

# BOLOGNA, ITALY

HANA YAMAHIRO

**Program:** UW in Bologna (BSCP), Spring

**Hana's Major:** Legal Studies

**Academic Life:** The academic experience was much different than at UW-Madison. The university system in Bologna is much less organized than in the U.S. Each class has a different start and end date for the semester. The classes don't have syllabi and completely rely on the professor's discretion. There are no TAs and many professors put a lot, if not all, of the emphasis on the reading materials. The biggest difference is that the exams are all oral, which makes the experience unique. In my classes I was the only American student amongst other Italian students.

**Advice for Someone Considering this Program:** I would tell someone who is considering this particular program to be prepared for a challenge at first because of the language immersion, housing hunt, and less organized university system. I think that the experience should be embraced because it was the best decision of my college experience and Bologna was a perfect place to have it!

**Housing:** I lived in an apartment in the city center of Bologna with two other Italian roommates - one a student and one who recently graduated. The location was great for class and exploring the city because everything was accessible by a short walk.

**Tip for Someone Considering Studying Abroad:** I think it is important to be open to new experiences and go into any experience without any preconceived notions about what it will be like. It is very unpredictable but worth it!

**“I realized Bologna was home when I traveled to different cities or countries and always felt relieved when I returned to Bologna”**



Hana making pasta during her time in Bologna.

