Study Abroad

FLORENCE, ITALY
WINTERIM 2017

Program Guide
# Table of Contents

General Information ........................................... 2

The Program ................................................. 2

The Location ................................................ 2

Academic Calendar .......................................... 2

Academics ...................................................... 2

Program Prerequisites ....................................... 3

Registration .................................................. 3

Classes ......................................................... 3

Course Load ................................................. 3

Class Attendance .......................................... 3

Grades ........................................................ 3

Transcripts ................................................... 4

Academic System ........................................... 4

Academic Assistance ........................................ 4

Money Matters .............................................. 4

Personal Travel ............................................. 4

Currency Exchange ........................................ 5

LdM Cancellation/Refund Policy ......................... 5

Health & Safety .............................................. 5

Important Note on Adderall ............................... 5

Immunizations/Health Preparations ...................... 6

Health Services ............................................. 6

Counseling Services ....................................... 6

Safety in Italy ............................................... 6

Emergency Contacts ....................................... 6

Required Documents ....................................... 6

Passport ......................................................... 6

Visa/Declaration of Stay ................................... 6

Packing Tips .................................................. 7

Clothing & Weather ....................................... 7

What to Pack ................................................ 7

Appliances .................................................... 7

Arriving in Italy ............................................. 7

Travel Arrangements ....................................... 7

Early, Late or Delayed Arrival ......................... 8

Getting to your Apartment ............................... 8

Luggage Storage ........................................... 8

Orientation .................................................. 8

Housing ....................................................... 8

Application and Placement Process .................... 8

Explanation of Housing Arrangements ................ 9

Apartment Description ................................... 9

Living in a Florence Apartment ....................... 10

Recycling ..................................................... 10

Apartment Keys ............................................ 10

Guests ......................................................... 10

Food .......................................................... 10

Community Involvement .................................. 10

Communication ............................................. 10

Computer/Internet Access ............................... 11

Telephone Information ................................... 11

Snail-mail ..................................................... 11

Travel While Abroad ...................................... 11

Organized Travel ........................................... 11

Buses, Metro, and Taxis ................................. 11

WEB RESOURCES: ITALY ................................ 12

City .......................................................... 12

Culture/Travel ............................................. 12

Country ....................................................... 12

Contact Names & Addresses ........................... 13
Congratulations on being accepted to the Florence Winterim program offered by the Lorenzo de’ Medici Institute in Italy. Living and studying in a foreign culture is both an exciting and a challenging experience. Past participants of study abroad report that the many advantages of international study include:

- **Gaining new perspectives on a chosen academic field**
- **Increasing understanding of different cultures**
- **Enhancing personal growth**
- **Developing different perspectives on U.S. culture**
- **Gaining self-confidence and independence**
- **Learning skills for the future international job market**

It is up to you to determine how you can best benefit from these possible advantages. This is your adventure!

This program guide is to be used together with the general Study Abroad Handbook. The Handbook has information that is valid for all UW-Eau Claire study abroad programs. This guide will provide you with information to assist in your preparation for participating in the program. It is designed to complement the Handbook, the study abroad orientation, additional information from your Peer Adviser, and your individual pre-departure preparations.

All of the information available at the time of printing has been used, it is impossible for anyone resource to answer all of your questions. Your Peer Adviser will e-mail additional information throughout the semester. We also strongly encourage you to contact your Peer Adviser, the study abroad staff, and past program participants with your specific questions. You should also make use of the additional written and web resources listed towards the end of this guide.

Basic questions only you can answer include:

1) What are YOUR goals for this experience? Common objectives of student travelers include advancement in a future profession, wish to expand personal and academic horizons, need for a change, and wish to challenge oneself with immersion in a new culture.

2) Given the way the program is set up, how can you best prepare to meet your goals? For example, if one of your goals is truly being immersed in Italian culture, yet you are going to be studying in English, how can you ensure that you do not spend too much time with other Americans?

The information in this guide was current at the time of printing, though changes may occur at any time.
GENERAL INFORMATION

The Program
With almost 40 years of experience, Istituto Lorenzo de' Medici (LdM) is one of Italy's most distinctive and well-established study abroad institutions. Depending on the campus you attend, you can choose from more than 400 different courses in 32 subject areas. Courses fall under four main academic divisions: Arts and Sciences, Creative Arts, Design, and Italian Language and Culture.

