

Study Abroad in

Florence

Northern California Study Abroad Consortium
Spring Semester 2025



Northern California Study Abroad Consortium

Contra Costa Community College District:

- Contra Costa College, Diablo Valley College, Los Medanos College

Los Rios Community College District:

- American River College, Cosumnes River College, Folsom Lake College, Sacramento City College

San Mateo County Community College District:

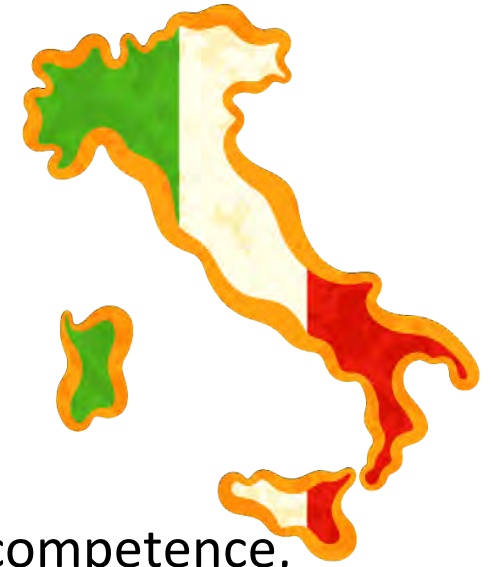
- Cañada College, College of San Mateo, Skyline College

Santa Rosa Junior College

Why study abroad?

- Fewer than 10% of US college students study abroad
- Shows college admissions and employers skills such as intercultural competence, diversity, problem solving...
- Personal skills you gain: independence, creativity, tolerance, openness, initiative, a sense of humor, adaptability, flexibility, values, patience...

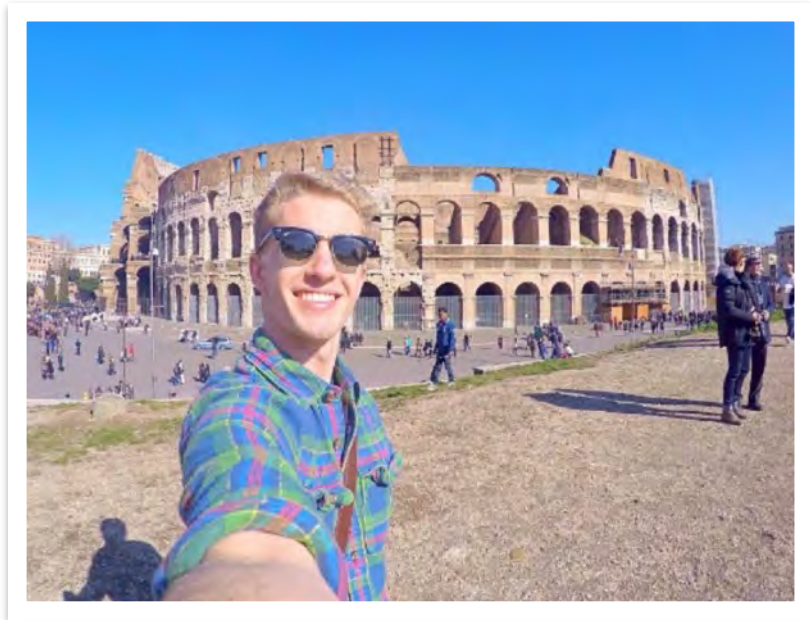
85% of students agree that studying abroad was the most meaningful experience of their undergraduate education.



Why Florence?



Ideally situated for travel around Italy & Europe



Budget airlines around Europe. Bus, train or plane around Italy.

AIFS Abroad

- Founded in 1964
- Over 1.6 million students in over 20 countries
- Partnered with the NCSAC colleges since 1988
- Local Program Coordinators & Study Center
- Extensive incident response and crisis management procedures



