

Academic Bulletin for the CSU Italy Virtual International Program Fall 2020

Introduction

The Academic Bulletin is the CSU International Programs (IP) “catalog” and provides academic information for the CSU Virtual International Program (CSU VIP) which takes places in the fall semester of the 2020-21 academic year. This bulletin supersedes the previous bulletin.

CSU IP participants must read this publication in conjunction with the *Academic Guide for CSU IP Participants* (also known as the “*Academic Guide*”). The *Academic Guide* contains academic policies which will be applied to all IP participants for 2020-21. Topics include but are not limited to CSU Registration, Enrollment Requirements, Minimum/Maximum Unit Load in a Semester, Attendance, Examinations, Assignment of Grades, Grading Symbols, Credit/No Credit Option, Course Withdrawals and other policies. The *Academic Guide* also contains information on academic planning, how courses get credited to your degree, and the academic reporting process including when to expect your academic report at the end of your studies abroad. To access the *Academic Guide*, go to our website [here](#) and click on the year that pertains to your program.

Academic Program Information

The CSU Virtual International Program (CSU VIP) is an online program which is taught by faculty and supported by staff from the CSU Study Center in Florence, Italy. Participation in this program is by special arrangement and may not be offered in subsequent years.

Below is the academic calendar for CSU VIP Fall 2020 offered by the CSU Florence Center.

Academic Calendar for Fall 2020	Dates
Fall Orientation	Friday, August 28
Fall Term Start Date	Monday, August 31
Fall Intensive Language Program	August 31 – September 18
U.S. holiday: Labor Day*	Monday, September 7
Start of Semester Courses	Monday, September 21
Last Day to Add/Drop Courses	Friday, October 2
Last Day to Withdraw from a Semester Course (without a “W” Grade)	Friday, October 9
Midterm Exams	October 26 to 30
U.S. Holiday: Veteran’s Day*	Wednesday, November 11
Last Day to Submit Credit/No Credit Form	Friday, November 13
U.S. Holiday: Thanksgiving*	November 26 and 27
Final Exams	December 14 to 18
Fall Term End Date	December 18

*There will be no classes held on U.S. national holidays.

Learning Management System. The Learning Management System for CSU VIP is Canvas. All registered students are required to use Canvas for CSU VIP courses.

Unit Load: The required unit load for IP participants is a minimum of 15 units. As an exception to CSU IP academic policy, students may enroll up to 24 units without submitting a General Petition Form.

Italian Language: All students are required to take a mandatory three-week Intensive Language Program (ILP) before semester courses begin plus two Italian language courses (one grammar course and one conversation course) that begin directly after the ILP ends. Italian language courses are taught in Italian and issued letter grades only.

CSU IP: Florence-General Program. Students take courses (conducted primarily in English) in Art History, History and Classics, Italian Language, Literature and Culture, and Social Sciences.

Students are required to take:

- The Intensive Italian Language Program before semester courses begin (3 units);
- An Italian conversation course (3 units);
- An Italian language course that focuses on grammar (3 units);
- Courses to total a minimum of 15 CSU semester units.

CSU IP: Architecture Program. Students take a prescribed set of Architecture courses and required Italian language courses supplemented by at least one elective course as follows:

- The Intensive Italian Language Program (consisting of a language course for 3 units and a drawing techniques course for 1 unit) before semester courses begin (4 units total);
- An Italian conversation course (3 units);
- An Italian language course that focuses on grammar (3 units);
- ARC 401 - Architecture Design I (5 units);
- ARC 403 - Design or Senior Project I (2 units);
- ARC 405A - Special Lectures on Architectures A (1 unit);
- One elective course (3 units);
- Minimum total of 21 CSU semester units.

CSU IP: Studio Art Program. Students take courses at the CSU Study Center and a painting course at the *Accademia di Belle Arti di Firenze* (if they meet *Accademia* requirements) as follows:

- The Intensive Italian Language Program before semester courses begin (3 units);
- An Italian conversation course (3 units);
- An Italian language course that focuses on grammar (3 units);
- Painting at the *Accademia* (6 units)
- Two elective courses (6 units)
- Minimum total of 21 CSU semester units.

The course description for the course at the *Accademia* is as follows:

ACA 310A Painting A (6)

Study of various antique and modern painting techniques (oil, acrylic, pastel, watercolor, tempera). Analysis of the main elements utilized in making a painting: line, form (surface and volume), color, tone and light, and composition. Analysis of composition incorporating a variety of media, techniques, and content related to the study of the nude model, representational imagery and abstract painting. Study of the various techniques in preparing a canvas. Individual response to given problems is emphasized.

