

University of Florida 4-Week Florence Program Summer 2011



Application Procedure

1. Complete the AIFS application form.
2. Submit deposit check of \$700, payable to "University of Florida," to the UF International Center (170 Hub). If selecting the optional tour to Venice, please indicate on the attached AIFS application form, and include credit card details in Part C for the \$50 tour deposit.
3. Attach a photocopy of the information page of your passport (the page with your picture). If you do not yet have a passport, please apply for one immediately, and mail a copy once you have received it.
4. Mail or give the completed application package to: Dr. Michael Weigold, Box 118400, 1000 Weimer Hall, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 36211, Telephone (352) 392-1124, E-Mail: mweigold@gmail.com.
5. UFIC will bill you for the balance of the program fee.
6. AIFS will bill you for the \$125 refundable damage deposit; airfare (\$650); taxes, fees, and fuel surcharges of \$480 (subject to change); balance of Venice excursion (\$525, if applicable), and optional insurance upgrade.

The program fee includes the following:

In Florence

- ⇒ accommodation in shared, self-catering apartments within the Historic Center of Florence with typically four to eight students sharing an apartment with two students per bedroom.
- ⇒ orientation program in Florence including an orientation meeting with AIFS staff, student information packet with handbook, local area information, welcome dinner and guided walking tour of Florence;
- ⇒ AIFS program coordinator on-site in the AIFS Study Center, located in the Historical Center of Florence, close to Santa Croce;
- ⇒ museum pass giving unlimited free entry to the Uffizi, Accademia, Bargello, San Marco Museum and the Pitti Palace, among others;
- ⇒ full-day guided excursion to Siena and San Gimignano by private bus;
- ⇒ guided day excursion to the Chianti wine country including transportation by private bus, tours and tastings at two wineries and a group lunch;
- ⇒ four-day, three-night excursion to Sorrento including transportation by train, accommodation in twin rooms with en suite facilities in a centrally located hotel including daily breakfast, guided day excursion to Capri by ferry, half-day guided tour of Pompeii, optional tour to Vesuvius (for an additional fee), one group dinner and the services of an AIFS Tour Manager;
- ⇒ evening Italian cooking class;
- ⇒ guest lecture on the media in Italy plus an additional lecture;
- ⇒ set of five meal vouchers to be used for lunch or dinner in a selection of 10 different restaurants in Florence;
- ⇒ transfer from Florence to Rome by private bus;

In Rome

- ⇒ four nights accommodation in a centrally located tourist-class hotel in twin rooms with en suite facilities and daily continental breakfast;
- ⇒ entrance to and guided tour of the Colosseum;
- ⇒ group farewell dinner;

Both Sites

- ⇒ medical and program fee refund insurance policies;
- ⇒ \$50 non-refundable application fee.

All visits/events will be arranged in cooperation with the University of Florida and are subject to change depending on availability. If a visit/event becomes unavailable, it will be replaced by a suitable alternative.

Program fee does not include the following:

- ⇒ optional transportation package including round-trip airfare between Miami and Rome, and round-trip transfers between the airport overseas and your program site on the specified program dates for \$650;
- ⇒ mandatory additional U.S. government and airline-imposed departure taxes, fees and fuel surcharges of \$480 (subject to change);
- ⇒ \$125 refundable damage deposit;
- ⇒ optional 3-day/2-night excursion to Venice for \$575 including round-trip transportation, accommodation in twin rooms in a centrally located tourist-class hotel on a bed-and-breakfast basis, a half-day walking tour of Venice, entrance to the Doge's Palace, Vaporetto pass and the services of an AIFS Tour Manager. A minimum of 20 participants is required for this excursion to operate. The maximum enrollment is 50;
- ⇒ limited single rooms for a supplemental fee of \$800;
- ⇒ tuition fees to your university;
- ⇒ textbooks;
- ⇒ meals not listed above;
- ⇒ passport and visa fees if applicable;
- ⇒ additional field trips or excursions required by your instructors;
- ⇒ personal expenses such as laundry;
- ⇒ optional personal effects coverage.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE FOR AIFS FEES

| Summer Program | Fee | Deadline | Optional | Fee | Deadline |
|-------------------------------------------|----------|----------------|--------------------------------|----------|------------------|
| Damage Deposit (Mandatory/ Refundable) | \$125.00 | March 11, 2011 | Venice Excursion Deposit | \$50.00 | February 1, 2011 |
| | | | Airfare | \$650.00 | March 11, 2011 |
| | | | Taxes/Fees (subject to change) | \$480.00 | March 11, 2011 |
| | | | Venice Excursion Balance | \$525.00 | March 11, 2011 |
| | | | Personal Effects Coverage | \$90.00 | March 11, 2011 |

The following amounts are payable to AIFS: \$125 refundable damage deposit, \$50 non-refundable excursion deposit (if applicable; please provide credit card details under Part C if you plan to participate), plus payment of the airfare (\$650) and taxes/fees/fuel (\$480-subject to change) if applicable, excursion balance (if applicable) and optional Personal Effects Coverage. You may also use American Express, MasterCard or Visa. See application form.