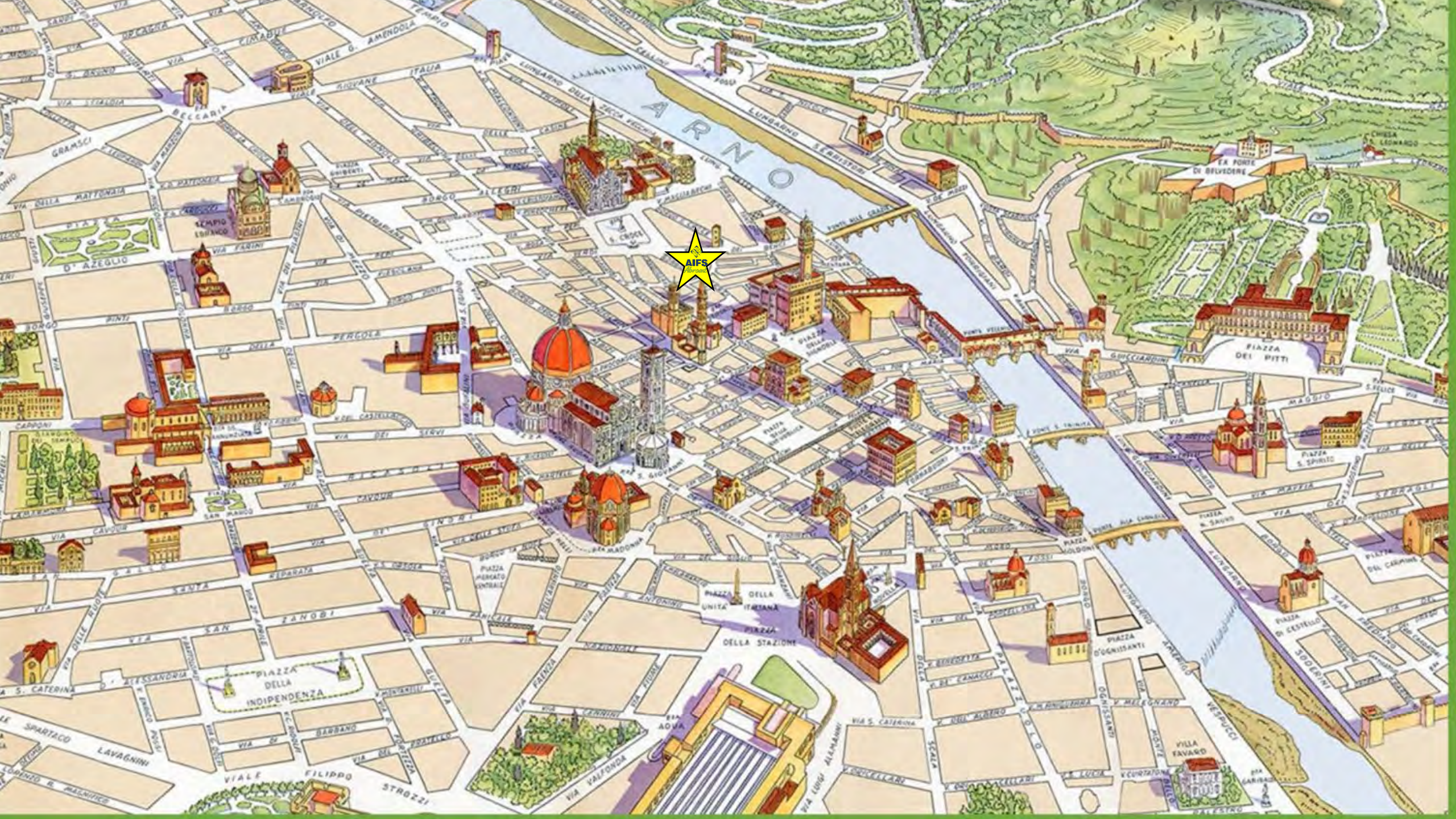
Program Dates - Spring 2025

Saturday, February 1	Depart US
Sunday, February 2	Arrive in Florence
Monday, February 3	Orientation
Tuesday, February 4	Workshops
Wednesday, February 5	Classes begin
Sat-Sun, March 15-23	Mid-Semester break
Thursday, May 1	Last day of class
Friday, May 2	End of program, Depart Florence



AIFS Student Center

- Classrooms & AIFS Student Services near the Piazza Santa Croce
- Student lounge, computer & printer access
- Student Services staff available during office hours and 24/7 emergency contact
- Staff coordinates orientation, classroom facilities, housing, cultural activities & excursions as well as student advising and counseling



AIFS

Academics

- Courses are UC/CSU transferable
- Meet General Education requirements
- All students enroll in the Italian Life and Culture course plus 3 additional courses for a total 12 credits
- Florence is our classroom!
- Optional “survival Italian” course for 2 hours each week with local instructors



Italian Life & Culture Course

- Understanding the culture and society of Florence and Italy
- Experiential learning
- Lectures and corresponding field trips on history, art & architecture, politics & society, gastronomy, customs & traditions
- This 3-unit course is required for all students and is subject to college tuition fees
- Student must enroll in the Italian Life & Culture course offered by the campus that processes their program application. This class is the same class for all four schools





Courses offered by Santa Rosa Junior College

Faculty: Brian Antonson

bantonson@santarosa.edu

MEDIA 4 – Introduction to Mass Communication

MEDIA 10 – Film Appreciation

JOUR 5 – Non-Fiction Digital Storytelling

INTDIS 90* - Italian Life and Culture



Courses offered by Contra Costa Community College District

Faculty: Hopi Breton

hbreton@dvc.edu

ART 005 – The Visual Arts

ART 151 – Visual Theory and Practice – Ceramic Art

INDIS 100* – Italian Life and Culture



Courses offered by Los Rios Community College District

Faculty: Joseph Steever
SteeveJ@scc.losrios.edu

MATH 300 – Introduction to Mathematical Ideas

MATH 320 – Symbolic Logic

STAT 300 – Introduction to Probability and Statistics

INDIS 351* - Italian Life and Culture

Courses offered by San Mateo Community College District

Faculty: Evan Kaiser

kaisere@smccd.edu

ENGL 100 – Composition and Reading

ENGL 110 – Composition, Literature, and Critical

Thinking (PREQ – College Composition)