There are many details about the various programs offered by LdM on their webpage: http://www.ldminstitute.com/

Throughout this guide, you will be referred to the LdM academic catalog for additional information:

There will also be references to the LdM Pre-Departure Guide. You will receive a site-specific guide from LdM about a month prior to the beginning of your term.

The Location
You will be studying at LdM's original campus in Florence, established in 1973.

For centuries, travelers have fallen in love with this city bursting with the arts. Florence was the cradle of Renaissance civilization; her thinkers changed forever the way we see the world.

Although rich in history, as a thriving economic center with particular strengths in the fashion, design, luxury goods and tourist sectors, Florence also offers students the chance to investigate a myriad of aspects of the contemporary Italian world.

The Florence "campus" consists of 12 buildings located in the San Lorenzo area. Over time, the program has developed strong connections in the community that help students experience a variety of aspects of Italian life.

For a more complete description of Florence and the LdM facilities there, see page 12 of the LdM Academic Catalog and this section of the LdM website:

Academic Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Depart from US</td>
<td>Sunday, January 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrive Florence/Housing Check-in</td>
<td>Monday, January 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orientation/Classes Begin</td>
<td>Tuesday, January 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Add/Drop Deadline/Final Registration</td>
<td>Wednesday, January 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holiday/Epiphany</td>
<td>Friday, January 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classes end</td>
<td>Friday, January 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deadline for moving out of housing</td>
<td>Sunday, January 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring classes begin at UWEC</td>
<td>Monday, January 23(^1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ACADEMICS

Your Study Abroad Handbook has additional information on academic topics such as registration, class attendance, credits and course load, grades, transcripts, and accessing the UW-Eau Claire library while abroad.
**Program Prerequisites**
To participate in this program, you must be in good standing (academic, conduct and financial) and have the minimum 2.8 resident GPA required. We check grades at the end of the semester prior to departure. Per LdM’s academic requirements, at that time, if you are not in good academic standing, or you have been suspended, you will not be allowed to participate in the program. Due to the start date at LDM, this means you may have less than a week's notice of cancellation.

**Registration**
At UW-Eau Claire: All you need to do for registration at UW-Eau Claire is sign your online PPA for Winterim. Please do this as soon as it is available. You will then be registered by the CIE for the term abroad under a blanket course number (INTA) for the number of credits, but NOT for the specific course you indicated on your LdM application. This “blanket registration” will appear on your billing statements. You do not need to complete any other registration at UW-Eau Claire.

At LdM: You indicated your course choice and alternate on your LdM application. This will be used to register you for a class at LdM. Please note that LdM reserves the right to cancel any course that does not have sufficient enrollment, and that cancellation can take place as late as December. Choose your alternate course wisely!

**Drop/Add:** There is a very brief drop/add period upon arrival in Florence. Any changes must have an academic rationale and depend on course availability. Section changes are considered course changes.

**Classes**
Classes meet Monday-Friday during the January session. Most classes are three credits, although some Italian language classes are four.

**Course Load**
You must take one class. Please note that LdM also offers some non-credit “courses” during the January interim. While you may choose to take one of these courses, you will pay LdM directly for it, and you must still register for one credit-bearing course, also.

**Class Attendance**
Attendance is a primary requirement at LdM and missing class will affect your grades. Please see the complete attendance policy in the Academic Policies section of the LdM Academic Catalog or in the Learning Content section of your UW-Eau Claire online study abroad application.

**Grades**
The following grading system applies to all LdM courses. LdM does not allow students to take courses pass/fail, nor is auditing of classes allowed.

- A = 93 - 100%  A- = 90 - 92%
- B+ = 87 - 89%  B = 83 - 86%  B- = 80 - 82%
- C+ = 77 - 79%  C = 73 - 76%  C- = 70 - 72%
- D = 60 - 69%
- W = Withdrawal
- W/F = Late Withdrawal
- F = Fail

Regardless of the percent grade earned, the class attendance policy applies.

