



Middlebury Schools Abroad Evaluation: 2007-2008

Evaluating your period of study abroad is one of the most valuable services you can render Middlebury College and future students planning to study abroad, and it is one of the most important ways you can help us maintain the highest possible standards. For this reason, until this form is submitted to International Programs and Off Campus Study a hold will be placed on official Middlebury transcript requests for Middlebury College students who studied at Middlebury Schools Abroad (this does not apply to non-Middlebury students). Please note: If you studied abroad for two semesters on two different programs, you must submit two separate evaluations.

The staff of the Middlebury Schools Abroad/International Programs and Off Campus Study welcomes the opportunity to hear about your experiences abroad; please feel free to stop by or call and talk with us!

This document contains respondents between 1 and 6 inclusive.

1. Home Institution

Middlebury College

Other Institution

If other than Middlebury, please indicate your home institution:

.....

2. Your academic program

Major

English and American Literature

Month & Year of (expected) graduation

May 2009

3. What was the period of your study abroad?

fall semester

spring semester

academic year

spring semester followed by fall semester

4. Given that educational systems abroad differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on your learning, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment?

The greatest educational adjustment I faced was during my class at the University of Florence. Since there was no weekly syllabus or readings, I had to pace myself outside of the classroom in order to keep up with the class materials. The class also pushed me to do extraneous research and readings in order to gain a deeper understanding of the materials.

5. AFTER studying abroad, how do you now view the differences/similarities between the culture of your host country and that of your own?

	Identical	Very Similar	Mostly Similar	Somewhat Different	Very Different
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6. Please Comment:

Italian culture, as a Western European nation, does not differ dramatically from the lifestyle I lead here in the United States - I had most amenities that I live with in the US. However I found that cultural values/priorities differed, such as the strong emphasis in Italy on family.

7. In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What personal characteristics did you find most useful during your time abroad?

I understand now how important it is to take time for myself and check in on my mental health. So often at Middlebury I get wrapped up in my semester and forget to take care of my mind and body. This past spring I had time to stop and smell the roses - literally.

8. How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

Study abroad did not influence my career goals very much. However I now have the personal goal of returning to Italy, maintaining a close relationship with my host family, and also maintaining my verbal abilities in the language.

9. What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
- Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
- Apartment
- Other (please describe)

10. Do you feel that your housing situation provided you with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided you a context for gaining insight into the host culture?

Not at all - it was isolating

Somewhat helpful, but less than I expected

As helpful as I expected

Somewhat more helpful than I'd expected

Very helpful in terms of fostering insights and/or my integration



11. Please comment on your response to the question above.

My host parents were incredibly helpful in exposing me to their daily lifestyle while making sure I felt integrated into their lives and family.

12. Did you take courses alongside students from the host country?

- Yes
- No

13. If you answered yes to the question above, how well do you feel that your mainstream classes helped you to develop relationships with nationals of the host country or integrate into the host culture?

- Poor
- Neutral
- Helpful
- Very Helpful
- Not Applicable

Comments

It was difficult to make Italian friends in my University class.

14. Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

- Yes
- No

15. What kind of progress did you make in your listening comprehension of the language?

- | No improvement | Little improvement | Improved somewhat | Improved | Very much improved |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

16. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to read in the language?

- | No improvement | Little improvement | Improved somewhat | Improved | Very much improved |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

17. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to write in the language?

- | No improvement | Little improvement | Improved somewhat | Improved | Very much improved |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

18. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to speak in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

19. Please comment on the progress you made in your target language. Was it greater or less than you had expected? What do you think were some of the factors that contributed to your progress (or lack thereof), either on your own part or on the part of the program? Do you have any specific suggestions for the program and/or for future students that pertain to language learning?

My progress in Italian was about what I had expected. By the end of my semester I felt confident in the language and happy with my proficiency. However I would have benefited from more speaking in class at the Sede (professors did not always give ample opportunity) and school-organized events in which I could speak Italian with my classmates and school administrators.

20. Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

Professors at the Middlebury sede are accessible and it is easy to ask them questions in class.

21. Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

Professors don't always allow students to speak much in class, so you must make sure to track your own progress and find time to improve.

22. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #1

History of Florence

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Middlebury

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Papers and exams

Please describe the course content:

The history of renaissance florence.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Lecture and class visits to various sights around the city.

Other comments about this course:

.....

23. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

24. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

25. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #2

Literature

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Middlebury

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Papers, exams, and nightly homework

Describe course content

Dante, Boccaccio, Petrarch and various Italian poets

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Lecture and discussion

Other comments about this course:

BEST class I took -- should be required!

26. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

27. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

28. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #3

Writing (Scrittura)

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Middlebury

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Exams, response papers, oral presentation

Describe course content

Minimal grammar as well as various novels/films/poems.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Lecture, discussion and in-class excercises

Other comments about this course:

This course felt scattered to me and did not improve my writing as much as I would have hoped.

29. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

30. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

31. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #4

Greek and Roman Art/Architecture

At which institution/university did you take this course?

University of Florence

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Oral exams

Describe course content

Statues/paintings/buildings from Ancient Greek and Roman society

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Lecture

Other comments about this course:

.....

32. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

33. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

34. Did Middlebury provide you with an appropriate orientation on arrival?

	Poor		Good		Excellent
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

35. Did Middlebury provide you with sufficient support while you were abroad?

Poor

Good

Excellent

36. Were the on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) helpful to you during your study abroad?

Not helpful

Somewhat helpful

Very helpful

37. Did you see or experience any form of discrimination or harassment in your host country?

Yes

No

38. Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

Yes

No

Please explain:

The program is well organized and established in the city. There are many opportunities available for people who want to be immersed in the Italian culture and improve their skills in the language.

39. What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

The experience is what you make of it. Don't assume that just because everyone comes back from abroad saying it was "great" that means it was always easy. Be patient with your progress and make the experience your own.

40. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you attend Middlebury's on-campus pre-departure orientation meeting(s)?

Yes

No

41. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you find the pre-departure meetings and handouts useful?

Yes

No

N/A - Did not attend meetings

42. ALL STUDENTS: What aspects of the pre-departure process did you find particularly useful (or not), and how would you recommend that we improve the pre-departure meeting or supplemental materials?

Provide students with orientation schedule before arriving in their host country.

1. Home Institution

Middlebury College

Other Institution

If other than Middlebury, please indicate your home institution:

.....

2. Your academic program

Major

Psychology

Month & Year of (expected) graduation

May, 2009

3. What was the period of your study abroad?

fall semester

spring semester

academic year

spring semester followed by fall semester

4. Given that educational systems abroad differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on your learning, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment?

Studying in Florence offered a new environment that one could never find in the United States. We were able to completely immerse ourselves in the language and in the culture. We also were able to experience the very different nature of the European university system.

5. AFTER studying abroad, how do you now view the differences/similarities between the culture of your host country and that of your own?

	Identical	Very Similar	Mostly Similar	Somewhat Different	Very Different
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6. Please Comment:

While on a basic level both countries are very similar, after months of living in Italy the differences between our two cultures became more and more apparent. In getting to know Italians, I also began to see the different Italian mindset that is somewhat different than our own.

7. In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What personal characteristics did you find most useful during your time abroad?

Personally I think I have grown in the sense that I was forced to become much more independent. Especially at the beginning of the program, living in a strange city with a strange family, and not knowing many people can be difficult. Yet, near the end of the trip, I felt much more comfortable and independent.

8. How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

I'm not sure that study abroad has influenced by academic or career goals, but it has made me reconsider possibly living abroad when I'm older.

9. What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
- Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
- Apartment
- Other (please describe)

10. Do you feel that your housing situation provided you with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided you a context for gaining insight into the host culture?

Not at all - it was isolating	Somewhat helpful, but less than I expected	As helpful as I expected	Somewhat more helpful than I'd expected	Very helpful in terms of fostering insights and/or my integration
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

11. Please comment on your response to the question above.

My interaction with my host family was not as extensive as some of the other living situations, but they were great people and quite helpful.

12. Did you take courses alongside students from the host country?

- Yes
- No

13. If you answered yes to the question above, how well do you feel that your mainstream classes helped you to develop relationships with nationals of the host country or integrate into the host culture?

- Poor
- Neutral
- Helpful
- Very Helpful
- Not Applicable

Comments

.....

14. Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

- Yes
- No

15. What kind of progress did you make in your listening comprehension of the language?

- | No improvement | Little improvement | Improved somewhat | Improved | Very much improved |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

16. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to read in the language?

- | No improvement | Little improvement | Improved somewhat | Improved | Very much improved |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

17. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to write in the language?

- | No improvement | Little improvement | Improved somewhat | Improved | Very much improved |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

18. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to speak in the language?

	No improvement	Little improvement	Improved somewhat	Improved	Very much improved
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

19. Please comment on the progress you made in your target language. Was it greater or less than you had expected? What do you think were some of the factors that contributed to your progress (or lack thereof), either on your own part or on the part of the program? Do you have any specific suggestions for the program and/or for future students that pertain to language learning?