LIT 154 – Introduction to LBGT Literature

GBST 650* - Italian Life and Culture





Weekly Calendar of Subsidized Cultural Activities

- Cooking class
- Sport events
- Walking tours
- Theater & dance events
- Wine appreciation or olive oil tasting
- Day trips



Excursion to Siena and San Gimignano



Excursion to Chianti Wine Region





Housing

Student Apartments

Equipped kitchens, shared living area & full bath, Wi-Fi, washing machines

No meals are included

Approx. 15-30-minute commute to the Study Center

Typically, 4-6 students in each apartment in double rooms

Included in the Program Fee

\$8345

- Shared student apartment accommodations- no meals, kitchenette, living space & bathroom, washing machine
- AIFS Student Center & Staff services including 24/7 emergency contact
- Orientation program & workshops, guided tour of Florence
- Weekly subsidized activities in Florence including visits to museums, monuments, walking tours, cooking class

- Full day excursions to Siena and San Gimignano and to Chianti wine region
- Medical insurance
- Pre-departure services and orientation

Expenses not included

- Airfare: Optional flight available or students may purchase their own flights
- Community College tuition fees
- Textbooks
- Personal expenses including passport fees and personal travel
- Meals (except as specified)
- Worldwide Trip Protector Insurance - to protect Program Fees in case of program cancellation or interruption – offered upon enrollment with AIFS

Optional Group Flight

- Round trip group flight SFO-FLR-SFO
- Airport pick-up by AIFS staff and transfer to accommodations in Florence; return transfer at the end of the program
- Price \$tbc* (\$tbc airfare + \$tbc* government and airline-imposed taxes, fees and fuel surcharges)

**subject to change until ticketed*



Optional Excursions



Excursion to Sorrento
4 days-3 nights including
guided tours & entrances to
Pompeii & Capri, transport
& hotel \$650



Excursion to Rome
3 days-2 nights including
guided tours & entrances to
the Colosseum and St.
Peters, transport & hotel
\$495



Excursion to Venice
3 days-2 nights including
guided tour, transport & hotel
\$495

Optional Meal Plan:

30-vouchers for use at local restaurants in Florence. The vouchers can be used for breakfast, lunch or dinner at selected restaurants in Florence
\$595



Scholarships

- **AIFS Ambassador Scholarships**- Open to NCSAC students with 12 units completed and a GPA of 2.5 or higher. 1- \$1000 scholarship and 2- \$500 available. *More information from your study abroad advisor.
- **Benjamin A Gilman International Scholarship** <https://www.gilmanscholarship.org/> Open to US citizens or nationals; Pell Grant recipients
- **Fund for Education Abroad** <http://fundforeducationabroad.org/applicants/> Open to US citizens and permanent residents
- <http://www.studentscholarships.org/> The largest scholarship search database on the internet
- <http://www.internationalscholarships.com/> A search database for scholarships for study abroad & international students
- <http://www.finaid.org/scholarships/> A student guide to financial aid and scholarships
- <http://www.fastweb.com/college-scholarships> A student guide to financial aid and scholarships
- <https://www.careeronestop.org/toolkit/training/find-scholarships.aspx?sf53479980=1> US Dept of Labor scholarship finder
- <https://www.gooverseas.com/blog/study-abroad-scholarships-grants> Blog post with links to several study abroad scholarships



Eligibility Requirements

- 18 years or older by departure date
- 2.25 GPA
- Have completed 12 or more units of college-level courses

Creative Funding Ideas

- Lifestyle changes- cut down on expenses, gifts of money
- Back to basics ideas- side jobs, sales, garage sales, etc.
- Crowd funding- Go Fund Me, Zelle, Venmo campaigns, etc.





Barcelona, Spain

Fall Semester 2025

- Homestays or Student Apartments
- Courses are CSU/UC transferable
- Spanish Life & Culture course
- Study center near Las Ramblas
- Excursions and activities such as a tapas tour, soccer match, walking tours, etc.

Is this experience right for me?

Study abroad in a foreign country can be a challenge & create stress. So we can better serve you, we ask that you speak openly and honestly prior to applying with your Study Abroad Director to:

- **Discuss all DSPS accommodations you may have**
- **We ask that you consider disclosing any physical & mental health issues, physical limitations, dietary requirements, medications, etc. you may have**

Example of why we need this information: if you have mobility issues, AIFS would need to be aware of host family housing (stairs, etc.) Help us accommodate you.

- **Also discuss expectations & challenges posed by the study abroad location & culture**

For more information & to apply:

PRIORITY APPLICATION DEADLINE:
FRIDAY, SEPT 20, 2024

GENERAL APPLICATION DEADLINE:
FRIDAY, NOV 1, 2024

Contra Costa Community College District

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San Mateo County Community College District

Kelly Li studyabroad@smccd.edu

Program Coordinator, Study Abroad

Skyline College

Phone: (650) 738-7098