



ACADEMIC FOCUS

This program can accommodate a wide array of students including those studying Sociology, Anthropology, European Studies, History, as well as those interested in food studies and travel/tourism.

ELIGIBILITY

This program is open to all sophomores, juniors and seniors in good social and academic standing with a minimum GPA of 2.5. Students will be required to have successfully completed *SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology* and an introductory Italian language course before departure. Students will also take a Reader's College orientation course during the spring semester preceding the program. Due to the challenging nature of study abroad, student academic and disciplinary records will be carefully screened.



ACCOMMODATIONS

Students reside in independent apartments arranged by the program while in Rome and will stay in hotels or hostels during excursions.

EXCURSIONS

Program-related excursions vary from year to year depending on the courses offered and the interests of the faculty director(s). The program typically includes a combination of overnight excursions outside Rome, designed to provide students insight into other areas of the country, and day trips to important sites in and around Rome. Visits to Venice and Calabria are tentatively planned for Fall 2015.

GOING ABROAD WITH THE CGE

Students will be charged standard HWS tuition and fees, room fees and a \$550 administrative fee. This will cover credit for a four-course semester, all course-related expenses (including excursions) and housing. Students should plan to bring their board fee to Rome to cover meals. Additional expenses not covered include airfare, books, visa, and personal expenses (laundry, entertainment, ground transportation and independent travel). We estimate airfare for this program at \$1100-\$1300 from the East Coast, visa at \$25-\$30 and books at \$250. It is difficult to give an accurate estimate of personal expenses because student spending habits differ considerably. We would suggest a minimum of \$1500 above and beyond meal expenses. However, students on a tight budget should be able to manage with less. Those concerned about finances should speak with the CGE staff who can offer information and advice based on the specific situation.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

- The Rome program is offered every semester, with a different academic focus, depending on the faculty director.
- Applications are available at the Center for Global Education.
- Applications are due at the CGE office at a selected date in October (for Fall programs) and March (for Spring programs). For specific dates contact the CGE.

NOTE: The information above is subject to change. Please see the CGE for more information.

**The Center for Global
Education**
Third Floor Trinity Hall
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Geneva, NY 14456
315-781-3307
www.hws.edu/academics/global/

ROME, ITALY

ABOUT ROME

Rome exhibits layers of history going back over two millennia—Etruscan tombs, Republican meeting rooms, imperial temples, early Christian churches, medieval bell towers, Renaissance palaces and baroque basilicas—but it is also a very modern, vibrant, multicultural city. In this one locale, a phenomenal concentration of history, legend and monuments coexists with an equally phenomenal concentration of people busily going about their everyday lives. While tourists visit the Vatican, the Forum Romanum and the Trevi Fountain, many visitors often miss the many other sights that make the whole of Rome a museum—a living museum with a population of three million, with rich art, literary, music, theatre and food traditions.

THE PROGRAM

The HWS program in Rome, Italy utilizes an interdisciplinary approach to explore different aspects of Italian culture and society. While the program is designed to immerse students fully in the experience of being in Rome, excursions will provide a wider perspective on the history, culture, and daily life of Italy as a whole. Students will live in furnished flats, providing opportunities to develop their Italian language skills and to experience Roman daily life. Courses and program-related activities are arranged through our affiliation with the Scuola Leonardo da Vinci, one of the leading language schools in Italy, and the Gustolab Institute.

COURSES—FALL 2015

Students participating in this program will take one course taught by the HWS Faculty Director and three courses arranged through our partner institutions, the Scuola Leonardo da Vinci and the Gustolab Institute.

Italian Language and Culture (1 credit)

This course will build upon the foundation of Italian language study completed at HWS prior to the program. A variety of visits to local sites will complement in-class instruction and a series of “labs” will introduce students to various aspects of Italian culture and society. Students with more advanced Italian skills will be placed in an upper level class.

Food and Culture in Italy (1 credit)

The saying “*A tavola non s’invecchia*” (“One doesn’t age at the supper table”) expresses the importance of food and eating for Italians. In this course, we will examine the relationship between food and culture in Italy from pre-historical times to the present, through a variety of readings, class discussions and some personal and practical experience. The study of food culture is interdisciplinary—even though the historical point of view will be primary, during our readings, class discussions and lectures we will touch upon many fields: sociology, literature, art, music and philosophy. In addition students will undertake a group-learning project around Rome that will enhance their classroom experience. Field trips (cheese, wine and olive oil production) and cooking classes will be included in the experience.

Contemporary Italy (1 Credit)

This course is an overview of the history, culture, society and politics of Italy from the end of World War II to the present, with special attention to contemporary issues. Italy is not a settled place, with strong regional differences and interests. It has an economy that is not well, with a significant unemployment rate especially among young Italians. Its more recent politics has been quite turbulent. Students will be introduced to some of the foremost experts in the topics presented. Students will be expected to take extensive notes on these talks and provide substantive reflections on what they learn about Italy (from readings, films, discussions, that will be provided) Students will complete an intellectual portfolio of written recordings and reflections and material cultural artifacts with which to frame a concluding long essay, presentation and/or performance. There will be extensive use of Rome and sights in Italy that leverage the texts towards a better understanding of contemporary Italy.

Fall 2015 Director’s Seminar: Rome, Italy: the Eternal Tourist City (1 credit)

Italy is the fifth most popular tourist location in the world. Over 60% of Italy’s GDP is derived from tourism. In virtually every major Italian city, from Venice to Rome to Calabria, tourism is in evidence, and is often overwhelming. History, art, religion, architecture, cuisine: these are woven together for tourists, as a theatrical and commercial production, into a narrative that is factual and fictional, and into a complex fabric that sweeps the tourist through the historical and contemporary, the ancient and modern, and the sacred and the secular. The course takes a critical reflexive perspective and challenges the students to ask questions about destination branding, identity construction through representation and story, and how these express the interests of the tourism industry and shape the tourist experience. The course challenges our acceptance at face value of authenticity, and to look through the sociological and anthropological lenses to see the socially constructed narratives, the theatrical productions and performances, and the economic and social frameworks that sustain Rome’s and Italy’s cultural imagery. It challenges the student to seek non-touristic experiences and to reflect on their own consumption and production as students of Rome and Italy.