



Lawrence
Academy



Florence Summer 2019 High School Program



About SAI

Since 1995, SAI has provided students with exceptional cultural and educational experiences abroad, offering the opportunity to enroll in some of the finest schools available to English speaking students in Europe. By encouraging students to explore the complex intersections between self, community, and creativity, SAI aims to provide an inspiring and transformative experience for all participants. All of SAI's services, in the U.S. and overseas, are geared toward ensuring student safety and maximizing the student experience; both in terms of providing a framework for academic inquiry, and offering each student opportunities for personal growth and development.

We pride ourselves on our guiding principles:

- **Personal attention** We build relationships with our students throughout the study abroad experience.
- **Community emphasis** Our programs are designed with the community in mind.
- **Immersive experience** Our volunteering, internships, homestays, and unique activities help students immerse themselves in their host culture.
- **Safety and support** We provide support in all areas of the student experience, offer on-demand emergency assistance, and the comfort of knowing that experienced staff are always on hand.

About Florence

The treasure that is the city of Florence has attracted visitors from every society, from Roman to modern times. Though Florence is an ancient city, the focal point today is its Renaissance art and architecture, which have contributed to it frequently being named one of the most beautiful cities in the world. Considered the birthplace of the Renaissance, its streets present a stunning reflection of the birth and development of modern society, which shifted importance toward the individual and creativity. Today Florence is also a busy center for business, art and design, and a home to top fashion, architecture and culinary delights.

Why Study Abroad in High School?

Our world is becoming smaller and we are more interconnected than ever. Students must be prepared to face this reality as they enter college and the professional world. By experiencing the world in a broader global perspective through study abroad, high school students are able to build critical thinking and problem-solving skills that they will bring to their future studies and communities, and eventually to the workplace. High school students who study abroad gain confidence and thus enhance their competitiveness for their next steps in life. Often on their own for the first time, students develop organizational, leadership and interpersonal skills, along with a sense of responsibility. Meeting new people, breaking out of their comfort zones, solving new and different problems – this allows students to function in complex situations with multiple perspectives and to become more culturally sensitive. They better understand their place in a global society and are able to successfully face the issues of today.

SAI High School Summer Program in Florence, Italy

SAI and Florence University of the Arts (FUA) are pleased to offer high school students from all academic backgrounds the possibility to enroll in college-level courses while nurturing their knowledge and talents in a safe and supportive environment. Courses are supplemented by hands-on activities: excursions to important centers of Italian art and culture; business, design and studio art classes supported by state-of-the-art facilities; cooking classes in professional kitchens; and fun sporting activities. In addition, Italian language courses offer beginning-level students the tools to communicate in everyday life while taking advantage of the city of Florence as a classroom.

SAI offers a 3 week and 4 week option, in which students earn 6 or 9 college credits while living in one of the most treasured centers of art, business, culture and history in the world.

Academic Overview

FLORENCE UNIVERSITY OF THE ARTS

Florence University of the Arts (FUA) is a young, vibrant institution offering liberal arts coursework taught in English that takes a contemporary approach to international education. With small classes taught by highly qualified international faculty, FUA courses aim to enhance the social, intercultural and professional experience of each student. As an urban school, FUA is comprised of several buildings in Florence's city center that have been refurbished to create spaces for studios, classrooms, and meeting points. In the classroom, students have the opportunity to learn with working professionals, as many instructors are critically acclaimed in their fields. Outside of the classroom, students apply what they learn to their surroundings, with ample opportunities for community engagement and hands-on learning.

HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER PROGRAM

The High School Summer Program offers high school and gap students the opportunity to study in an international setting with a structured and supervised program. The program includes planned events and excursions for a rich social and cultural experience, as well as two meals per day. All courses are taught in English, and take students out into the city for first-hand experiences. Please note that students receive an Italian transcript from FUA for courses taken. US transcript can be added for an additional cost.

You will have your choice of either a 3 week session (6 credits) or a 4 week session (9 credits):

Summer High School 3 weeks (6 credits)

You will spend three unforgettable weeks living and studying in the heart of Florence. Students enroll in two elective courses for a total of 6 credits. Courses are supplemented by daily activities and weekend excursions.

Summer High School 4 weeks (9 credits)

You will begin in Rome with a 1 week (3 credit) "Cultural Introduction to Italy" field-learning course in which students travel from Rome to Florence. You will then spend three weeks in Florence completing two elective courses (6 credits). Please note that students in this program fly into Rome and out of Florence.

Supervision & Counseling

The Summer High School Program is fully supervised and includes live-in Resident Assistants (RAs) dedicated to the safety and welfare of the high school students. Resident Assistants are well-equipped to assist with the transition to life in Florence, and students enjoy the benefits of a strong support network. As well as general assistance to help each student achieve their personal, academic and social goals, RAs are on call 24/7 for health and safety emergencies.