Complete information on LdM academic policies is in the LdM Academic Catalog.
Transcripts
LdM will send transcripts to UW-Eau Claire within one month of the end of the academic term. LdM reserves the right to withhold a transcript if a student has violated contract agreements related to housing and/or academic and financial policies.

Academic System
Although your classes will be taught in English, it is important to realize that you are often taking courses from Italian professors and are learning within the Italian academic system. The teaching methodology differs from that in the U.S. Use of PowerPoint is not common, and in larger classes (20-25 students), the professor may lecture for most of the class period, so good note-taking is essential.

Lots of reading is expected, and not all of it will be specifically assigned. You may get a suggested reading list of 8-10 books. You are not expected to read all of them, but you are expected to read some, which, along with the class lectures and required readings, will inform the exams and papers you will write.

Small homework assignments and short quizzes are uncommon. In most classes, your grade will be based on the mid-term, the final, and a major paper, as well as on attendance and class participation. Both the mid-term and the final exam are generally in essay format and are comprehensive.

Because there is little of the “checking up” you are used to in the U.S. system, you may find it easy to get behind in the assigned readings or put off the other suggested readings to the last minute. Don’t do it! If you keep up with your work on a weekly basis, you will be much less stressed when it comes to mid-terms and finals.

Academic Assistance
In Florence, each group of students from a particular university is assigned an Academic Advisor who goes through orientation with them and is available for both academic and cultural questions throughout the term. Past students report that this person has been very helpful and recommend keeping in touch both in-person and via email with any questions you may have.

MONEY MATTERS
Information about how payments are made, when they are due, withdrawal/refund deadlines, financial aid, scholarships, budgeting, and how to bring money abroad is in your Study Abroad Handbook.

Cost Estimate
You can find the most current Cost Estimate for your program, in an easily printable format, on the CIE Italy webpage. Be sure you are looking at the correct term. Remember that the cost estimate includes what you pay to UW-Eau Claire, what you pay to LdM, and what you pay directly to other vendors.

Personal Travel
How much money you need for travel is always a difficult and personal decision. Keep in mind that you can spend as much money as you have, but you do not need to! Students who spend more time in the host community often have richer interpersonal experiences than those who spend every spare moment traveling.

Past Winterim participants who responded to our survey reported spending between $150 and $2,000 dollars on personal travel, with the average being $565. The person who spent the least reported traveling on just a couple of
weekends and spending the rest of the time exploring Florence. The person who reported spending $2,000 traveled every weekend and prior to the program.

**Currency Exchange**
The currency of Italy is the Euro (€). One Euro has 100 cents. There are 8 Euro coins, ranging in amount from 1 cent to 2 Euros and have different designs in the various countries that use the Euro. Bills range from €5 to €500 and have a standard design across countries.

The exchange rate as of August 2016 was 1 € = $ 1.07507 US. You can find current exchange rates at [http://www.oanda.com/convert/classic](http://www.oanda.com/convert/classic). When looking at the costs listed below, be sure to convert those listed in Euros to U.S. dollars! All costs are estimated and may change due to exchange rate fluctuations.

**LdM Cancellation/Refund Policy**
In addition to the general UW-Eau Claire cancellation/refund policy stated in the online Study Abroad Handbook, the following applies to LdM students:

**Tuition:** For a cancellation
- anytime between when an application is accepted by LdM and 31 days prior to the beginning of the term, 15% of the tuition charge will be kept by LdM.
- within 30 days of the start of the term, 50% of the tuition charge will be kept by LdM.

After the start of the program, no tuition refunds are available.

**Housing:** For a cancellation
- 45 days or MORE prior to the check-in date, the housing deposit (US$300) will be refunded.
- 44-31 days preceding the check-in date, the student will lose the housing deposit (US$300).
- 30-11 days preceding the check-in date, the student is liable for the housing deposit (US $300) plus the first housing monthly rent.
- 10-0 days, no refund will be made for any reason whatsoever in case the student decides to cancel, change or vacate the assigned apartment.

The student will be fully liable for the total housing cost and housing deposit if no official notice of the student’s cancellation is received by LDM before check-in date.

**Please note that you are responsible for paying the percentages listed above, even if you withdraw from the program before you have paid this amount to UW-Eau Claire.**

**HEALTH & SAFETY**
Additional information on these issues, as well as on CISI insurance, is included in the Health Issues and Safety Abroad sections of your Study Abroad Handbook, as well as in the LdM Pre-Departure Guide.

