Margaret’s Majors: Elementary Education, History

Program: Santa Reparata International School of Art (SRISA), Fall

Academic Life: I took Photography, Fashion Illustration, Clothing and Society, History of Italian Cinema, and History of Ancient Rome. The class sizes were small which allowed for a personal learning experience and for the professors to really get to know their students as individuals. The majority of the students were other Americans but there were international students as well. I was worried about going to an art school, as I am not an art student. However, the professors did an excellent job of challenging me without making me feel frustrated.

Most Memorable Moments: This is a really hard question because there are so many to choose from! A specific experience would probably be walking into the Colosseum in Rome and stepping back in time, picturing the gladiators fighting in a packed arena. It is such a massive, historical, and beautiful structure that it gave me chills walking into it thinking about all of the history that had occurred right where I was standing.

How Study Abroad has Changed Margaret: I think that studying abroad has made me more relaxed and slow down in life. Everything is so fast-paced here in America compared to Italy. Not being so stressed out and taking the time to discover my surroundings more has made me a happier and a better person.

Advice for Someone Considering this Program: Do it. Do it. Do it! SRISA is such a great school with a small atmosphere, which I personally liked, because I got to know the group of students I was studying with and my professors extremely well, which made my experience even more memorable.

“Italy is an amazing country with so much culture and history.”