

RU IN ROME SUMMER 2018

INTERNSHIP IN ITALIAN

SYLLABUS ITALIAN 01:560:398

3 credits

CONTACT HOURS: One mandatory 2-hour pre-departure orientation; 20 hours of pre-departure preparation assignments; 18 contact hours per week for four weeks (16 in internship; 2 in seminar per week; 72 hours total); 4 hours per week on out-of-class assignments (16 total); 10 hours of post-departure assignments. TOTAL HOURS: 120.

SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. Students are responsible for staying informed about any changes to the syllabus. When in doubt, consult your instructor.

Learning Goals

- Gain an understanding of Italian workplace dynamics, professional expectations, and the influence of culture on both.
- Build proficiency in a range of business or industry skills appropriate to the field of the internship placement, including professional and intercultural communication through written, verbal, and non-verbal means.
- Refine and clarify professional and career goals through critical analysis of the internship experience.

I. GENERAL GOALS

ACADEMIC CREDIT AND EXPECTATIONS

In order for students to receive academic credit, each internship must include an academic component, which includes supervision, independent reading and research, analytical writing, as well as written and oral assignments.

PROFESSIONAL GOALS

The course requires an analysis of the student's daily internship practicum, in order to broaden students' horizons intellectually, professionally and personally. It will enable students to reflect more thoroughly about their company and field, and about their own experiences, perceptions, career goals. The internship experience will be viewed as a means to gain knowledge, as an

intercultural learning process, as a way for students to develop an awareness of their skills and aspirations, and hence will become a significant professional asset.

LANGUAGE STUDY

Language immersion in the host country is imperative to the intercultural learning process. Students without advanced Italian skills will participate in English-speaking internships as they take concomitant coursework in Italian at their language level (Elementary, Intermediate). Students with advanced Italian skills will be placed in a variety of Italian institutions, and the language of the internship will be Italian. Advanced language students will enroll in a conversation course to supplement their on-the-job language immersion and study.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION AND REQUIREMENTS

PRE-DEPARTURE STUDY AND ASSESSMENT (EXAM June 25) (20%)
ACTIVE PARTICIPATION AT WEEKLY SEMINAR MEETINGS (2 hours each Friday in Rome) (10%)
DAILY BLOG (16 entries total) (10%)
PROFESSIONAL CONCLUSIONS (3-5 pages) (10%)
ANALYTICAL ESSAY (3-5 pages) (10%)
PROFESSIONAL INVENTORY (10%)
RÉSUMÉ (5%)
ORAL INTERVIEW (10%)
E-PORTFOLIO (5%)
RE-ENTRY PRESENTATION (at Rutgers, Fall 2018) (10%)

II. ACADEMIC WORK

PRE-DEPARTURE STUDY AND ASSESSMENT (EXAM June 25) (20%)

Students will complete the following viewings and readings (available on Sakai) and will complete a pre-departure exam, assessing their level of preparation for living and studying in Italy.

REQUIRED SCREENING: (streaming on Sakai)

Italy, Love It or Leave It (dir. Gustav Hofer and Luca Ragazzi, 2011)
Tutta la vita davanti (Your Whole Life Ahead of You, dir. Paolo Virzì, 2008)

REQUIRED READINGS (available on Sakai):

1. Jumpa Lahiri, "Teach Yourself Italian." *New Yorker Magazine*, 2015
2. Stinna Lamm & Hanna Molne, "Made in Italy: The Nation Brand of Italian Fashion," 2013 (ONLY Sections 1 and 4)
3. Tim Parks, "How Italy Improved My English." *New York Review of Books*, 2016
4. Elisabetta Povoledo, "*Tutta la vita davanti*: All Italy is Singing the Call-Center Blues," *New York Times*, 2008.
5. Valentina Romei, "Italian Emigration Continues Despite Strong Economic Recovery," *Financial Times*, Nov 2017.

6. Linda Laura Sabbadini, "Italy's Youth Part of European Brain Drain," *La Stampa*, Jan 2018.
7. Beppe Severgnini, *La bella figura: A Field Guide to the Italian Mind*, 2005 (excerpt)
8. UHY Business Consultancy, "Doing Business in Italy," 2015 (ONLY pp. 4-17)

WEEKLY SEMINAR MEETINGS (2 hours each Friday in Rome) (10%)

Students are required to participate in a total of 4 weekly seminar meetings to discuss ongoing assignments and their internship experiences as a group. In addition to preparing written assignments (listed below), students are required to read and discuss Sakai readings.

COVER LETTER (1 page, single-spaced)

Summarizes academic and professional interests and aspirations, as well as internship preferences. Due prior to departure and internship placement.

