



## ORIENTATION WEEK FOR SEMESTER PROGRAMS

### Day 1

**Orientation Day:** After their arrival in Florence, all students will be divided into groups and receive a specific and detailed orientation, covering both academic and Student Life components of our programs. They will meet the academic coordinators and Student Life and Development Office staff, and receive instructions regarding FUA regulations, attendance policy (including Add and Drop, where applicable), housing policy and extracurricular activities such as Connecting Cultures, Sports Night, music activities (*Musing*), FUA's campus newsletter and magazine (*Blending*), and City Walks. An FUA facilities walking tour closes this first session.

**Immigration Advising Point:** During the Fall and Spring semesters, from 9:00 am to 6:00pm, students can visit our immigration advising point where they can ask questions, clarify any doubts, and have all of their "permit of stay" documents checked by FUA staff before submitting their official application.

**Living in Florence seminar:** In the afternoon of the same days, students attend the "Living in Florence" seminar. These sessions are separate from the first orientation meeting and cover the practical aspects of life in Florence in a more casual manner, with a Q&A session at the end. Students can ask about common Italian habits and the differences they may experience during their first days in Florence, for example regarding food, transportation, local habits, etc.

### Day 2

**"Permit of Stay" application:** Students, divided into groups, will fill out their "permit of stay" documents with the help of FUA staff. Once they have completed their application, FUA staff will escort students to the Post Office where they can file their paperwork. For details please see [Permit\\_of\\_Stay](#) link.

### Days 3 and 4

**Weekend:** Students can join our "First Walks" around the city's historic neighborhoods in which the students are housed to familiarize them with shops/markets/highlights. Students are also given a "bare necessities" map to help them locate the places where they can buy specific items in case of need.

## **First Academic Week**

**Connecting Cultures Meetings:** On the first Monday of the semester the first Connecting Cultures meeting is held. The Connecting Cultures Seminars program consists of a series of information sessions designed to enhance students' cultural awareness, both within the Italian community and the global citizenry. The intent is to guide students through their study abroad experience to maximize educational outcomes and personal growth during their semester abroad.

The Connecting Cultures Program Orientation includes information on the following FUA programs:

**Chat Pal**, a non-credit Italian-English conversation exchange designed to connect Italians with FUA students;

**Italian Family Club**, which matches students and Italian families, according to their respective characteristics and requirements, to build a relationship that will develop over the semester through mutual exchange and discovery;

**Community Outreach**, an experience which allows students to give something back to their host city by volunteering their time and services for the benefit of local social and cultural organizations. For more information on Connecting Cultures, please see the [Connecting Cultures](#) link.

The Student Life and Development Department assists all students through ongoing orientation for the entire semester.

All extracurricular activities start on the first week of class and give students the chance to interact with the rest of the FUA student population and FUA staff, in and outside of the school campus.

## **ORIENTATION WEEK FOR SUMMER/SHORT PROGRAMS**

**Orientation Day:** After their arrival in Florence, all students will be divided into groups and receive a specific and detailed orientation, covering both academic and Student Life components of our programs. They will meet the academic coordinators and Student Life and Development Office staff, and receive instructions regarding FUA regulations, attendance policy (including Add and Drop, where applicable), housing policy and extracurricular activities such as Connecting Cultures, Sports Night, music activities (*Musing*), FUA's campus newsletter and magazine (*Blending*), and City Walks. An FUA facilities walking tour closes this first session.

PLEASE NOTE: Students enrolled in multiple short sessions for a total duration of more than 90 days are required to apply for a "permit of stay". It is the student's responsibility to reach out to the Student Life and Development Department staff regarding their immigration status in Italy.