

Academic Bulletin for the CSU Virtual International Program Spring 2021

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 place in the spring semester of the 2020-21 academic year.

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 CSU IP participants while abroad. 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 year abroad. For general information about the programs in Italy, refer to the CSU IP website under "[Programs](#)".

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 Spring 2021.

Academic Calendar for Spring 2021	Dates
Orientation for New Students Starting Spring 2021	Wednesday, January 13
Spring Term Start Date	Monday, January 18
Spring Intensive Language Program (ILP)	January 18 to February 5
Start of Semester Courses	Monday, February 8
Last Day to Add Courses	Friday, February 19
Last Day to Withdraw from a Semester Course (without a "W" Grade)	Friday, February 26
Mid-term Exams	March 22 to 26
Spring Break	March 29 to April 5
National Holiday in Italy: Easter Monday*	Monday, April 5
Last Day to Submit Credit/No Credit Form	Friday, April 9
National Holiday in Italy: Liberation Day*	Sunday, April 25
National Holiday in Italy: Labor Day*	Saturday, May 1
Final Exams	May 10 to 14
Spring Term End Date	Friday, May 14

*There will be no classes held on Italian 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 new/first semester students are required to take a mandatory three-week Intensive Language Program (ILP) before semester courses begin plus one Italian language course that focuses on grammar that begins directly after the ILP ends. All Italian language courses are taught in Italian and issued letter grades only.

Continuing students who participate in this program for a second semester are exempt from a second ILP course but are required to enroll in an Italian language course that focuses on grammar in their second semester.

Academic Programs. Following the ILP students enroll in one of the academic programs listed below.

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.

New/first semester students are required to take:

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

Continuing students in their second semester in the spring are required to take:

- An Italian language course that focuses on grammar (3 units);
- Courses to total a minimum of 15 CSU semester units.

CSU IP: Architecture Program. New/first semester students enrolled in the virtual program in Spring 2021 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 three-unit language course and a one-unit drawing techniques course) before semester courses begin (4 units);
- An Italian language course that focuses on grammar (3 units);
- ARC 402 - Architecture Design I (5 units);
- ARC 404 - Design or Senior Project I (2 units);
- ARC 405B - Special Lectures on Architectures A (1 unit);
- One elective course (3 units);
- Minimum total of 18 CSU semester units.

Continuing students in their second semester in the spring are required to take:

- An Italian language course that focuses on grammar (3 units);
- ARC 402 - Architecture Design II (5 units);
- ARC 404 - Design or Senior Project I (2 units);
- ARC 405B - Special Lectures on Architectures B (1 unit);
- Two elective courses (6 units);
- Minimum total of 17 CSU semester units.

CSU IP: Studio Art Program. Continuing students enrolled in the virtual program in Spring 2021 take courses at the CSU Study Center and enroll in the second semester painting course at the *Accademia di Belle Arti di Firenze* (if they meet *Accademia* requirements) as follows:

- An Italian language course that focuses on grammar (3 units);
- Painting at the *Accademia* (6 units);
- Two elective courses (6 units);
- Minimum total of 15 CSU semester units.

New/first semester Studio Art students are required to take the Intensive Italian Language Program (consisting of a three-unit language course) before the semester begins, in addition to the above courses with exception to the Painting course, which is an elective course for first semester VIP Studio Art students enrolled in Spring 2021.

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

ACA 310B Painting B (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).

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 Spring 2021	Dates
Start of the semester	Monday, March 8
Easter vacation	April 1 to 7
Italian public holiday: Republic Day*	Wednesday, June 2
Holiday in Florence: Feast of St. John the Baptist (San Giovanni)	Thursday, June 24
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. Refer to the first table below. The grade conversion for the *Accademia di Belle Arti di Firenze* is reflected in the second table.

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.

Attendance policies are strictly enforced by faculty at the CSU Florence center and may differ from what students are accustomed to on their campus.

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.

Intensive Language Program or "ILP"

All new/first semester CSU IP students take a pre-semester intensive three-unit Italian language course at the appropriate level. These Italian language courses are taught exclusively in Italian and are issued letter grades only.

New/first semester Architecture students also enroll in ARC 150 – Drawing Techniques for Architects.

Unit values are noted in parenthesis.