Accommodations & Meals

Student accommodation in Florence is located in the historic city center, just a few steps from the Duomo, Ponte Vecchio and school facilities, allowing students immediate access to the various museums, squares, restaurants, cafes and markets that Florence has to offer. Students enrolled in the program are offered safe and relaxing accommodation, fully equipped and monitored 24/7 by their live-in Resident Assistants. In some cases, depending on enrollment numbers, housing in a hotel may be an option. During the one week field-learning course, Cultural Introduction to Italy, students are housed in various hotels along with their Resident Advisors.

The program includes two meals per day. Students will dine at GANZO Restaurant, FUA's culinary learning lab, as well as at some of Florence and Italy's best eateries. The city is full of food markets, cafes, trattorias, and restaurants, ensuring that students will have plenty of opportunity to explore the culinary culture of Tuscany.



Program Overview

Both programs include the following:

- Program tuition
- Accommodation in student apartments with live-in Residence Assistants
- 2 meals per day
- Airport pickup and return
- Student health insurance providing full coverage and medical emergency evacuation
- Comprehensive orientation to the host city and school
- 24-hour on-site supervision and support
- Daily extracurricular activities designed to help you discover Florence and Italian culture
- Admissions counselor assigned to you, providing friendly assistance throughout your study abroad experience
- Helpful pre-departure tools and resources
- \$500 return high school student discount to use toward future undergraduate SAI programs

2019 PROGRAM COST

3 Weeks / 6 Credits: \$4,500

4 Weeks / 9 Credits: \$5,300

Return High School Student Discount: SAI offers a \$500 discount to students who successfully complete a High School program, to be used toward a Signature Services semester/quarter program during their undergraduate studies. This discount cannot be combined with the SAI Alumni Discount.

Scholarships

SAI offers scholarships for high school summer programs; please see our website to find out more: www.saiprograms.com/scholarships.

2019 CALENDAR*

Summer I: June 23, 2019 – July 12, 2019

June 23	Students Arrive in Florence & Transfer to Housing
June 24	Florence Orientation
June 25	Classes Begin
July 11	Classes End
July 12	Housing Check-out & Transfer to Airport

Summer II: June 16, 2019 – July 12, 2019

June 16	Students Arrive in Rome & Transfer to Housing
June 17	Rome Orientation & Welcome Dinner
June 17 – 23	Cultural Introduction to Italy Traveling Course
June 23	Students arrive in Florence
June 24	Florence Orientation
June 25	Classes Begin
July 11	Classes End
July 12	Housing Check-out & Transfer to Airport

APPLICATION DEADLINE

April 2, 2019

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Age 15 - 18
- Currently enrolled in high school or recent graduate
- High school GPA: 3.0

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- SAI online application
- Personal statement (300-500 words)
- Official high school transcript
- 2 academic letters of recommendation

*Please note: dates may change

Courses Offered

Following is a sample of courses offered. Please note that courses may change.

Food, Culture and Society in Italy

This course is targeted towards students with an interest in Italian food traditions, society, and culture. The main focus consists of what is generally defined as “made in Italy” culture and style in post-war Italy. Also covered are the relationships between Italian traditions, folklore and contemporary Italian society drawing from examples including festivals, food, tourism, and economy, and the influence of foreign civilizations. Students will be asked to regard the subject of food outside of the context of ingredients and the procedures used to create a dish; we will instead examine a large scale context in which food is either featured as a main component or an integral element in cultural situations. Thus the student is asked first and foremost to observe the presented material across an anthropologic lens that roves over the entire Italian peninsula. Lectures will be complemented by student cooking labs and/or tastings.

Style and the City: Florentine Fashion Walks

Through a series of walks and visits through art and design this course intends to show famous and hidden fashion paths in Florence. A journey through time and space to discover the place that marked the birth of Italian fashion and opened the doors to Made in Italy. Students will discover a city of exquisite taste, tradition and artistic craftsmanship. Starting from the location of the first Italian cat walk held in the Sala Bianca of Palazzo Pitti, they will learn how to map the fashion environment of the city. From Renaissance to modern day inspiration, fashion is kept alive in the products that were designed here and that grace the beautiful city today. Designers, such as Gucci, Salvatore Ferragamo, Emilio Pucci, Stefano Ricci, Ermanno Scervino, and Roberto Cavalli, have all developed and changed through the years and they have all surely blossomed here in Florence.

