

Italy I/O Psychology

Spring/Summer 2022

Application Deadline

Program applications accepted until **December 3, 2021**. Click "[Apply to Study Abroad](#)" to begin your online application.

Dates

May 2 – May 12, 2022

Location

Sansepolcro is a medieval walled city in the heart of Tuscany, where Meredith students have studied abroad for over 25 years. This program includes a two-day trip to Florence, in addition to local day trips to Anghiari and Arezzo.

Student Voices

"My I/O psychology study abroad trip to Italy was by far one of the best experiences of my life. Being completely immersed in a beautiful foreign country turned into two weeks of educational, social, and personal fulfillment." - Halle Evans, Summer 2019

Journey Highlights

Intercultural Consulting with Communities and Organizations is a 10-day program conducted in the picturesque Tuscany region of Italy. During this intensive elective, you will develop intercultural relationship-building skills and proficiency in community-and organizational-consulting through interactions with local business owners and community leaders.

Our journey will begin in Sansepolcro, Italy, a small sixteenth century walled town located in the heart of Tuscany about halfway between Florence and Rome. You will spend time among the many rustic and ancient buildings of Sansepolcro truly gaining a sense of what it is like to live in this exquisite country.

While in Sansepolcro and surrounding communities you will interact with Meredith's established network of community partners, learning about industries at the heart of the Italian economy, such as wine and olive oil production, agritourism, textile manufacturing, and hospitality. Through these relationships you will grow to understand not only the businesses that fuel the Italian economy but come to know the people who make the Tuscan region such an extraordinary place. The program will conclude in Florence, where you will see the integration of various influences into the Italian culture and economy.

As a future I/O professional, this program will provide you with invaluable experience in how to prepare for and conduct in country site visits, as well as prepare consulting reports which will be shared back with our Italian partners. In other words, you will be participating in real intercultural consulting. Through this scaffolded program, you will gain cultural awareness and applied skills that can only be obtained through travel, application, and immersion.

Note: While this brochure describes what we plan to offer in 2022, Meredith College Office of International Programs reserves the right to make changes to the program itinerary, schedule, cost, academic program, etc., as necessary.

Faculty

Dr. Cynthia Edwards, edwardsc@meredith.edu

Dr. Joe Mazzola, jjmazzola@meredith.edu

Courses – 6 credits

PSY 613: Special Topics in I/O Psychology: Intercultural Consulting with Communities and Organizations
(3 credits)

Fulfills I/O Program elective

The course is meant to give students hands-on experience with community and organizational consulting in another country. There will be a particular focus on gaining the intercultural and professional skills students will need when interacting with clients in diverse professional contexts. Students will gain an understanding of how national and cultural similarities and differences affect how one assesses and tackles organizational challenges. Through pre-departure readings and assignments, students will prepare pre-capture/desk study analyses and focus-questions in preparation for site visits in-country. In-country assignments will be context-based and interactive. The format will include interviews, meetings with organizational leaders, excursions, and site visits with established community partners.

Cost

Estimated at \$2,950 includes:

- \$100 non-refundable application deposit
- Fulfillment of three-hour credit elective requirement
- Accommodations in Italy
- Weekday breakfasts and lunches
- Academic excursions to Florence, Anghiari, Arezzo, vineyard, olive farm, and more.
- On-site support from Meredith faculty and staff

Additional expenses include:

- Round-trip airfare – \$1,500
- Passport (if needed) – \$150
- International health insurance – \$46
- International cell phone plan – \$50
- Independent travel – \$500
- Personal spending – \$500

Note: Estimates are based on previous student reports. Your spending habits may differ.

COVID-19 Health and Safety Considerations

The Office of International Programs, in partnership with Meredith's Health Center, will continue monitoring daily the following resources regarding coronavirus and international travel:

- CDC
- U.S. State Department
- Overseas Security Advisory Council
- World Health Organization
- American College Health Association
- NAFSA: Association of International Educators professional listserv and the Forum on Education Abroad (peer institution responses)
- Cultural Insurance Services International (CISI) updates
- Email announcements and communications from affiliate study abroad providers
- Multiple news outlets

All study abroad participants are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. This includes recommendations by the CDC and host countries at the time of program departure, including but not limited to boosters, vaccine timelines, etc.