



Kenyon-Rome Program

Arts & Culture in the Eternal City

Fall 2020



Benvenuto a Roma!

Many Kenyon students find off-campus study a vibrant—and often life-changing—experience regardless of their destination. But those who choose to study and travel with fellow Kenyon students and professors on one of the College’s own study programs will have an unparalleled experience, finding a rich array of exciting intellectual and cultural adventures designed to integrate meaningfully into Kenyon’s liberal arts curriculum.

The Kenyon-Rome Program offers you the once-in-a-lifetime chance to study Italian art and culture up close, with extended visits to Pompeii, Sicily, and other cultural centers in Italy. Housed at Accent International’s Rome Study Center in the beautiful Palazzo Banco Santo Spirito, you will seek inspiration from artistic masterpieces and historical sites all around you, with at least as much time spent on site as in the classroom.

The Kenyon-Rome Experience

Study abroad in Rome, a city where ancient meets modern and there is so much to see and do that every day is a new experience. Subject courses taught in English provide an in-depth focus on the city of Rome and give you an extraordinary perspective into Italian history and culture. Classes are small and the faculty instructors are all long-term residents of Rome. With excursions as part of almost every course, historical sites such as the Forum, Piazza Navona, and the Colosseum become your classroom. Practical Italian suited to your level, as well as internships and volunteer activities, provide you with the opportunity to use your vocabulary outside of class and put you in direct contact with the local culture and society.

At the ACCENT Center

The ACCENT Rome Study Center is located in the beautiful Palazzo Banco Santo Spirito on the Piazza dell’Orologio, which is marked by the impressive clock tower by Borromini and is considered the very heart of Rome. ACCENT’s central location makes it an ideal base for classes and as a jumping-off point for on-site study visits. Their staff plan an orientation to acquaint students with the city of Rome as well as cultural activities to help students integrate into their new home.



The City of Rome and Environs

Rome’s rich history inspired its nickname—the Eternal City—yet modern residents keep the atmosphere vibrant. Here students will find inspiring art like the Colosseum, the Sistine Chapel, and the Pietà, intermingled with thriving studios and artists. Italy’s capital is also the hub for government, religion, and education, with nearly 3 million residents calling Rome home. Classes are held in the center of Rome, but frequently leave the classroom to integrate studies with visits to masterworks and the settings that inspired them. Outside of class, students are invited to experience *la dolce vita*, relaxing with friends and savoring the sights, smells, and tastes that make up Rome.



Academic Program

The Kenyon-Rome program begins with a three week intensive Italian Practicum where students can focus exclusively on learning the language. Following this, students take the required Core Course (ARTS 291 ST: Narrative Photography in Italy), an Italian extensive course, and two elective courses. Elective offerings include courses offered by Kenyon faculty—Contemporary Artistic Practice: Working in Rome—as well as Italian Area Studies courses offered by the University of California. Because the program is informed by a liberal arts pedagogy, it is open to all majors.

REQUIRED COURSES

ARTS 291 ST: Narrative Photography in Italy

See description on next page.

Italian Practicum (all levels)

In this three-week intensive course, emphasis is placed on practical skills in using Italian grammar, vocabulary, and idioms. Students complete daily written assignments, either in class or at home, and are required to make use of newly learned grammatical skills to interact with native speakers in everyday urban life. At least one hour per day is devoted to role play both to further reinforce the use of Italian grammar and vocabulary within the context of Rome and the experience of the city. Italian folk and popular music are also used to enhance students’ interaction with Italian culture and history. The course is conducted entirely in Italian.

Italian Extensive Course (all levels)

This course provides students with a sound basis for communicating effectively and accurately in oral and written Italian. Authentic materials are used in a communicative-based approach, and emphasis is placed on the four skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

ELECTIVE COURSES

Optional course offered by Kenyon-Rome program in Fall 2020

ARTS 391 ST: Contemporary Artistic Practice: Working in Rome

Courses Typically Offered by the University of California

Ancient Roman Civilization

Bernini and Borromini and the Making of Baroque Rome

Intermediate and Advanced Latin

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Sociology of Rome

C · i · v · i · l · i · z · a · t · i · o · n
Social Psychology and the Acculturation of Migrants

Women & Art: Women as Artists, Painters, and
Subjects

The Kenyon-Rome Program

Explicitly designed to take full advantage of the rich historical and cultural heritage of the Eternal City, the Kenyon-Rome program allows students to experience firsthand a place where art and artists have been an active and highly-valued aspect of everyday life for hundreds of years, right down to the present day. This begins with the intensive Italian course at the beginning of the program, where students learn to engage with the community around them. Thus prepared, the curriculum is informed by a liberal arts pedagogy and mentored closely by Kenyon faculty, fostering a dynamic, intimate academic community focused on the surroundings.