All students must submit the \$700 deposit check, payable to "University of Florida," within seven days of submitting the completed application, along with the \$50 non-refundable Venice deposit, if applicable, payable by credit card in Part C.

Please note: A \$35 returned check fee will be charged on all checks returned by the bank for insufficient funds.

AIFS TRANSPORTATION PACKAGE

Participants have the option of purchasing a round-trip ticket for the flight arranged through AIFS. Participants choosing this option should note the following restrictions: Tickets purchased from AIFS are exclusively on scheduled airlines (not charters). They are not endorsable to another carrier. Flights are not necessarily direct or non-stop, they cannot be rerouted, and frequent flyer miles are not applicable. The AIFS Transportation Package includes round-trip ground transportation from the airport overseas to your accommodations on the regularly scheduled program dates. AIFS will book flights only on the dates indicated on this application.

Participants wishing to purchase the Transportation Package must notify AIFS in writing by Tuesday, February 1, 2011. Participants wishing to cancel from the flight must notify AIFS in writing by Friday, March 11, 2011. Cancellation penalties will apply. Tickets are non-refundable after this date.

AIFS Airfare Regulations: Return must be to original U.S. departure city. Tickets are subject to airline availability. No refunds are available for any unused portion of ticket. Stopovers are not permitted. Once overseas, participants may be able to change their return date, but only if that date is available and in the same class of service in which the ticket was booked. Only the ticketing agent can provide this information. Participants are subject to agency and airline-imposed change fees and space availability. Group round-trip ground transportation to and from the airport overseas is on the regularly scheduled program dates only.

AIFS cannot guarantee that all passengers will be booked on the same flight.

AIFS will not make your flight arrangements for you unless you clearly indicate your travel preferences on your application.

PROGRAM DATES

Summer 2011

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday, May 2, 2011 | AIFS flight departs the U.S. for Rome, Italy. |
| Tuesday, May 3, 2011 | Arrive in Rome, transfer to Florence. |
| Friday, May 6, 2011 | |
| to | Optional weekend in Venice. |
| Sunday, May 8, 2011 | |
| Thursday, May 12, 2011 | |
| to | Weekend in Sorrento. |
| Sunday, May 15, 2011 | |
| Friday, May 20, 2011 | |
| to | Free weekend. |
| Sunday, May 22, 2011 | |
| Thursday, May 26, 2011 | Transfer to Rome. |
| Monday, May 30, 2011 | End of program. AIFS flight departs Rome for the U.S. |

PART E – HEALTH AND HOUSING INFORMATION

Please complete the following questionnaire carefully. Your housing assignment will be made based on the information that you provide. All requests are taken into consideration.

Name _____ School _____ Term _____

SHARED ACCOMMODATIONS

Please note that specific housing preferences cannot be guaranteed.

Please note that single rooms are very limited and are allocated according to special needs, e.g. medical, age-related

Do you smoke? Yes No Do you object to a roommate who smokes? Yes No

What time do you get up in the morning? _____ What time do you normally go to bed? _____

Do you consider yourself a quiet person? Yes No Where do you prefer to study? room library elsewhere

Are you receiving any special medical treatment? Yes No If yes, specify: _____

Do you have any physical condition that prevents you from climbing stairs? If yes, specify: _____

Roommate preference (if known) (1) _____ (2) _____

Do you have any special reason for requesting a single room? If so, please specify: _____

Do you like to cook your own meals? often occasionally never

What type of music do you prefer? _____ Do you normally listen to music in your room? Yes No

Are there any hobbies or interests you would like to pursue while in Italy? _____

PART F – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Studying in another country requires considerable adaptability. This is part of both the challenge and the reward. Your willingness to answer these questions will assist the AIFS staff in providing you with a housing situation that is most likely to meet your needs. Please note that specific requests cannot be guaranteed.

Do you have any special dietary needs?* If yes, please describe _____

Do you consider yourself a conservative or liberal person? Conservative Liberal

Do you have any allergies or chronic ailments? Yes No If yes, please describe _____

Are you presently under treatment for any mental or emotional matters? Yes No If yes, please describe _____

Are you presently taking any prescription medication on a regular basis? Yes No If yes, please list and state purpose _____

Studying abroad requires a great deal of physical mobility. Do you feel you are able to perform the essential functions of studying abroad with or without any special requirements?* If you do have special requirements, describe the requirement you would need and how this would enable you to participate.

