



<http://ieimedia.com>

The Urbino Project

What is The Urbino Project?

It's a four-week multimedia study-abroad program co-sponsored by San Francisco State University and ieiMedia. Students study Web design, photography, videography and reporting, as well as intercultural communication and Italian language, and work in teams to create a Web site about the community. You can see the work of students from summer 2009 at <http://inurbino.net>.



What is ieiMedia?

The Institute for Education in International Media was founded by Andrew Ciofalo, a professor of communication

and journalism at Loyola University Maryland who has been leading summer study-abroad programs since 2002. Past programs have been based in Cagliari (2002-2008), Camerano (2006) and Urbino, Italy (2009); and Armagh, Northern Ireland (2007, 2009). More than 250 students have participated in these programs.

In 2009, ieiMedia formed a partnership with San Francisco State University's Journalism Department and College of Extended Learning. SFSU provides university credit for the programs.

Where, exactly, is Urbino?

Urbino is a walled city in the Marche region of Italy, about 23 miles southwest of Pesaro and about 80 miles north of Assisi. Urbino's historic center is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and its impressive Ducal Palace houses one of the most important collections of Renaissance paintings in Italy. The city is home to the University of Urbino, founded in 1506, and so it has a lively student nightlife.



Rome is accessible by bus (about 4 hours each way) and train/bus. The nearest train stations are Pesaro and Fano, both accessible by bus. From there you can catch trains to Florence, Venice, Bologna and other cities in Italy.

Are there opportunities to travel?



Students will have two weekends (the second and third weekends of the program) free to explore the area around Urbino or to travel elsewhere in Italy. Those who want to tour extensively should plan travel time before or after the program.

How many students participate in the program?

The program will have between 20 and 28 students who will work in teams of four.

Will equipment be provided?

The program will provide one digital still camera, one laptop computer and one digital video camera to each team of four. Students are encouraged to bring their own equipment as well.

Who are the faculty?

Our faculty come from leading universities and news organizations. Each module (Reporting, Photography, Video, Italian Language and Culture, Intercultural Communication and Web Design) will be taught by a faculty member with extensive professional experience. Bob Marshall, a Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter for the *New Orleans Times Picayune*, will teach Reporting for the third year in a row. Francesca Carducci, who teaches English at the University of Urbino, will teach Italian Language and Culture. Other faculty will be announced on the *ieiMedia* Web site as they are hired.

What kind of credit will I get?

Students will earn 3 transferable, upper-division journalism units from the SFSU College of Extended Learning. The course is called JOUR 677 Multimedia Study Abroad.

Do I have to have to be a journalism major?

No. Most of our students are majoring in communications or journalism but we've had English majors, French majors, political science majors, even math majors, participate in the program.

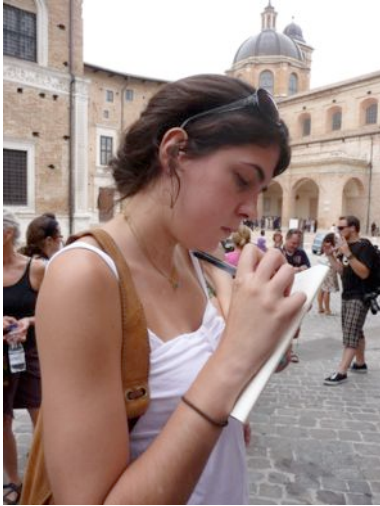
Where do students come from?

Students from many universities have participated, including the University of Maryland, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, University of North Carolina-Greensboro, Temple University, Gonzaga University, Loyola University Maryland, San Jose State University, Humboldt State



University, Marquette University, San Diego State University, Rice University and Baylor University.

In the past we've also had students from Japan, the United Kingdom, Puerto Rico and Trinidad.



Do I need to speak Italian?

No. All classes – except for Italian – will be conducted in English. You will work with University of Urbino students, who will act as interpreters. You will have daily instruction in “survival” Italian.

Can I participate if I'm graduating?

Yes. The program is open to recent graduates as well as undergraduate and graduate students.

Where will I live?

Students will live in a newly renovated University of Urbino dorm and will eat breakfast, lunch and dinner in the student cafeteria. Sheets and towels will be provided. Students will share a room with one other student and will have access to communal bathrooms.

What's the food like? Are there options for vegetarians?

Nearly everyone agrees that Italian dorm food is much better than American! You'll have a choice of several tasty options. Breakfast includes eggs made to order, fruit, rolls, sliced meats, cappuccino and yogurt. At lunch and dinner you'll have a choice of pastas and a soup, two or three main courses, vegetables, salads and fruits. There are always vegetarian options and usually a few vegan options.

Students are welcome to eat out on their own. Urbino has an excellent selection of mid-priced pizzerias and restaurants. And you'll certainly want to sample the gelato!

What's the weather like?

June in Urbino is generally pleasant and warm, with highs in the 70s to mid-80s. It's usually sunny, but there may be some rain.

What clothing should I bring?

Bring casual clothes for hot weather,



including a bathing suit, but also bring a pair of dress shoes and clothes for more formal occasions. Nights can get cool so bring a sweater or jacket. Pack as lightly as possible, particularly if you plan to travel before or after the program.

Should I bring traveler's checks or credit cards?



It is recommended that each student have a credit card, or credit card/ATM. This will enable you to obtain money through ATM machines in Italy. There are several ATM machines in Urbino. Be sure to bring your pin number for the ATM and/or credit card. The exchange rate is usually fair and there are minimal surcharges per transaction. Though a credit card or credit card/ATM is the most convenient way to get cash, you may also bring traveler's checks.

What travel documents will I need?

No visa is required. You will need to have a current passport. If you do not have a passport, you can obtain an application at AAA, county courthouses, post offices, or directly from the Federal Passport Agency. The Federal Passport Agency can take up to six weeks to process your application and issue you a passport, so please plan accordingly.

How much does the program cost?

The cost is \$4,900 plus airfare. Students who apply by Jan. 15, 2010 will get a \$200 discount once accepted. There is an additional \$100 discount if the tuition is paid by check or money order.

Are there scholarships or financial aid?

Scholarships are available to SFSU journalism majors only. Financial aid is generally not available for summer programs. Some students take out personal loans to help finance the program.

How do I apply?

Applications will be available on the ieiMedia Web site by Nov. 10. Students must fill out an application and submit one letter of recommendation, along with a \$500 deposit. Deposits will be refunded only if a student is not accepted into the program.

Where can I learn more?

Check out the ieiMedia Web site at <http://ieiMedia.com>. Address questions to UrbinoProject@gmail.com or call ieiMedia Executive Director Rachele Kanigel at 415 338-3134.