DAILY BLOG (16 entries total) (10%)

The daily blog will give students an opportunity to reflect on that day's experiences and challenges, and will serve as the basis for subsequent written assignments and reflection. Each entry should be (roughly) 300 words (1 double-spaced page in 12 point Times New Roman font). These assignments will be shared with students' peers and instructors.

PROFESSIONAL CONCLUSIONS (3-5 pages) (10%)

These conclusions about the internship experience are not meant to be an extensive report. They must be:

- clear – choose a theme, an angle, a specific approach, which must appear explicitly in a well - chosen and appropriate title.
- structured – an introduction, a body divided in several parts and a conclusion, highlighted by titles.
- thorough – ideas must be stated explicitly, developed and illustrated with concrete examples.

ANALYTICAL ESSAY (3-5 pages) (10%)

This essay should place the internship company or organization in the context of the Italian economy, describing the sector, its function, size relative to other sectors, and importance. The analytical essay should also reflect on any differences with similar US-based companies or organizations.

PROFESSIONAL INVENTORY (10%)

This inventory begins with an overview/presentation of the company or organization. Students then list the main aspects of the internship and detail the skills used or developed, as well as cultural insights gained throughout this experience. This will serve as a tool for students to better determine their professional strengths, evolution and aspirations in future career or job applications.

RÉSUMÉ (5%)

Students will prepare résumés that include their internship experience according to both European and Italian standards.

ORAL INTERVIEW (10%)

During individual 20-minute mock interviews, students will act as job applicants and the instructor as a potential future employer. Students will be asked to describe the professional value and benefits of their internship experience.

E-PORTFOLIO (5%)

This online platform will serve as a formal presentation of the entire internship experience, including its academic and professional aspects. Final versions of all written works, as well as pertinent documents and links, will be organized under separate sections:

- personal presentation
- daily blog (16 entries total)
- professional conclusions
- analytical essay
- professional inventory
- preparation of EU (Europass) and Italian-language résumés

RE-ENTRY PRESENTATION (at Rutgers, Fall 2018) (10%)

Upon their return to Rutgers in the fall, all internship students will prepare a 7-minute PowerPoint presentation describing their internship experience in Rome, based upon selections from their e-Portfolio. The presentations are aimed at both their peers and their instructors, with the goal of demonstrating the insights and skills gained.

ASSIGNMENT LANGUAGE AND DEADLINES

All assignments will be completed in either Italian or English (depending on the language of the internship) and uploaded to Sakai. Assignments will be developed over the course of four Friday seminars, communication with instructors and handouts on Sakai. Please note: most of these assignments are due towards the end of the internship phase; it is the students' responsibility to organize their time and respect deadlines. **Absences and late work are not accepted.**

ATTENDANCE POLICY

1 absence = - 1 point taken off your final grade

More than 2 unexcused* absences = F for the course

Unsubmitted written work = F (0 points) for the assignment in question. Absence for a presentation or exam = F (0 points) for the assignment in question. Plagiarism = F (0 points) for the assignment in question.

*Excused absences = absence for illness excused by the certificate of an Italian doctor

or an internship obligation. Documentation to be submitted to Program Director the day following the absence.

TARDINESS

The professor reserves the right to not admit a tardy student to class or to count a tardy arrival as either a half or whole unexcused absence. Late arrivals to class will impact the class participation grade.

Late submission of written work is not accepted.

END OF SPRING SEMESTER: **PRE-DEPARTURE ORIENTATION.** 2 hours.

MAY-JUNE: PRE-DEPARTURE ASSIGNMENTS
DUE: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25. Readings and exam.

ARRIVAL DATE: **SUNDAY, July 1** Students arrive at St. John's Campus, Rome, and check in to accommodations.

CALENDAR. Monday, July 2, - Friday, July 27, 2018

Week 1.

Monday, July 2-Thursday, July 5 9am-1pm INTERNSHIP

Friday, July 6 11am-1pm INTERNSHIP SEMINAR w RU FACULTY
Discussion of DAILY BLOGS and FIRST WEEK

Week 2.

Monday, July 9-Thursday, July 12 9am-1pm INTERNSHIP

Friday, July 13 11am-1pm INTERNSHIP SEMINAR w RU FACULTY
Preparing the PROFESSIONAL INVENTORY and
PROFESSIONAL CONCLUSIONS essay.

Week 3.

Monday, July 16-Thursday, July 19 9am-1pm INTERNSHIP

Friday, July 20 11am-1pm INTERNSHIP SEMINAR w RU FACULTY

Preparing the ANALYTICAL ESSAY and RÉSUMÉ

Week 4.

Monday, July 23-Thursday, July 26 9am-1pm INTERNSHIP

Friday, July 27 9am-1pm INTERNSHIP SEMINAR w RU FACULTY
ORAL INTERVIEWS

DEPARTURE DATE: **Saturday, July 28**
RE-ENTRY PRESENTATION: At Rutgers, Fall 2018 (date TBD)