**AIFS cannot guarantee to accommodate special requirements and requests.*

Agreement and Release Form

I, the undersigned, an Applicant for an overseas study program of the American Institute For Foreign Study, Inc. (the "Institute"), acknowledge that I have read and accept the terms and conditions set forth in the AIFS application/brochure, which are incorporated in this agreement. I acknowledge that I am responsible for reading all information provided in the AIFS pre-departure materials and abiding by all policies contained therein. This agreement is a legally binding contract. I acknowledge and accept the terms of the refund policy as outlined below:

If a participant withdraws in writing

On or before March 11, 2011

After March 11, 2011, but on or before April 22, 2011

After April 22, 2011

She/he receives

All fees paid less \$250 plus any non-refundable deposits paid either by the student or by AIFS on the student's behalf.

All fees paid less \$450 plus any non-refundable deposits paid either by the student or by AIFS on the student's behalf.

No refund, and student is responsible for entire program fee.

All requests for refund must be made in writing, signed, and addressed or faxed to: **Registrar, AIFS, Partnership Programs, College Division, River Plaza, 9 West Broad Street, Stamford, CT 06902; fax number (203) 399-5597. Unsigned withdrawal statements will not be processed.**

I unconditionally release the Institute from any claims for damage, injury, loss, or expense of any nature resulting from events beyond its control, including without limitation: Acts of God, war, strikes, crime, terrorism, sickness or quarantine, government restrictions or regulations. This release also applies to any losses arising from the use of any vehicle or from the selection of, or from any act or omission by any host family, bus or car rental agency, steamship, airline, railroad, taxi or tour service/organizer, hotel service, hotel, restaurant, school, university/college, or other firm, agency, company or individual, unless the loss is caused by the gross negligence of the Institute.

I understand that I am responsible for exercising caution and common sense at all times to avoid injuries, and that the Institute cannot provide supervision or support during periods of independent travel.

I agree that if I become ill or incapacitated, the Institute or its emergency assistance company may take such actions as it considers necessary under the circumstances, including securing medical treatment for me and transporting me to the United States. I release the Institute from any liability relating to this medical care. I also authorize the Institute to take whatever action it deems to be necessary and in my best interest (including transporting me out of the host country or back to the United States, at my own expense) in the event of political unrest or any other unforeseen event or condition. If the Institute incurs on my behalf any costs not covered by its general liability insurance, I agree to make immediate repayment upon my return.*

I will comply with the Institute's rules, standards and instructions, and understand that failure to do so may result in being sent home at my expense, with no refund. I understand that my participation may be terminated if I am expelled from school or otherwise disciplined by school or civil authorities, or if the Institute, in its sole discretion, determines that my conduct is incompatible with the interests, harmony, comfort or welfare of the other students. I agree to indemnify the Institute if I do anything that causes the Institute to sustain financial loss or liability.

I understand that the Institute provides insurance coverage for my benefit while in the program, including limited health, accident, accidental death, personal effects and program fee refund insurance. I acknowledge that it is my responsibility to understand the limitations of this coverage and agree that the Institute is not responsible for any uninsured losses.

I understand that the Institute reserves the right to make changes, cancellations or substitutions in cases of changed conditions or emergency, or based upon the interest of the group. I understand if I am terminated from the program, there will be no refund of AIFS fees.

I understand that obtaining a passport and any other required travel documents is my sole responsibility, and I agree to hold the Institute harmless in the event that I am unable to obtain the necessary documents for participation in the program and to indemnify the Institute for any costs to it that result from my failure to obtain the required documentation.

I understand that if I am not a U.S. citizen, a visa may be required for entry to the countries I plan to visit (or travel through) while a participant on this program. I further understand that it is my sole responsibility to determine my visa requirements and obtain the appropriate visa(s), and I agree to hold the Institute harmless in the event that I am unable to obtain the necessary documents and visas for participation in the program and to indemnify the Institute for any costs to it that result from my failure to obtain the required documentation.

I understand that from time to time the Institute's publicity material may include statements by its participants and/or their photographs, and I consent to such use of my comments and photographic likeness.

This agreement will be effective when my application is accepted by the Institute and shall be governed by the laws of the State of Connecticut. This agreement cannot be modified except in writing by the Institute.

References in this agreement to "the Institute" shall include the American Institute For Foreign Study, Inc., and all of its agents, employees, affiliated companies, campus directors, chaperones, group leaders, teachers, host school and school officials.

If I am using financial aid to pay for all or part of my AIFS program fees, and if that aid is canceled or reduced by my institution or lending agency after I have embarked on the AIFS program, I am immediately responsible for full payment of all fees. Failure to make payment will result in my administrative withdrawal from the program.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Printed Name

*A special substitute paragraph is available to members of the Christian Science faith.