



The view of the bell tower from the CIEE office

Ferrara, February 12th 2007

Greetings from Ferrara!

Students arrived a month ago and, as usual, we are writing to give you some insight about the activities organized for them during orientation, and the following weeks.

In the first two days, January 10th and 11th, after giving the participants our welcome, introducing the staff, their roles, informing them about the office, our ground rules, and handing them a pack with brochures, maps and useful info, we set up a discussion about the CIEE mission, the characteristics of a good Study Abroad program, their expectations, their goals, culture shock and adjustment. They have been instructed about all the basics (money, transportation, travel, etc.), and, starting from this semester, Richard, the Resident Director, decided to have a lawyer inform the students about national laws and customs, codes of local common sense, risks and dangers of inappropriate behaviour, and general issues of health and safety. The group followed with attentiveness and participation, and enjoyed the day.

On that Friday they took the Italian placement test in the morning, and were taken to their homestays and apartments in the afternoon.

On Saturday they went on the classic Ferrara guided tour.

The following three weeks they were busy with the Intensive Italian Course, a night at the Jazz Club, and the group trips to Bologna and Verona.

Focus on: group trips!



The Language and Culture and (next photo) the Liberal Arts students with their guides in Verona.

Taking photos in Verona:



Monuments, churches, historical places, and buildings? These are not always the most popular attractions...



Views from the Bologna city centre: the market, a crowded gastronomia, a cioccolateria.

From Mantua:



A very close group!



Italian hero...



Te Palace

Focus on: courses

Last Monday, February 5th, content courses began. Students still have the ***Italian Language*** class, and a mandatory course: ***Italian Civilization and Culture***. Depending on their choices, they are also attending established and brand new courses such as: ***Italy in the European Union, Introduction to Renaissance Art, Contemporary History, Gender Race and the Representation of Italy, Approaching Literature (Effective Reading of Texts)*** for the Language and Culture program; ***Cultura e civiltà italiana contemporanea, Storia dell'arte rinascimentale: prospettiva su Ferrara, Storia italiana contemporanea, Letteratura italiana contemporanea, Cinema italiano*** for the Liberal Arts program.

Coming up:

23 – 25 Feb – Three-day trip to Siena/San Gimignano

9 March – Pasta-making Workshop

23 March – Wine Tasting Night

Best regards,

Richard Chapman – Resident Director
Daniela Ramadani – Resident Coordinator