IMPORTANT: Students enrolled at the *Accademia* must be prepared to complete their required exams (scheduled for mid-July of the following year).

Art Portfolio

All studio art students are required to submit a digital portfolio to provide 10 to 15 images of their art to the Studio Art Coordinator, Marsha Steinberg in Florence. The portfolio should provide an overview of the students' artistic strengths and include a variety of media (e.g. paintings, drawings, sculptures, and mixed media). Each portfolio will be reviewed by the CSU IP Studio Arts Coordinator.

Art Advising at CSU in Florence

Art students have regular advising meetings online with the CSU IP Studio Arts Coordinator (to be scheduled). These meetings include discussions and demonstrations of drawing and painting approaches and techniques that prepare students for the *Accademia* course. Weekly meetings include group critiques of student work and discussions with the CSU IP Studio Arts Coordinator.

Studio Art students enrolled at the *Accademia di Belle Arti di Firenze* refer to the calendar below in addition to the CSU VIP calendar.

Academic Calendar for Fall 2020	Dates
Start of the semester	Monday, October 26
Italy holiday: Immaculate Conception Day	Tuesday, December 8
Christmas vacation	December 23 to January 6
End of fall semester	Saturday, February 13
Final exams	June 30 to July 8

*There will be no classes held on Italian national holidays.

Grading and Units

The grading system at the CSU Study Center in Florence is comparable to the grading scale used at the CSU as indicated in the first table below. The grade conversion for *Accademia di Belle Arti di Firenze* is indicated in the second table on the right.

CSU Study Center Grade	CSU Grade
A	A
A-	A-
B+	B+
B	B
B-	B-
C+	C+
C	C
C-	C-
D+	D+
D	D
D-	D-
F	F
WU	WU

Accademia Grade	CSU Grade
28-30	A
27	A-
26	B+
25	B
24	B-
23	C+
21-22	C
20	C-
19	D
0-18	F

The CSU grade of WU (Withdrawal Unauthorized) may be given in some circumstances, e.g. for uncompleted courses. Refer to the *Academic Guide* for additional grade information.

Class participation and attendance factor into the final grade. For grading details, refer to the specific course syllabus for the online course.

Unit Conversion Guidelines

For every credit earned at CSU Study Center, a CSU IP student earns one CSU semester unit. To convert the value of CSU semester units into CSU quarter units, multiply the CSU semester units by 1.5.

Course Offerings

A complete listing of courses offered in the fall is provided below. Unit values are noted in parenthesis. Courses are scheduled in the morning (before 12:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time) to allow for time zone differences between Florence and California. CSU IP reserves the right to cancel courses due to low enrollment.

Course Coding

100-299 Lower Division
300-499 Upper Division

ARC	Architecture
ART	Art and Art History
HCL	History and Classics
ITL	Italian Language, Literature and Culture
SSC	Social Sciences

To access syllabi for courses offered previously, click [here](#).

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR THE INTENSIVE LANGUAGE PROGRAM (ILP)

All CSU IP students enroll in a three-unit Intensive Italian Language Program at the appropriate level before semester courses begin. All Italian language courses are taught exclusively in Italian and are issued letter grades only.

ARC 150 Drawing Techniques for Architects (1)

This is an introductory drawing course for architecture students only. It emphasizes the process of freehand drawing techniques and the objectives of artistic presentation from observation. Form, value, line and proportions will be studied and analyzed as a means of determining space, shape, volume and composition. CR/NC grading only.

ITL 101I Intensive Elementary Italian I (3)

This course offers practice in Italian grammar, reading, pronunciation, writing and conversation. This course is intended for students with no previous study of Italian. The equivalent of first semester Italian on CSU campuses.

ITL 102I Intensive Elementary Italian II (3)

This course is a review of basic Italian grammar and vocabulary. It offers a continuation of the study and practice of Italian grammar, reading, writing and conversation. Intended for students with one semester of previous Italian. Equivalent of second or third semester Italian depending on previous experience.

ITL 200I Intensive Italian Review, Grammar and Conversation (3)

This course is a review of elementary Italian grammar and vocabulary. It offers a continuation of the study and practice of Italian grammar, reading, writing and conversation. Intended as an intensive review for students with two semesters or more of previous Italian, who do not place in ITL 201I or 301I. Not offered in Fall 2020.

ITL 201I Intensive Intermediate Italian (3)

This course is a continued study and practice of Italian grammar and vocabulary. It is intended for students with two or three semesters of previous Italian, depending on placement exam results. It is the equivalent of third or fourth semester Italian depending on previous experience.

