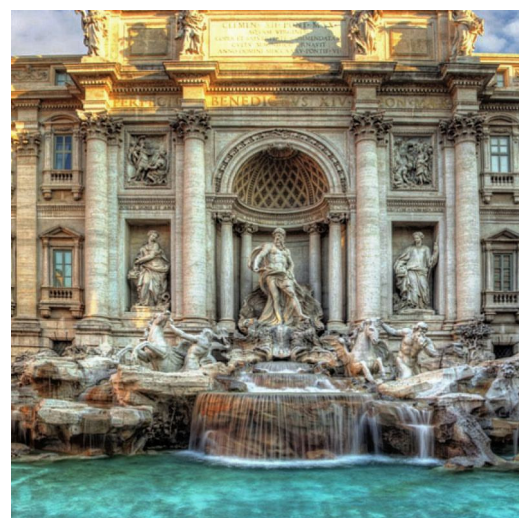
Women's Reproductive & Sexual Health



JOIN US

Contact:
Dr. Andrea DeMaria
ademaria@purdue.edu

MAY 6 – JUNE 22
7 WEEKS ABROAD



APPLICATION DEADLINE



Space is limited. Apply today!