

Furman University Study Away Program: Program Expectations

Program Title: The Two Romes: Material Religion East and West

Locations: Italy and Turkey

Dates: May 13-31, 2023

Program Description: This program is built around a journey between the "two Romes" - in Italy and Byzantium, with destinations in Ravenna, and Venice along the way, and concluding with archeological remains of ancient Greek and Byzantine sites along the Turkish coast. This itinerary has been structured to highlight the transmission of ideas and practices structuring configurations of sacred space between geographic regions - especially the eastern and western Roman empires in the middle ages and across religious traditions. Students will encounter some of the earliest extant Christian art in situ in Rome, with attention paid to the ways in which Christian sacred space built on, modified, and repurposed ancient traditions from a wide array of cultures. Later stages of the trip will show how these forms evolved in dialogue with other cultures and traditions.

Academic, Environmental, Physical & Health Expectations for Participation

Below is a list of academic, environmental and physical expectations and requirements for participation in this study away program. The list captures most, but not all, requirements. If you have questions about the expectations and requirements, please check with the study away office or the program directors. Students requiring a physical or academic accommodation should contact the Student Office for Accessibility Resources (SOAR) no less than 4 months prior to the start date of the program.

Frequency		Frequency	
ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS	Always, Sometimes, Never/ Required or Optional	STUDY AWAY ENVIRONMENT	Always, Sometimes, Never/ Required or Optional
Course work in a foreign language	Never	Foreign Language Environment	Italian and Turkish
Course work in English	Always	Terrain (Mountains, Tropical, Forest, Desert, Hilly, Flat)	Cobblestones, some hills, some rocky areas
Laptop Required	Not required	Population: Rural, Urban, Remote, etc.	Urban, some islands
Smart phone required (videos, photos, blogs)	Optional	Environment (high altitude, air pollution, dusty, sandy, humid, dry, hot, cold)	Hot, humid
Traditional Classroom	Never	Mosquito Borne Risk of Illness	Low risk
Group Work	Sometimes	Is tap water safe to drink	Safe to drink
Academic Assessments (tests, journals, presentations, essays)	Presentations, journals, companion course	Other Risks (natural disasters, crime, pickpocketing, etc.)	Pickpocketing in large cities
Interactions with local residents	Sometimes/occasional	Cultural Dress Code	Modest attire in some religious sites
Field Work/Research	Never	Curfew	Never
Internship/Volunteer Work	Never	Motion Sickness	Possible with bus, air and boat travel
Other	Two-credit companion course in Spring 2023 required	Other	

PHYSICAL EXPECTATIONS		Frequency	HEALTH & DIET		Frequency
		Always, Sometimes, Never, / Required or Optional			Always, Sometimes, Never, / Required or Optional
Lifting/Carrying Own Luggage	Frequent; wheeled luggage recommended		Vegetarian and Vegan Options Available at all meals	Vegetarian-always / Vegan-not guaranteed at times	
Carrying equipment or program supplies	Never		Food Allergy Accommodations	Always	
Standing 60+ minutes	Frequent		Group Meals	Breakfast and most dinners	
Ability to walk up one or more flights of stairs (elevators may not be available)	Always		Cooking for oneself	Never	
Hiking (easy to strenuous; frequency; miles)	Sometimes-strenuous		Host family prepares meals	Never	
Walking 3+ miles per day	Always		Healthcare easily accessible	Always	
Use of public transportation (buses, trams, trains, subways)	Always; chartered bus also used		Quality of Healthcare	Excellent	
LIVING ARRANGEMENTS		Always, Sometimes, Never, / Required or Optional	WATER ACTIVITIES		Always, Sometimes, Never, / Required or Optional
Host Family	Never		Swimming	Optional	
Roommate	Always		Snorkeling	No	
Shared Apartment	Never		SCUBA	No	
Dormitory	Never		Boat, canoes or other water activities	Optional	
Camping	Never		Sea sickness	Possible with travel on gullet boats.	
Hotel	Always; shared space		Other		
Cell phone signal available	Sometimes		Center for Disease Control Recommendations: https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/italy https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/turkey		
Internet signal available	Sometimes				
Refrigerator Access	Upon request				
Air Conditioning	Sometimes				
Other					