ARTS 291 ST: Narrative Photography in Italy

Taught by Professor Hackbardt (.5 Units)

Students will use photography to explore narrative and visual storytelling, while investigating the historical and cultural resources of Rome, its museums, art, architecture, and its beauty and complexity. Through field trips and critiques, students will begin to reveal the essence of place and personal narrative through framing, light and shadow, symbolism, and lyricism.

Projects will range from developing social documentary records of places, people, and landscape, to cross-cultural understanding, artistic expression, and self-discovery. This course for beginning and intermediate students focuses primarily on digital photography. Thorough instruction in camera operation, photographic theory, and image lectures on photographic artists will prepare students for their creative work in the Medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque interiors, streets, gardens of the city and environs. Their photographic production will be complemented with class visits to the Rome museums and photography galleries, as well as several organized excursions outside the city. Course goals will be the development of a portfolio of photographic works, as well as experiences focused on student artistic, intellectual, and personal growth.

ARTS 391 ST: Contemporary Artistic Practice: Working in Rome

Taught by Professor Hackbardt (.5 Units)

This studio art class is structured to provide close individual instruction. Students are given the freedom to generate their own ideas and may work in any medium that compels them to investigate their personal relationship to Rome. Student media could include painting, digital photography, collage, multimedia, performance, installation, sculpture, and drawing.

Course presentations will include an introduction to the contemporary art world, with image lectures on artists, and theoretical readings. Students will first research and then use as a point of departure various aspects and trends that have been prevalent in the art world over the past twenty years. Projects will include concept proposal, artist statement, oral presentation, and finished body of work. Creativity and development strategies will be introduced to help guide students in their conceptual process.

Visits to contemporary art galleries in Rome are required. Living in Rome will present the unique opportunity to attend significant exhibitions of modern and contemporary art. Course goals will be the development of a series of art works, as well as experiences focused on student artistic, intellectual, and personal growth. **Prerequisite:** Students must have already taken at least one Kenyon College Studio Art course, or permission of instructor.

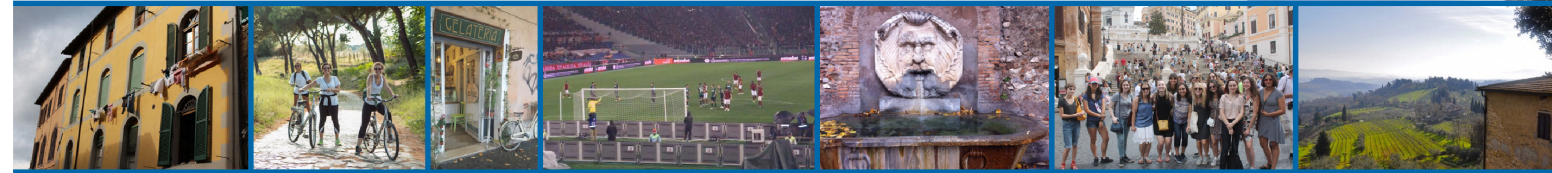
Housing

Student Apartments

Students stay in double/triple rooms in apartments around the center of Rome, with commutes of less than one hour by walking or bus. Each bedroom is furnished with beds, a closet or armoire, and linens. Kitchen facilities include a stove, refrigerator, cooking utensils, and dishes. Kitchen and bathroom facilities are shared by everyone in the apartment.

Homestays

Students who choose a homestay in Rome live with carefully selected host families. Homestay accommodations provide students with an opportunity to observe firsthand how Italians live, and allow them to become more fully immersed in the language and culture of Italy. Students are placed in double and single rooms in homes within the Rome city limits, with varying commutes to classes of 15 to 55 minutes by walking, bus, and metro. Ideally students considering homestays will have previous knowledge of the Italian language to participate in basic conversations.