**Important Note on Adderall**
The drug Adderall, commonly used in the USA for people with ADD or ADHD, is not available in Italy. It is considered a narcotic and is illegal. If you have a prescription for this drug, please contact the U.S. Consulate/Embassy for further details. Doctors cannot supply it in Italy, and you will not be able to have it sent over, so plan ahead. The sharing of Adderall among students is considered a crime according to Italian law,
and will be viewed by LdM as a serious drug offense.

**Immunizations/Health Preparations**
In addition to having all routine immunizations up-to-date, you can find the CDC recommendations for Italy or any other country you plan to visit at: [http://wwwn.cdc.gov/travel/destinationList.aspx](http://wwwn.cdc.gov/travel/destinationList.aspx)

UW-Eau Claire's Student Health Services offers immunizations (Hepatitis A, tetanus, Hepatitis B, etc.) and health education on international travel. Tel. (715)-836-5360.

**Health Services**
There are English-speaking medical services available in Florence, close to the main LdM campus building. No appointment is necessary during regular office hours, which you will receive during orientation in Florence. Your CISI insurance will be accepted at this location; no need to file for reimbursement. (If you use other medical offices in Florence, you will need to pay up front and file for reimbursement.)

**Counseling Services**
The Florence campus has two English-speaking psychologists on staff who provide counseling services at no cost to LdM students. You will receive their contact information and office hours upon arrival in Florence.

**Safety in Italy**
Information on crime, road safety, drug penalties, and terrorist activity in Italy is available online at [http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/country/italy.html](http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/country/italy.html)

A link to the most recent version of the State Department Information is included in Learning Content in your online study abroad account. Pay particular attention to the sections on Safety & Security, Crime, and Victims of Crime.

Safety issues specific to Florence will be provided at orientation in Italy.

**Emergency Contacts**
General emergency procedures are described in the Study Abroad Handbook. All students at LdM are registered with the local police and are issued with an emergency telephone number which connects them with an LdM staff member 24/7 if difficulties arise.

You will receive an emergency contact card at orientation; be sure to keep it in your wallet at all times. Information is also on the Contact Names & Addresses page of this guide.

**REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

**Passport**
General passport information is found in your Study Abroad Handbook.

**Visa/Declaration of Stay**
A visa is official permission to temporarily reside in another country and is granted by the government of that country. If you are a U.S. citizen, you can stay in Italy for up to 90 days without a visa or Permit of Stay. However, all non-EU citizens who come to Italy for a period of less than three months for visits, tourism, business and study require either a stamp in their passport from Italian immigration upon arrival in Italy, or a Declaration of Presence, which you need to file within eight days of arrival in Italy.
If you are not a U.S. Citizen, contact Cheryl Lochner-Wright, the Study Abroad Coordinator for Italy, for how to find information about the visa process. Please note that it is the student's responsibility to apply for and receive the necessary visa.

**Packing Tips**

*In addition to the general packing information in your Study Abroad Handbook, you should know the following about Italy. LdM will also provide additional packing suggestions in their Pre-Departure Guide.*

**Clothing & Weather**

Temperatures in Florence in January are generally mild, by Wisconsin standards, with highs in the 50s and lows in the 30s. That said, buildings are typically not heated to the temperatures U.S. Americans are used to and interiors may feel cold and damp, particularly in older buildings.

With that in mind, bring clothes that you can wear, or take off, in layers. You will want clothing that is washable and does not shrink easily. Throwing in a set of light long underwear is not a bad idea, and you may also want warm pajamas.

**What to Pack**

You will receive a suggested packing list for Italy at orientation.

**Appliances**

The standard electric current in Europe is 220 volts. U.S. appliances such as hair dryers and razors run on 110 volts. If you plan to bring these appliances, you will need to buy both a converter and plug adapters for the various countries. Travel hair dryers and razors, which are relatively inexpensive, usually are convertible and need only a plug adapter.

**Arriving in Italy**

**Travel Arrangements**

It is your responsibility to make travel arrangements to Florence. A list of student-oriented travel agencies and instructions for booking a flight are included in the online Study Abroad Handbook. Consider traveling with another program participant, a travel companion can make arrival in a new country much less intimidating!

