

Florence Study Center

Piazza Santo Spirito 10, 50125 Florence, Italy



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ACCENT Florence Study Center

Each year, the Florence team supports more than 25 customized study abroad programs, including short-term and semester programs with courses taught by local faculty, a variety of faculty-directed programs, and comprehensive direct-enroll programs at local universities. ACCENT Florence provides complete risk management, logistical, and cultural support, as well as a wide network of local faculty to design and teach topical, experiential courses using the city as a classroom. U.S. college and university partners include the University of California Education Abroad Program, University of Minnesota, Texas Christian University, Michigan State University, Coast Community College District, and many more.



Led by Center Director **Michelangelo D'Elia**, the ACCENT Florence Study Center has a full-time [team](#) of experienced, multinational professionals, including multiple programs coordinators, a housing and homestay specialist, and local university student interns. With more than 15 years' experience in international education, Michelangelo has been the director of both the Florence and Rome Study Centers. Originally from southern Italy, Michelangelo completed his degree in Tourism Economics at the University of Bologna, Rimini. During this time, he studied abroad at The University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and University of Uppsala in Sweden, and interned in Florida and Ireland. Not yet satisfied, Michelangelo worked for a year at Wesleyan University in the Romance Languages department before returning to Italy.

Location | Piazza Santo Spirito 10 - [map](#)

- Housed within Palazzo Guadagni, one of the landmark homes of the Florentine Renaissance commissioned in 1502 by Rinieri di Bernardo Dei, a wealthy silk manufacturer, the Florence Study Center features restored original details such as frescoed ceilings and ornate gated doors
- Widely considered to be Florence's best-preserved neighborhood, Oltrarno is one of the city's four historic *quartieri* located on the "other" side of the Arno River, and is best known for its many artisan workshops
- Piazza Santo Spirito is also home to Santa Maria del Santo Spirito, a church constructed based on plans by Brunelleschi dating as early as 1428 with steps that serve as a popular meeting spot for local university students
- Within comfortable walking distance to most of Florence, just steps from Palazzo Pitti and the Boboli Gardens, a five-minute walk from Ponte Vecchio, and fifteen minutes on foot from the Duomo





Classrooms

- Seven classrooms throughout the building with capacities ranging from 10-60 students
- One of these classrooms can be converted to studio space for coursework in architecture, art and design
- Equipped with WIFI and basic audiovisual equipment, including video projectors, DVD and CD players, slide projectors, and speakers



Student services

- Reception area, welcoming students and providing general assistance, in addition to an active Facebook [page](#) and bulletin boards that highlight local lectures, festivals, and events
- Ongoing cultural series open to all programs, featuring free and low-cost activities, such as language mixers with local student interns, walking tours, group dinners, day trips, and more
- Support in making appointments with local doctors, specialists, and mental health professionals who are experienced with U.S. students
- Student lounge space and tables for group work and studying, as well as access to Mac computers and printing services
- Resource library including English and Italian books, language manuals, and travel guides



Visiting faculty services

- Each visiting faculty is assigned a point person on the ACCENT team with whom to collaborate on program resources, logistics, and support throughout the program
- Shared office and lounge space with other visiting and local faculty
- Access to shared computers, as well as printing and copying