Course Coding

100-299 Lower Division
300-499 Upper Division

ARC Architecture
ITL Italian Language, Literature and Culture

ARC 150 Drawing Techniques for Architects (1)

This is an introductory drawing course for new semester architecture students only. It emphasizes the process of free-hand 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. Drawing exercises make use of artistic works within the city of Florence. Required course for all new/first semester Architecture students. CR/NC grading only.

students with one semester of previous Italian. Equivalent of second semester Italian at most campuses.

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.

ITL 101I Intensive Elementary Italian I (3)

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

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 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

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.

VIP Course Offerings

A complete listing of courses offered in the spring 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.

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

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

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ARCHITECTURE (ARC)

ARC 402 Architectural Design II (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. This is a required course for architecture students.

ARC 404 Design or Senior Project II (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. This is a required course for architecture students.

ARC 405B Special Lectures on Architecture B (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. This is a required course for Architecture students.

ARC 410 Etruscan and Roman Architecture (3)

This course focuses on Etruscan and Roman architecture with site visits to principal monuments of ancient Etruria and Rome. After a brief historical introduction, the course examines Etruscan architecture: town planning, domestic and religious buildings, cemeteries and funerary architecture. It examines Etruscan techniques, materials, decorations and influences on Roman architecture. The course also examines the development of Roman architecture, techniques, materials and methods from Etruscan Rome through the Republic, the Age of Augustus, and the Empire, including the architecture of the provinces. (Also offered as HCL 405 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 401 Women in the Arts in Italy (3)

This course will cover imagery focused on women in Italian art and culture from the Middle Ages through the Renaissance and Baroque periods, including the Virgin Mary, female saints and martyrs, heroines, goddesses, sibyls, wives and courtesans. It will also study outstanding female artists and patrons. In addition to the periods cited above, the study of female artists and patrons will also include examples from the nineteenth, twentieth, and twenty-first centuries. The subjects discussed will be examined within their social and cultural context, and as reflections of the role of women in their respective time periods.

ART 404 Italian High Renaissance Art (3)

This course offers a survey of Italian art in the period between 1470-1530, concentrating on the High Renaissance and its genesis in the major centers of Florence, Rome and Northern Italy.

The achievements of Leonardo, Raphael and Michelangelo are examined in detail.

ART 407 Museum Studies: The Uffizi and Florence (3)

This course analyzes the way in which a major museum works and considers its place in the social and artistic fabric of the city of Florence. The course features virtual site visits to the Uffizi's collections, some of which are open to the public and others not, as well as selected other Florentine museums. The course analyzes museum's choices in displaying a collection, restoration activities, pedagogic activities and cataloguing. It also examines the presentation of special shows and the importance of the museum in the life of the city.

ART 410 20th Century Italian Art (3)

The first section of this course surveys major Italian artists and movements of 20th Century Italy: Futurism, metaphysical art, Arte Povera and Transavanguardia and their relationship compared to Europe and America. The second section focuses on contemporary art in Florence and the magnetic power of Tuscany on artists from around the world and their influence on the region.

HISTORY AND CLASSICS (HCL)

HCL 402 History of Ancient Rome: The Empire (3)

This course studies the political and social history of ancient Rome from the time of Julius Caesar through the barbarian invasions to the time of Justinian. It examines the major institutions and prominent figures of the Roman Empire. Students read excerpts from major authors of the period such as Suetonius and Tacitus.

HCL 405 Etruscan and Roman Architecture (3)

This course focuses on Etruscan and Roman architecture with virtual site visits to principal monuments of ancient Etruria and Rome. After a brief historical introduction, it examines Etruscan architecture: town planning, domestic and religious buildings, cemeteries and funerary architecture. It examines Etruscan techniques, materials, decorations and influences on Roman architecture. It also examines the development of Roman architecture, techniques, materials and methods from Etruscan Rome through the Republic, the Age of Augustus, and the Empire, including the architecture of the provinces. (Also offered as ARC 410 for Architecture students.)

HCL 410 Masterpieces of Latin Literature (3)

This introductory seminar aims to illustrate some of the great works of Latin literature, including both prose and poetry, as well as to study the change of classical ideas over the course of Roman history. By analyzing social, historical, literary and religious aspects of the texts, this seminar focuses on the development of the different Latin genres and privileges the close reading of the major literary and historical works from the second century B.C. to the second century A.D. The authors and works selected represent the very best of most of the genres popular among Roman writers and readers: the comedy of Plautus, the epic of Virgil, the poetry of Horace and Ovid, the history of Caesar and Sallust, the moral philosophy of Cicero and the tragedies of Seneca, and several others. (Formerly titled Latin Literature in Translation.)

