

BOSTON COLLEGE

Italy



Office of International Programs



Welcome to Italy

Situated on a boot-shaped peninsula between the Tyrrhenian and Adriatic Seas, Italy has had a global impact for over two thousand years through its art, architecture, scientific discoveries, music, literature, and cuisine. The country surrounds Vatican City, the sovereign territory of the Catholic Church. The splendors of Italy's Renaissance art and architecture are only rivaled by the country's beautiful landscapes and distinct regions. Italy today is a world leader in industrial design, architecture, and high fashion. It offers a myriad of opportunities to delve into the past and explore contemporary life in a variety of settings.

Boston College students wishing to spend a semester or year in Italy have many options. BC study abroad locations include Milan, one of Italy's largest cities and a global business and financial center, as well as the smaller cities of Parma and Venice, where students can easily navigate their surroundings. Students can choose from full immersion programs at comprehensive institutions, such as the University of Parma or Bocconi University, or smaller, tailored programs at Venice International University and Istituto Dante Alighieri in Parma. All programs offer English-taught courses. No matter what students' academic and personal interests entail, they will find a suitable program in Italy.



MILAN

Located three hours from Florence and Venice and four hours from Rome, Milan occupies a pivotal position between southern Italy and northwestern Europe. Situated near the country's Lake District, Milan has been a commercial, industrial, and cultural cross-roads throughout history and is widely known as a world capital of fashion and design. Home to historic treasures such as the world's fourth largest church, Il Duomo, da Vinci's *The Last Supper*, and the famed opera house La Scala, Milan today is a modern city which continues to reinvent itself.



Tuscany

The Program

www.ir.unibocconi.it/guide

Established in 1902, Bocconi University was one of the first Italian universities to grant a degree in Economics. Located in downtown Milan, in the heart of Italian commerce, the university is considered one of Europe's top institutions for the study of business and economics and one of the best business schools in the world. Committed to education with a global perspective, Bocconi University offers a variety of courses in English and annually hosts approximately 1000 exchange students from around the world. BC students are fully immersed into university courses and life, and are housed in various residences or in off-campus apartments.

Program Highlights

- Ideal location for students interested in business and economics
- Pre-semester intensive Italian language course
- Internships available after the study abroad semester

PARMA

Located in northern Italy, with easy access to other Italian cities and European destinations, Parma is an elegant and intellectually thriving cosmopolitan city of approximately 180,000 people. Home to Verdi and Toscanini, the city has a myriad of cultural activities and boasts an opera house, museums, palaces, and churches displaying the works of Correggio, Parmigianino, da Vinci and van Dyck. Also known for its rich culinary history, Parma is responsible for such delights as Parmigiano cheese and Prosciutto. The city was recently appointed as the seat of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA).

The Program

The BC program in Parma offers two distinct tracks based on student Italian language proficiency. Students possessing advanced Italian skills take courses at the University of Parma, while students with little or no Italian take courses at the Istituto Dante Alighieri. All BC students are required to take an early start art history course in Florence, an Italian language class, and a History of Parma course during the semester. A full-time BC on-site coordinator organizes a rich program of cultural activities. Students live in apartments or with local families.



University of Parma 
www.unipr.it

Dating back to the tenth century, the University of Parma is one of the oldest universities in Europe. Today almost 30,000 students are enrolled in the university's twelve faculties. The main campus, located within the medieval walls of the city, is complemented by another more modern campus with scientific laboratories, a language center, dining halls, and sports facilities. BC students are required to have Intermediate II Italian proficiency before departure, and enroll in regular university courses taught in Italian. Some English-taught courses are available.

Program Highlights

- BC-sponsored History of Parma course which includes field trips
- Non-credit internships available
- Option to partake in tandem language-exchange program



FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

Istituto Dante Alighieri

Founded in 1923, the mission of the Istituto Dante Alighieri is to teach and propagate Italian language throughout the world. Recognized by the Italian Ministry of Public Education and acclaimed in Italy and beyond, the Istituto offers language courses at all levels which are taught by highly qualified and experienced staff. BC students with little or no background in Italian have the opportunity to study both Italian and other disciplines at the Parma facilities.

Program Highlights

- Ideal for students with little or no Italian proficiency
- BC-sponsored History of Parma course which includes field trips
- English-taught courses led by University of Parma faculty

“The cultural immersion was the best aspect of the Parma program. With my homestay, I truly became a part of an Italian family and learned what their life was like...They were so eager to help my language skills improve. It was a wonderful chance to make friends across the world.”



ABOUT THE ABOVE BC STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS IN ITALY, V



Venice

VENICE

Known as the “Queen of the Adriatic,” Venice is situated in northeastern Italy and was once a major maritime leader and a center of commerce. Comprised of 118 islands in the Venetian Lagoon, this unique and beautiful city has about 150 canals and 400 bridges and is the site of the world-renowned Basilica di San Marco. The city is home to many historic palaces and churches, the world’s oldest film festival, a contemporary arts festival, and the famous Carnevale celebration.

The Program

www.univiu.org

As an international center for higher education and research, Venice International University (VIU) offers BC students a unique educational experience. VIU is a consortium of ten distinguished universities from around the world, which Boston College joined in 2006. A community of international professors, researchers, and students come together in a young and dynamic environment on the island of

San Servolo, where they engage in topics common to the undergraduate, graduate, and research programs. VIU offers a variety of English-taught courses and seminars led by member institution faculty, allowing students an opportunity to learn in a truly global setting. Students live in a residence hall on San Servolo, a ten-minute boat ride from San Marco.

Program Highlights

- Curriculum which emphasizes the humanities and social sciences
- BC faculty member in residence who teaches two courses each semester
- Events include guest seminars, tours, cooking classes, and sports activities

In addition to these BC programs, students also have the choice to enroll in approved external programs. For details visit www.bc.edu/international.



Venice