ITL 301I Intensive Advanced Italian (3)

This course is a review of grammatical principles with regular exercises and compositions for the development of increased mastery of the Italian language. It is intended for students with two years or more of Italian. Not offered in Fall 2020.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR SEMESTER COURSES

ARCHITECTURE (ARC)

ARC 401 Architectural Design I (5)

Students work independently or in groups on assigned problems in architectural design. Classes meet formally for five hours a week with the chief instructor for discussion and critique. Additional hours are added for lab work. Evaluation is continuous; no examinations are required, but final critique presentations are mandatory.

ARC 403 Design or Senior Project I (2)

Under the guidance of a program instructor, students develop individual design projects. In addition to formal class time, all students are expected to work independently at least 90 hours per semester. Project must follow the guidelines established by the student's respective Cal Poly campus.

ARC 405A Special Lectures on Architecture A (1)

Lectures on such topics as architectural aesthetics, trends in contemporary architecture, rural architecture in central Italy, radicals versus neorationalists in architecture, absence and presence—a critical hypothesis for architecture, Terragni, and Italian rationalism, and professional practice in Italy.

ARC 406 Florentine Architecture (3)

After a survey of Florentine architectural traditions approximately 1000-1530, attention focuses on the emergence of a

Renaissance architecture. The achievements of Brunelleschi, Alberti, Palladio, Michelangelo, and Leonardo da Vinci are examined in detail. Special attention is also given to the development of important building types, such as the urban palace. (Also offered as ART 406 for non-Architecture students.)

ART AND ART HISTORY (ART)

ART 390 Independent Study in Studio Art (3)

Open only to studio art students by special permission from the Resident Director and the Studio Art Coordinator. Subject to availability and CSU IP approval.

ART 403 Early Renaissance Art in Italy (3)

This course offers a general survey of the development of Italian art, particularly Tuscan art, from the dawn of the Renaissance approximately 1300 in the art of Giotto to its full flowering in the mid-1400s.

ART 405 Italian Mannerist and Baroque Art and Architecture (3)

Survey of Italian Mannerist and Baroque art and architecture approximately 1520-1680. It begins with the anti-classical early Mannerist style, examined in the context of political and religious crises and next covers the Baroque as it developed in reaction to the artificiality of late Mannerism. The course

concludes with the High Baroque focused in Rome, where the style arose largely through Bernini and the patronage of the Church.

ART 406 Florentine Architecture (3)

After a survey of Florentine architectural traditions approximately 1000-1530, attention focuses on the emergence of a Renaissance architecture. The achievements of Brunelleschi, Alberti, Palladio, Michelangelo, and Leonardo da Vinci are examined in detail. Special attention is also given to the development of important building types, such as the urban palace. (Also offered as ARC 406 for Architecture students.)

ART 413 Leonardo Da Vinci (3)

The life and work of the most famous Renaissance man, whose ideas and innovations extended into almost every area of human activity, will be thoroughly examined to connect his art to his science and his era to our present time. The mind of the “genius” will be analyzed throughout his notebooks and paintings, which will be discussed in light of the most recent documents and interpretations. His scientific approach will be compared to current studies.

HISTORY AND CLASSICS (HCL)

HCL 302 Classical Mythology and Religion (3)

This course studies the religious systems and myths of ancient Greek, Roman and Etruscan cultures which have provided background for Western literary and cultural traditions for centuries. Focuses on mythology and religion in ancient Rome, and the use of myth in Roman literature such as Ovid’s *Metamorphoses*. Most literature used in the course is in translation.

HCL 401 History of Ancient Rome: The Republic (3)

This course examines the political and social history of ancient Rome from its legendary origins to the outbreak of the Civil War in 49 BCE. The course covers major institutions and prominent figures of the Republic. Students read excerpts from major republican authors such as Sallust and Cicero and imperial historians of the Republic such as Livy.

HCL 451 The Ancient City in Italy: Etruria, Western Greece and Rome (3)

The course deals with the birth and evolution of cities in Ancient Italy, focusing on the concept of the city in the three main civilizations of Italy during the first millennium BCE: the Etruscans, the Greeks and the Romans. The ancient city will be examined as an organized community where different social classes, political and religious institutions developed places to fulfill their common needs. Therefore, the city in history, not only means social progress and organization but also architectural and urban planning: the evolution of communities into organized spaces. Each one of the three great civilizations of ancient Italy contributed to the birth and development of the most important social structure of all time, extending into our contemporary, cosmopolitan world.

ITALIAN LANGUAGE (ITL) – TWO REQUIRED COURSES

Students are required to take one Italian grammar course (ITL 102, 201, 202 or 302) plus one Italian conversation course (ITL 125, 225 or 325) for a total of six units. Italian language courses below are taught in Italian and are issued letter grades only.