ITALIAN LANGUAGE (ITL) - REQUIRED COURSES

New/first semester students are required to take ITL 102, 201, 202 or 302. Year-long students are required to take ITL 201, 202, 301 or 330 in their second semester which follows the course taken in the first semester. All Italian language courses are taught in Italian.

ITL 102 Elementary Italian II (3)

A continuation of ITL 101 from the PLP 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 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. This course is optional for new semester students in Spring 2021.

ITL 201 Intermediate Italian I (3)

Continuation of ITL 101 and 102 or 200I. Equivalent of third semester Italian on most CSU campuses.

ITL 202 Intermediate Italian II (3)

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

ITL 301 Advanced Italian I (3)

Continuation of ITL 202. Vocabulary development and complex grammatical constructions. Translation of newspapers, magazines, films and books.

ITL 302 Advanced Italian II (3)

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

ITL 330 Advanced Syntax, Grammar and Lexical Studies (3)

Continuation of ITL 302. In depth study of Italian syntax and stylistics. Vocabulary development. Designed to develop deeper knowledge of various linguistic areas and usages through composition, translation, and study of Italian texts from literature, films, essays and literary textual analysis.

ITALIAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE (ITL)

ITL 340 Italian Cinema (3)

This course analyzes significant Italian films from World War II to the present in order to analyze the complex relationship between cinema and society. Its topics include the representation of "power cinema," censorship, violence in film, and the moral and ideological responsibility of cinema. Several films are viewed and discussed.

ITL 352 20th and 21st Century Italian Authors (3)

(Formerly entitled Twentieth Century Italian Authors.) This course explores the emergence of the Italian identity through literature from 1900 to today. It looks at contemporary Italian

novelists and how their works have defined Italian cultural and literary identity. Emphasis is given to important cultural debates in European literature highlighting the dialogue between Italian traditions and avant-garde perspectives. Introduces students to several women writers and poets and investigates gender issues in contemporary Italian literature. Analyzes various language styles and writing techniques of the works discussed to enhance students' critical competence, language comprehension, and fluency. Requirements are regular written essays and in-class oral presentations. Mandatory capstone course for the Italian Studies Program.

ITL 415 Italy Imagined in World Literature (3)

This course takes a sociological approach to literature set in Italy, exploring the depiction of the country and its people in texts written by English, American, and non-Italian European authors in order to prompt us to consider our own expectations, prejudices, and suppositions about Italy and Italians. Topics will vary from year to year and may include Florence in literature, Shakespeare's Italy, the English Gothic Romance, The Great War, Henry James and Edith Wharton in Italy, Chaucer's Italy, Venetian elegies, Rome: Caput Mundi, or a combination of these topics as well as others. (Formerly titled The Idea of Italy in Literature).

SOCIAL SCIENCES (SSC)

SSC 301 History of the Italian Renaissance (3)

This course offers a survey of Italian history from the age of Dante to the Counter-Reformation. It provides a basic understanding of the forces and processes that shaped the states and the societies of the peninsula in an era of extraordinary changes. It covers the main social, political, and economic phenomena and the principal cultural movements that shaped the country's history.

SSC 303 Political History of Modern Europe (3)

This course examines European history during the 19th and 20th centuries. It studies the political and economic conditions leading to WWI and WWII, as well as the development and evolution of modern European ideas, intellect and culture.

SSC 401 Italian Politics and Society (3)

This course provides students with the conceptual tools and the knowledge necessary for understanding the Italian political system. It covers the major historical determinants of Italy's economic and institutional structure, as well as the major political actors and institutions, its parliamentary system, elections, national and regional governments, EU membership, political parties and interest groups.

SSC 490 Special Topics: The Sicilian Mafia (3)

Is the mafia inscribed in the DNA of Sicilians? The course takes a multidisciplinary approach, considering the historical determinants of the mafia as presented by the current literature. A major focus is the identification of the root causes of the mafia and its political connections. Topics include: the difficult relationship between Sicily and the Italian state; the strategy adopted by the Fascist regime to cope with the mafia; the revival of the mafia in post-war Italy; the Antimafia; the Pizzo connection and the heroin distribution network; the life of Peppino Impastato; the work of G. Falcone and P. Borsellino: the anti-mafia movement; the mafia business today.