Most past participants have either flown directly into Florence (Florence Peretola airport), or into Rome and then continued to Florence by train. Note: that if you are arriving in Europe before the official arrival date to do independent travel, you are expected to arrive at the check-in point in Florence by 3:00 pm on the arrival date.

All Florence students must arrive at the housing check-in by 4:30 pm on the arrival day. Be sure to plan your arrival at the airport or train station with enough time left over to take a taxi to the check-in point. (See “Getting to Your Apartment” below.)

*Updated 9/13/16*

You may wish to purchase travel or trip cancellation insurance when you purchase your ticket, in case your plans change unexpectedly. Discuss your options with your travel agent and be sure you know exactly what the policy covers. Many policies are very restrictive in what they will reimburse.
**Early, Late or Delayed Arrival**

If you arrive before the stated arrival date, you will need to book a room in a hotel or hostel for your stay. Contact LdM for additional information and suggestions for hotels, etc. If you arrive late, proceed to Florence. You must contact either the LdM North American Enrollment Services and Academic Relations Office or the LdM office in Italy to inform them of your arrival time if you are arriving late.

Have a back-up plan in case your flight is delayed and you arrive in the middle of the night. You should then plan to stay in a hotel and contact LdM-Italy the following morning.

**Getting to your Apartment**

You will take a taxi from the airport in Florence to the housing check-in at LdM. The specific address will be provided by LdM shortly before departure.

At housing check-in, you will get the keys for your apartment from the LdM staff and can go on to the apartment. Again, this is typically done by taxi due to the amount of luggage.

**Luggage Storage**

Please note that it is not possible to store luggage or other belongings at LdM or in your apartment prior to or after the program.

**Orientation**

Upon arrival, the LdM staff will orient you to the program and the city before classes begin. Be sure to arrive with enough cash (in Euros) to buy immediate necessities, such as soap and toilet paper for your apartment.

LdM typically holds an orientation dinner at the beginning of the week that classes start. It is a free, buffet-style dinner that is highly recommended by past participants as a great way to meet other LdM students. The dinner is semi-formal, so you will want to have a set of nice clothes to wear.

**Housing**

**Application and Placement Process**

Once you are accepted to LdM, you will submit a Housing Selection Form and pay a $300 housing deposit to LdM to secure your housing. Instructions on how to complete the form and make the payment will be provided by LdM.

You are asked to complete the form carefully and to give as much detail as possible, so that the housing coordinator can attempt to place you with compatible roommates.

If you would like to room with another student from UW-Eau Claire, you can indicate this on the form. LdM will make every effort to honor such requests, as long as both students indicate their wish to room together on their Housing Selection Forms.

Please note that if you do not want to live with other students from Eau Claire, you must also state this specifically on your housing form. If you do not, it is very likely that you will be placed in an apartment with other UW-Eau Claire students.

You may request a single room for an additional fee; however, there are a limited number of single rooms available, and assignments are made on a first-come, first-served basis.
Your housing assignment will be e-mailed to you one to two weeks prior to the beginning of the program. You will receive your specific address upon arrival.

**Explanation of Housing Arrangements**

In Florence, LdM students live in LdM-sponsored apartments. While these are “student apartments,” in the sense that you will be living with other LdM students, they are not in “student housing”. Rather, they are in regular apartment buildings in your host city, and your neighbors will be Italian citizens.

The apartments are typically a 5-20-minute walk or a short bus ride from the main LdM administrative building. All of the campus buildings are relatively close together, and the apartments are typically near one of the main buildings. Please note that ALL apartments are NON-SMOKING.

At the beginning of the term you will be asked to fill out a very detailed form about the condition of your apartment. Take this seriously and fill it out completely! It will be used immediately to correct anything that may not be working right away, and it will be used at the end of the term to assess damages.

Although LDM facilitates the housing process, you are renting the apartment directly from a landlord. If there are any problems with the apartment, the washing machine is not working, for example, or there is no hot water, you will contact your landlord directly. (Note that no hot water is different from slow hot water. It is normal for it to take several minutes for water to get warm.) However, you should always copy your LDM advisor on the email, so s/he can assist if necessary.