Cultural Engagement Series

A series of free and inexpensive activities is available to all students at the Rome Study Center, including a number of events that are planned along with students from La Sapienza University in Rome. Past students have found these events to be a highlight of the semester, both for the opportunity to practice Italian and also expand a local social network in Rome. In past semesters, activities have included:

- AS Roma soccer games at the Stadio Olimpico and Virtus Roma basketball games at the EUR Palasport
- Contemporary Italian literature book club
- Italian cuisine series: tiramisu tasting, Neapolitan pizza in the university neighborhood, and aperitivo
- Cineforum: film screening and debate with local students

Volunteering

The Rome Study Center has a variety of volunteer opportunities in all areas of interest. Past students have found their volunteer post to not only be a great resume builder, but to provide a social and professional network for their semester in Rome and long after. Past opportunities have included:

- Refugee Center: English tutoring, administration of refugee sports leagues, as well as office support in marketing and social media
- NGO for Hunger and Homelessness: Food distribution with local volunteers at weekly breakfasts in Trastevere and dinners near Piazza di Spagna
- Italian Elementary School: students work as conversation partners in a public elementary school
- Jewish Cultural Center: students assist Italian children with their homework and work together with other staff members on sports and games activities



Cost and Payments

Students participating in the Kenyon-Rome program pay Kenyon tuition, room and board to Kenyon. These fees cover program tuition, room, meal stipend, metro/bus pass and all co-curricular travel. A non-refundable \$1,000.00 deposit is due approximately two weeks after acceptance by Kenyon into the program.

Kenyon provides a meal stipend to each participant. In Fall 2019, this stipend was \$2,100. Students participating in homestays providing meals will have the stipend lowered accordingly.

Expenses for which the individual is responsible include transatlantic transportation, books, personal living expenses (laundry, mail, printing), food expenses beyond the meal stipend, and personal travel expenses.

Financial Aid

For the purpose of scholarships and loans, Kenyon-Rome students are considered full-time Kenyon students. Kenyon College financial aid is automatically transferable to the Kenyon-Rome program. Students should contact the Center for Global Engagement for detailed information on how their financial aid package will be applied towards program payments.

Faculty at Kenyon-Rome Fall 2020

Marcella Hackbardt is a visual artist, curator, and professor of art and photography at Kenyon College where she has taught in the Studio Art Department since 2000. Her current photographic work utilizes digital and analog processes, and explores aspects of knowledge, self-reflection, the environment, and symbolic states.

Her curatorial projects include two exhibitions of contemporary photography at the Ohio Arts Council's Riffe Gallery in Columbus, Ohio, as well as numerous other photography exhibitions. Her work has been included in exhibitions at the Weston Gallery in Cincinnati, The Girls' Club Collection in Fort Lauderdale, Station Independent Projects in New York, Cleveland's Museum of Contemporary Art, and at The University of Notre Dame, among others. Two of her projected works have been performed at the Ingenuity Festival of Art and Technology, Cleveland.

Hackbardt has presented numerous lectures on contemporary photography and photo history at galleries, universities, and conferences such as the National Society for Photographic Educators, and at the Wits Art Museum and the University of Johannesburg in South Africa.

Hackbardt received her M.F.A. in studio art/photography from the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, and a B.A. in studio art from the University of Alaska Anchorage. She previously taught and directed the Kenyon-Rome Program in 2014.

Additional Information

For additional information, please contact:

Meghan Mason
Associate Director, CGE
The Hohn-Sanc House
740-427-5637
masonm@kenyon.edu





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Past Participants Have Their Say

“Rome taught me a lot about myself and what I was capable of. I enjoyed studying with Kenyon students because in many ways it prompted me to branch out more and get to know Italians. I feel like students in other abroad programs have to work to know the Americans in their program first and then they can branch out since I knew the Kenyon people I had a friend network that came with me.”

“Being able to study art in its original location (ex. Caravaggio's paintings at San Luigi) or Trajan's Column in the Forum was an incredible experience. It was also refreshing to have professors lecture at us in a setting other than the traditional classroom.”

When we asked past participants what information about the program could be emphasized more to prospective applicants, they said:

“How great it is for Kenyon to pay for study trips/meals.”

“The interactive and unconventional' academic nature of this program. I had a lot of site visits in lieu of class periods.”

“Emphasize the individual nature of the experience—I learned a lot about myself.”

“The best part of the program was the seamless integration of living and learning...”