Cultural Introduction to Italy in Florence

The study of Italian culture helps the student to acquire a deep awareness of both cultural unity and regional diversity. This course is intended to provide students with an in-depth introduction to Italian culture and to broaden one's awareness and understanding of the role of cultural heritage in customs and lifestyles. Lectures will provide students with an organized, focused, and academic understanding of Italian history, art, architecture, food, religion, and culture. The course provides additional enrichment through basic notions of Italian language and terminology along with assigned readings and a final paper. On-site teaching is a significant part of this course and is aimed to provide the student with an incomparable experience of studying important sites of artistic architectural and social relevance in present-day Italy. Students are encouraged to observe the sites through active participation and to discuss their observations using specific and analytic social assessment skills.

Florentine Art Walks

This course examines the city of Florence with themed walks offering a comprehensive approach to the city as an open-air cultural, historical, and artistic research site from its Roman foundation to its contemporary Zeitgeist. Students will learn the history of the city through its art: they will understand how buildings, streets, squares, and monuments can be mapped as living traces of multiple, overlapping layers of a complex past, and how to encode them in their personal appropriation of the city. Starting from learning how to decode the artistic environment of the city and to unveil its traces, both visible and invisible, the course aims at understanding the main social and cultural reasons underlying the existing shape of the city. The course explores traces and evidences from Roman times through Middle Ages, Renaissance, Mannerism and Baroque, up to Art Nouveau and contemporary Florence.

Travel Writing

The basis of this course is the development of creative writing skills by focusing on the genre of travel writing. Students will read and discuss extracts from the great classics of travel writing as well as current travel journalism published in newspapers, magazines, and online. Assignments will focus on developing an individual voice, and honing ideas through revision and drafting. Topics will cover how to write for different audiences and publishing formats. Course projects and activities will interact with the journalism activities of Blending, the magazine and newsletter of FUA's campus press Ingorda.

Health and Fitness in the Mediterranean

Studies have shown that following the Mediterranean diet has many health benefits, especially when combined with exercise. This course includes lectures on various forms of physical and lifestyle activities and an overview of their respective health benefits. Lectures will also include visits to athletic centers within the local community and the nutritional aspects of the Mediterranean diet, and particularly the Italian culinary tradition. Cooking labs, wine tastings, and physical activity are integral components of the course and will result in the creation of a customized exercise and nutritional program by the student. This course also features a field learning component in supplement and enrich academic topics.

Introduction to Fashion Photography

The course is based on a series of theoretical lectures on the technical, cultural, visual, and historic aspects of fashion photography. Fashion photography history will be analyzed from the beginning of the 20th century through contemporary works, following the continuously changing fashion styles and trends of today. This introductory course will concentrate on the technical and logistical aspects of fashion photography using natural light and light basic metering. The first half of the course will be devoted to understanding camera functions and basic printing, after which students will learn basic fashion photography. A DSLR camera and a lens with a focal length of 55mm or wider is required for this course.



Photo by Lauren Rodrigues

Study in the ancient city of Florence and develop a personal perspective on international leadership and entrepreneurial trends.



Florence Sketchbook

This course is designed to take full advantage of the student's unique experiences living and studying in the city of Florence. With on-site inspiration channeled into artistic creativity, students will draw on location at sites of historical significance and visual interest, ranging from architectural masterpieces, landscape vistas, and medieval streets to formal gardens, street markets, and Renaissance fountains. Slide lectures will document the rich history of how Florence and its environs have attracted and inspired visiting artists over the centuries. Students will develop individual sketchbooks with the aim of building up source material for future projects.

Beginner Ceramics

In this course, students will work on pottery and/or ceramic sculpture projects. During the first portion of the course, emphasis will be on different clay hand-building techniques. The second portion, students will progress to a variety of surface decoration techniques and different methods of firing and coloring. Lecture content will provide students essential information about the nature of clay and glazes and the history of Mediterranean ceramics. Students will be introduced to local Tuscan artisan traditions and the work of contemporary ceramic artists during field learning activities.

Introduction to Creative Accessory Design

This course introduces students to the design and construction of hats and bags made from creative materials such as straw and non-leather materials. 3D design principles and hatmaking techniques are studied and applied to wearable and non-wearable creations. Students learn basic skills of millinery construction through the methods of patterned and blocked forms, and how to work with and acquire an in-depth understanding of the introduced materials.

Fashion Design Studio I

This course is an introduction to creative design development and fashion design skills. Topics include design processes, trend research, storyboard creation, color, fabric selection, draping design concepts, design innovation, and the 2D to 3D development of creative ideas. Students will gain practice in these areas through projects and will also be introduced to the basics of fashion illustration. Students prepare for future apparel design projects by researching the design development process, textiles, materials, and industry practices.

Intensive Italian (Beginner & Intermediate)

Italian language classes are available for absolute beginners as well as intermediate level students. Courses weave cultural elements into language learning, and give equal emphasis to grammatical structures, vocabulary, and conversation skills.