Because Florence is a very old city, and you are living in the central neighborhoods of the city, it is likely that you will be living in an old building. If something goes wrong, it may take a while to schedule a professional to do the specific repair work that needs to be done. In addition, Italians in general have a very different expectation than Americans of how quickly such repairs will take place. Be patient. The problem will be resolved, but it may not be resolved in a day or two!

Florence is also a very popular city, and housing is at a premium. If you do have issues with your housing, whether they are problems with the building or with an apartment mate, focus on resolving the problem rather than asking to be moved to a different apartment. It is unlikely that anything will be available.

**Apartment Description**

As mentioned previously, LdM apartments come in all shapes and sizes. All apartments are single-sex. Most will house four to six people in a combination of double and/or single rooms. (Note that single rooms are at additional cost.) Bedrooms are furnished with twin beds, a desk, nightstands, and lamps. There will be some form of closet storage with hanging space. Sheets, blankets and towels are provided.

All occupants of the apartment share bathroom/s, as well as the kitchen and living room. The kitchen will have a stove top, cooking and eating utensils; some may also have a microwave or oven in addition.

The apartments have a TV and Internet service; however, phones are NOT provided. They have washing machines, but not dryers: hanging clothes to dry is more common than dryers in Italy. Central heating is also unusual.
Living in a Florence Apartment

Given the age of the buildings, the climate, and the reality that central heating and air conditioning are unlikely, mold can be a problem. It is essential that you open your windows every day to ensure good ventilation, which will help prevent mildew. This may not seem like the best thing to do in February, when daytime temperatures are generally in the 40s, but it is essential for the health of the building and its occupants!

Average water and electrical use are included in your rent. However, this is average Italian water and electrical use. This means that you are expected to conserve whenever possible by doing simple things like turning off the lights as you leave a room and taking showers of a reasonable length. In the winter, if you find a way to trick the thermostat and keep the temperature of the apartment higher than it was set, and you therefore use double the amount of utilities than average, you will be charged for the difference.

Rather than focusing on making the environment comfortable for you, think like a European and focus on making yourself comfortable in the environment, by adjusting the layers and types of clothing you wear.

Recycling

Recycling is required by law. There is a fine of 180 Euro for not separating your recyclables out properly in the trash! This will be explained at orientation in Italy, and there is information on the back of the apartment doors, explaining what you need to do. If you don’t understand, be sure to ask your LdM advisor. Once you get a system down, it will only take a few minutes each week if everyone pitches in.

Apartment Keys

Another thing to be aware of is that you are responsible for your apartment key at all times during the term. Keep it on your person, not in your purse or backpack. For security reasons, a lost key means that the locks must be changed immediately at your expense. Charges start at around 150 Euro. Remember that Florence is a big city, never leave your apartment door unlocked, and never loan your key to anyone else.

Guests

Overnight guests are NOT allowed in your apartment. If you have friends or family coming to visit, they will need to stay in a hotel or hostel.

Food

Your apartment will have an equipped kitchen, and the most economical way to eat will be to shop for groceries and cook at home. Often, roommates plan shopping and meals together, sometimes even with a rotation of who is cooking which days.

Community Involvement

The LdM campus provides many activities during the week. Activities are one-time events. You will need to sign up in advance. Some activities are free, and others are less than 10 Euro. Some examples include making gelato, a boat tour along the river, theatre performances, movie nights, and many others.

Communication

Information on accessing/forwarding your UW-Eau Claire e-mail address, which you need to
check while abroad, is in your Study Abroad Handbook.

**Computer/Internet Access**

Internet service is provided in your apartment; however, you will need a laptop to access it. Be sure you have the proper electrical converter and adapter.

If you do not have a laptop, there are computers for student use in the main LdM administration building during regular office hours.

**Telephone Information**

With your pre-departure materials from LdM, you will receive information regarding the free mobile phone rental contracted through Platform 3000. You will register online to receive your phone (and corresponding number) prior to your departure from the US. LdM pays the initial fees, and incoming calls are free once you are in Italy. Shipping is also free as long as you order at least 14 days in advance of your departure from the U.S. You will pay for outgoing calls and for texts. Complete details will be in the pre-departure guide you will receive from LdM a month or so prior to the beginning of your term.

