Italy, Bologna
IAP Academic Notes

These IAP Academic Notes are a supplement to the BCSP Handbook provided by Indiana University and contain information specific to UW-Madison academics.

Academic Year/Fall Semester Academic Program
The academic program consists of a pre-session language course, courses taken at the University of Bologna (Unibo), and BCSP courses. The required pre-session language course (for credit), during the month of September, is designed to enhance your language skills so that you can manage linguistically in a classroom with native speakers of Italian. This course includes an intensive Italian language section, a cultural section, and includes a cultural excursion. All students will be required to take the BCSP Advanced Grammar course offered each semester. However, the Resident Director, at his discretion, may choose to exempt students from this requirement who performed consistently above average during the pre-session course.

Spring Semester Academic Program
The academic program consists of a semester-long language course (the first two weeks of the course are intensive), courses taken at the University of Bologna (Unibo), and BCSP courses. The required language course is designed to enhance your language skills so that you can manage linguistically in a classroom with native speakers of Italian. All students will be required to take the BCSP Advanced Grammar course.

BCSP Courses
BCSP offers a limited number of special courses for its students. These courses are taught in Italian by University of Bologna faculty. All students will be required to take the BCSP Advanced Grammar course; however, the Resident Director may choose to exempt student from this requirement based upon their Pre-session performance.

Visit [http://www.bcsp.unibo.it/BCSPcourses/syllabi_english.htm](http://www.bcsp.unibo.it/BCSPcourses/syllabi_english.htm) for up to date course listings as well as course syllabi.

University of Bologna Courses
The University of Bologna offers a wide range of courses in the humanities and the social and natural sciences. The general course and professor rarely change, but the content of the course can change radically from year to year, even if the Italian title remains the same. The list below illustrates courses taken by BCSP students in recent years.

- Italian literature
- Anthropology
- Art and Archaeology
- Classics
- Film
- History
- Languages
- Linguistics
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Theater and Drama
- Comparative or Foreign Literature

Registration
IAP will register you for a special “Study Abroad Course” for the term(s) you will be studying abroad; therefore, it is not necessary for you to register on the UW-Madison campus. This is a temporary registration, which will be converted into graded UW-Madison credit after the completion of your program.
You will meet with the Resident Director after you have arrived in Bologna to determine which University of Bologna and BCSP courses you should enroll in. The BCSP office has reviews from past participants of courses/professors to assist with course enrollment to assist with course selection as well.

Equivalents and Course Equivalent Request (CER)
Each course you take abroad must be assigned a UW-Madison “equivalent” and the grade you receive in the course also transfers back to be recorded on your UW-Madison transcript. This includes Special students (Non-UW Madison students) who may receive a different set of course equivalents once they return to their home institution. In order to establish UW-Madison course equivalents for your study abroad courses, you will submit a Course Equivalent Request (CER) through your My Study Abroad account. The deadline to submit the CER is by the end of the fourth week of classes (not including pre-session terms). Detailed information on the UW course equivalent process that you will use through your My Study Abroad account is available in the IAP Study Abroad Handbook and in your My Study Abroad account under the academics tab.

The IAP course equivalent list for Bologna specifies whether a course is a BCSP course or a University of Bologna course. On your CER, indicate whether a course is a BCSP class or a University of Bologna course to assist IAP with the equivalent process. If you are taking a University of Bologna course that is worth 6 credits, you will receive two UW-Madison course equivalents for that course worth 3 credits each. If you are taking a 6 credit course, make a notation of this on your CER. If the 6 credit course has pre-established course equivalents, select two equivalents. If the course does not have a pre-established UW-Madison equivalent, indicate two new course equivalents and provide a syllabus (this must be translated into English if you are sending a request to a department other than Italian).

Italian Credit
Courses for Italian credit are those that fall within the realm of Italian language, literature, linguistics or film (all of which are offered in abundance at the University of Bologna). Courses such as Italian Political History and History of Emilia Romagna (as examples) will not be approved for Italian language equivalents and should be sent to a more appropriate department for equivalency.

Limits and Load
Students are expected to enroll in a full-time academic program of a minimum of 15 credits per semester. BCSP courses are three credits each and the University of Bologna courses range from 3 to 6 credits. If you are taking a University of Bologna course that is worth 6 credits, you will receive two UW-Madison course equivalents for that course worth 3 credits each. 6-credit Unibo courses are typically 10-12 weeks long (a full semester), and 3-credit Unibo courses are typically 5-6 weeks long (half semester).

- **Academic Year**: The requirement on this program is a minimum of 30 credits (minimum 15 per semester) during the academic year. During the fall, two of your courses will be BCSP courses, including the required Advanced Course in Italian Language and Society, plus one additional content course. During the spring semester, at least one course will be a BCSP course. Over the academic year, you will take at least three Unibo courses (usually 6 credits each).

- **Fall**: Fall only students are required to take a minimum of 15 credit hours. Two of your courses will be BCSP courses including the required Advanced Course in Italian Language and Society, plus one additional content course. You will take 1-2 Unibo courses (usually 6 credits each).

- **Spring**: Spring only students are required to take a minimum of 15 credit hours which includes the language course that begins with an intensive component (4 credits). You will take a combination of BCSP courses and at least 1-2 Unibo courses (usually 6 credits).

Pass/Fail/Drop/Audit
Please refer to the IAP Study Abroad Handbook for Academic Policies. A Pass/Fail option will be available in the Course Equivalency Request. The due date for Pass/Fail submission can be found in the Academics tab of your My Study Abroad account. Pass/fail is not permitted during the pre-session.
Final Exams
Final examinations for Unibo and BCSP courses are different in structure and format. Final grades for Unibo courses are decided during an oral examination that may be your final and often only examination for that course. Final exams occur one-on-one with the professor of that course at the end of the semester. You may be asked specific questions based on all material presented during lectures and from the assigned readings. It is important to study and read throughout the semester to prepare adequately for the final oral examination. Occasionally a written examination option may be offered for certain courses, but this may be more difficult to understand than an oral examination.

BCSP courses will have an examination format that more closely resembles American university final examinations. Work throughout the course will be counted towards your grade. Again, it is important to study and read throughout the semester to prepare adequately for the final examination.

Grades and Grade Conversions
The grading conversion scale from the BCSP program to UW Madison is the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA GRADING SCALE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wisc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 AB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students may not leave Bologna with any incompletes. Any incomplete work will receive an automatic grade of F.