ITL 102 Elementary Italian II (3)

A continuation of ITL 101 from the ILP to complete basic Italian grammar. Vocabulary building and study of idiomatic expressions. Class discussions and periodic oral reports. Equivalent of second semester Italian on most CSU campuses.

ITL 201 Intermediate Italian I (3)

Continuation of ITL 101 and 102 or 2001 from the ILP. Equivalent of third semester Italian on most CSU campuses.

ITL 202 Intermediate Italian II (3)

Continuation of ITL 201 from the ILP. Equivalent of fourth semester Italian on most CSU campuses.

ITL 302 Advanced Italian II (3)

Continuation of ITL 301 from the ILP. Study of advanced grammar. Includes readings for comprehension of complex passages and translations as well as oral reports and written compositions.

ITL 125/225/325 Italian Conversation and Reading (3)

This course offered at the elementary (ITL 125), intermediate (ITL 225) and advanced (ITL 325) levels, supplements regular Italian grammar classes. It focuses on reading and comprehension of short stories, passages, newspapers and magazine articles, creative writing, viewing and discussion of Italian movies. The focus will be on art, literature, cinema, and cultural and sociological aspects.

ITALIAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE (ITL)

ITL 342 Italian Opera as Drama (3)

This course examines the invention of opera as an art form in Florence and its principle stages of development in Italy. Selected operas by major composers, especially Rossini, Bellini, Donizetti, Verdi and Puccini are studied. The course focuses on the relation of the text and the literary background to the music and production values. (Not offered in Fall 2020.)

ITL 350 Women and Stereotypes of Power in Italian Literature 1100-1600 (3)

This course analyzes Italian poetry and prose from medieval origins through the Renaissance and 16th century, focusing on its social and historical context to determine to what extent Italian traditions have been shaped or influenced by stereotypes such as the prince, the courtesan, the merchant, the mercenary soldier, the nun, the cardinal patron, the brigand, the scholar (poet and/or novelist), the playwright and the female mystic. Works from Dante, Boccaccio, Petrarch, Ariosto, Machiavelli, Michelangelo and Tasso will be covered in this course. Also included are selections of prose and poetry by Italian women authors including Compiuta Donzella, Caterina da Siena, Veronica Franco, Moderata Fonte, Gaspara Stampa, Vittoria Colonna and Isabella Andreini. (Formerly titled Italian Literature I, 1100-1600.)

ITL 410 Dante’s Divine Comedy (3)

An intensive study of Dante’s masterpiece, with special emphasis on his relation to Florentine history. Course also includes translation problems and Dante’s influence on later writers and filmmakers. A close reading of the first two of the three canticles of Dante Alighieri’s poem, the *Commedia*. The focus is on class discussions upon specific episodes in order to draw out and discuss the contemporary significance of this complex

text from our Occidental culture's Medieval past. The class seeks to uncover the ways in which the poet blends elements of classical pagan literary culture with his own Medieval literary traditions as well as his Christian belief system in order to create a text that still generates interest today, poetically, ethically, politically, historically, and simply as a pleasurable read. The class will also work on essay writing techniques and hopefully hone reading and interpretive skills (so-called "critical" skills in literary circles).

SOCIAL SCIENCES (SSC)

SSC 308 Contemporary Issues in European Political Systems: Social Divisions, Populism and Migration (3)

This course will provide students with the conceptual framework and the essential knowledge necessary for an understanding of the political systems of Western European democracies. A specific attention will be devoted to social divisions and to the historical determinants of Europe's social structure. Governmental models and the party systems will be illustrated in detail with a specific focus on the UK and France. Comparisons with the US, whenever possible, will be made. The course

will also examine the issue of migration by looking at the ways in which the recent "refugee crisis" in Europe has been addressed in terms of concrete politics, narratives and public debate.

SSC 402 Major Political Thinkers: Machiavelli (3)

Based on the reading of his masterpiece, *The Prince*, and on selected readings from *The Discourses on the First Decade by Titus Livy*, the aim of this course is a full understanding of Machiavelli's political thought using a direct, critical approach to primary sources. Particular attention is paid to Machiavelli's cultural formation based on the classics, and to the Florentine and Italian historical context.

SSC 410 The European Union (3)

This course covers the main EU institutions: The Commission, the Parliament, the Council and the Court of Justice. It provides a historical overview and theoretical concepts of the integration process and important EU policies. It also examines the place of the EU in the world in relation to the US and countries of Central and Eastern Europe.