**From the U.S. to Italy:** If you want to call someone in Italy before you arrive, you must first dial 011, which is the international dialing code. Next, you dial 39, the country code for Italy, then 055, the city code for Florence, and the rest of the number.

**Snail-mail**

International airmail takes seven to ten days to cross the Atlantic in either direction.

LdM recommends that family and friends send regular letters via the U.S. Postal Service. Any packages can be sent via any of the shipping services or the U.S. Postal Service. We recommend that the packages state "For Personal Use Only - No Commercial Value" on them so that additional VAT (value added tax) is not charged.

You should have your family and friends address your letters and packages as follows:

(Student Name)
C/O Lorenzo de' Medici
Via Del Melarancio, 6/r
50123 Firenze, ITALIA

**TRAVEL WHILE ABROAD**

*See additional travel information in your Study Abroad Handbook.*

**Organized Travel**

LdM offers weekend excursions led by qualified LdM staff that enable you to visit some of the most famous Italian cities and sites. These trips are optional and are an additional cost.

**Buses, Metro, and Taxis**

There will be information on buses and taxis specific to your host city in your LdM Pre-Departure Guide.
# WEB RESOURCES: ITALY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Culture/Travel</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Italian Language | • [http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/italian/guide/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/italian/guide/)  
| Italy Map | [http://www.ldminstitute.com/](http://www.ldminstitute.com/) | |
| Florence | Virtual Tour of Florence:  
[http://www.italyguides.it/us/florence/florence_italy.htm](http://www.italyguides.it/us/florence/florence_italy.htm)  
Calendar of Events:  
What to see and do:  
[http://www.everyculture.com/Ge-It/Italy.html](http://www.everyculture.com/Ge-It/Italy.html)  
• [http://www.sena.it/Home/78-1-en.html](http://www.sena.it/Home/78-1-en.html) | |
| Newspapers | • [http://www.theflorentine.net/](http://www.theflorentine.net/)  
• [http://www.ansa.it/english/index.html](http://www.ansa.it/english/index.html) | |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTACT NAMES &amp; ADDRESSES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **LdM Florence Main Campus**  
  and Headquarters  
  Via Faenza 43, 50123  
  Florence, Italy  
  ph: +39 055 287203 or 287360  
  LdM Emergency Line (24/7):  
  +39 346 0150060  
  info@lorenzodemedi.it |  
| **U.S. Consulate General**  
  Florence  
  Lungarno Amerigo Vespucci 38,  
  Florence, Italy  
  Telephone: 39-055-266-951  
  Facsimile: 399-055-215-550  
  Email:  
  uscitizensflorence@state.gov |  
| **Center for International Education**  
  3 Schofield Hall  
  University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire  
  Eau Claire, WI 54702  
  Phone: (715) 836-4411  
  Fax: (715) 836-4948  
  Cheryl Lochner-Wright  
  Study Abroad Coordinator  
  E-mail: lochnecb@uwec.edu |  
| **UW-Eau Claire After Hours Numbers**  
  (715) 839-4972 or (715) 577-9045 |
WHAT PAST PARTICIPANTS HAVE SAID ABOUT THEIR TIME IN ITALY

“My experience abroad was life changing. I got to call a new place ‘home’ for three weeks and had the opportunity to explore another country.” -Kaitlyn W., Winterim 2015

“I now have a different perspective on the world and who I am as a person. It was a great inspirational learning experience. By far the most exciting and favorite things I have done throughout my college career!” -Natalie D., Winterim 2015

“Studying abroad was unlike any other experience I’ve ever had. You meet so many diverse people. It helps you appreciate things about your culture you never thought about before but you can also come up with some things about your culture that could benefit from the experiences you had.” Winterim 2015

“My experience was one I will never forget, studying abroad broadened my horizon to a whole new world that I never would have experienced without study abroad program.” Winterim 2015

“Loved the city!” Winterim 2014

“This program is good for someone who wants to travel to Italy but doesn’t have enough time or money to do the full semester.” Winterim 2014

“A very eye-opening and fun experience!” Winterim 2014

UW-EAU CLAIRE
CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Updated 8/16, clw