Italian Renaissance Architecture

This course explores the principal architects, monuments and themes of fifteenth and sixteenth century Italian architecture. The course includes site visits in the city of Florence. Emphasis will be on Renaissance architecture in Florence, but will also include architectural developments in Rome, Urbino, Mantua, Verona and Vicenza. Special topics will include: architectural theory, Medici and papal patronage, urban planning, and church and palace design. A special focus will be dedicated to architects: Brunelleschi, Alberti, Michelozzo, Giuliano Sangallo, Bramante, Antonio Sangallo the Younger, Michelangelo, Giulio Romano and Palladio. Visits to key Renaissance buildings and urban spaces in Florence are included.

Fashion, Media and Culture

This course examines the context in which the Italian fashion system was born. Topics begin from the evolution of fashion from the post-WWII period to the present and address the role and influence of media and culture on factors such as economic and social status, the arts, and other issues that influenced fashion. Students explore fashion's connection to identity, body, politics, gender, ethnicity, sexuality, class, and how fashion and media are interrelated with these aspects of culture.

Students enrolled in the 4 week program also enroll in the following course:

Cultural Introduction to Italy (travel week / 4 week program only)

The course provides students with an in-depth introduction to Italian culture and broadens one's awareness and understanding of the role of cultural heritage in customs and lifestyles. Students will be on assignment as travel scholars, starting in Rome and moving north through the region of Tuscany. Lectures will provide students with an organized, focused, and academic understanding of Italian history, art, architecture, food, religion, and culture. The course provides additional enrichment through basic notions of Italian language and terminology along with assigned readings and a final paper. On-site teaching is a significant part of this course and aims to provide students with an incomparable experience of studying important sites of artistic, architectural, and social relevance in present-day Italy. Students are encouraged to observe the sites through active participation and to discuss their observations using specific and analytic social assessment skills.



Excursions

Students participate in two field learning excursions, which are integrated into the academic courses that they take in Florence. Following is a sample of excursions offered.

- Modena, balsamic vinegar
- Fiesole, historical town on the hill
- Medici Villas, historical wealth and power
- Pruneti, extra-virgin olive oil
- Verona, Shakespeare and Dante
- Gubbio and Fabriano mountain towns
- San Gimignano, the town of fine towers
- Volterra and Bolgheri
- Arezzo, Etruscan history

Supervised Afternoon & Evening Activities

In addition to the excursions for each course, students participate in supervised social, cultural and athletic activities in the afternoons.

Connecting Cultures City Walks

Through guided walks through the most significant neighborhoods of Florence, students gain an understanding between the past and contemporary Florence, maximizing their experience by venturing into areas they might not explore on their own and connecting with the community.

Sports Night

This activity is a great way to keep in shape while expanding your knowledge of Italian fitness culture. Soccer is the mainstay of Italian athletics and the focus of our 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.

Musing Club

This activity offers an opportunity for students to explore the world of music and performing arts in Florence. Opera events, visits and performances are all part of this special club. Interested in expanding your knowledge of music or just seeing an exciting performance? This activity is for you!

Taste Italy

These hands-on culinary workshops, in collaboration with the chefs at Apicius, feature topics such as fresh pasta and gelato, with the intent to develop a deeper awareness of Italian food culture.

Aperiganzo/Aperiat

Students join weekly art openings, book presentations and talks at AperiGanzo. This is a great opportunity to meet artists, authors and mingle with fellow classmates, FUA professors and members of the Italian community.

Mind and Body

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



STUDENT & STAFF QUOTES

"I would just like to say 'thank you' to everyone who made this trip a possibility. With all the stress of the trip or potential drawbacks, none of it really matters when I think about all my friends made, things learned and experiences gained. This whole study abroad excursion has changed me as a person and I only have the program and everyone associated with it to thank. I would very much recommend this program to other students."



"SAI was helpful with any questions that I had. I really appreciated all of the Program Coordinator's help. All very helpful! It was great! Very good program – very impressed. Would recommend to others. Great experience that I will never forget!"

"The focus of the program was getting to know Italian Business Culture. We arranged a series of lectures from local experts and business visits for the group, as well as some fun cultural activities as well. We had a great time, and not only did the group learn about doing business in Italy, they were able to experience it first hand while getting to explore this wonderful city!"

"My introduction into the Italian culture has been inspiring, and has served to remind me of the heritage of my family and allowed me to get back in touch with my own values as a young adult, while encouraging me to grow and challenging me to re-evaluate my former conceptions and limitations."

"The highlight of this experience was being exposed to a different culture. I grew from this experience because I realized there are things in this world that I am unaware of. This experience is something that I will appreciate for the rest of my life. Thanks for making it so great."



"I love the people that I met and the new friends I have made. In addition, the opportunity to experience a different culture and social dynamic...was excellent. Everyone was very helpful and went out of their way to make the experience very positive."





For further information, please contact:

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