My language abilities improved greatly, especially my ability to listen and comprehend the language when spoken very quickly and with a strong accent. The one downfall to studying in Florence is the fact that nearly everyone speaks a little English, and, Florence being a major tourist site, most people are eager to speak English to American students.

20. Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

The Middlebury classes taught at the sede were excellent.

21. Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

.....

22. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

23. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

24. Did Middlebury provide you with an appropriate orientation on arrival?

	Poor		Good		Excellent
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

25. Did Middlebury provide you with sufficient support while you were abroad?

	Poor		Good		Excellent
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

26. Were the on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) helpful to you during your study abroad?

	Not helpful		Somewhat helpful		Very helpful
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

27. Did you see or experience any form of discrimination or harassment in your host country?

- Yes
- No

28. Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

It was a great experience.

29. What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

Studying abroad in Florence is a great experience, and gives you the opportunity to live in a truly historic city surrounded by some of the greatest art and culture in the world. It is, however, a tourist city, and prospective students should be aware.

30. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you attend Middlebury's on-campus pre-departure orientation meeting(s)?

- Yes
- No

31. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you find the pre-departure meetings and handouts useful?

- Yes
- No
- N/A - Did not attend meetings

32. ALL STUDENTS: What aspects of the pre-departure process did you find particularly useful (or not), and how would you recommend that we improve the pre-departure meeting or supplemental materials?

The most helpful aspect of those meetings was the opportunity to talk with a student who had already completed the program.

1. Home Institution

Middlebury College

Other Institution

If other than Middlebury, please indicate your home institution:

2. Your academic program

Major
 History

Month & Year of (expected) graduation
 May 2009

3. What was the period of your study abroad?

fall semester

spring semester

academic year

spring semester followed by fall semester

4. Given that educational systems abroad differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on your learning, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment?

Middlebury leans toward small classes, class discussion, and relationships between professors and students. The Sede in Florence (Midd's local) branch was similar in that respect but the University of Florence was very different. Classes were often very large and were always lectures. There was very little student/teacher interaction. I benefitted from the lectures first and foremost in terms of Italian comprehension. It was difficult however (especially at the beginning) because I lacked certain vocabularies that were necessary for my classes. I benefitted a lot just from the stand point that my year abroad was extremely challenging. Never before have I had to work so hard just to attain a base level comprehension. It was difficult but a valuable experience and very rewarding in the end.

5. AFTER studying abroad, how do you now view the differences/similarities between the culture of your host country and that of your own?

	Identical	Very Similar	Mostly Similar	Somewhat Different	Very Different
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6. Please Comment:

Many aspects of American and Italian culture are similar because they are both Western, developed nations. There still many differences though. Italy is a Catholic country and is also very recently unified. While it is young as a unified country, it has ancient historical foundations that we just don't have in America. Our country is so young and so new and it is a lot more prone to change.

7. In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What personal characteristics did you find most useful during your time abroad?

I've grown personally in that I challenged myself beyond anything I'd ever done. I'd only studied Italian for a year so the academic, social, and linguistic aspects of my trip were always a challenge. In part because Italians are so open and in part because they never stand in lines, etc. I have grown less shy and more aggressive. I stand up for myself more.

8. How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

I am about to begin writing a thesis for the history department about fascist Italy and the futurist art movement that would never have crossed my mind before. As far as personal goals, I know I want to keep up my Italian and maybe spend one more year in Italy.

9. What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
- Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
- Apartment
- Other (please describe)

10. Do you feel that your housing situation provided you with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided you a context for gaining insight into the host culture?

Not at all - it was isolating	Somewhat helpful, but less than I expected	As helpful as I expected	Somewhat more helpful than I'd expected	Very helpful in terms of fostering insights and/or my integration
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

11. Please comment on your response to the question above.

I lived with a host family and ate breakfast and dinner with them 5 days a week. I interacted with them daily and really could not avoid insights into the typical Italian family setting.

12. Did you take courses alongside students from the host country?

Yes

No

13. If you answered yes to the question above, how well do you feel that your mainstream classes helped you to develop relationships with nationals of the host country or integrate into the host culture?

Poor

Neutral

Helpful

Very Helpful

Not Applicable

Comments

14. Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

Yes

No

15. If you answered yes to the question above, were your extra-curricular activities helpful in assisting your integration into the host culture?

Not helpful at all

Only slightly helpful

Somewhat helpful

helpful

Very helpful

16. Please describe the extra-curricular activities or internship in which you participated, and make any additional comments about these activities that you think would be helpful to Middlebury staff or future students.

In the fall I had an internship as an assistant to two English teachers at local elementary schools. I gained tremendous insight into the Italian education system and met some adorable kids. I definitely recommend it.

17. What kind of progress did you make in your listening comprehension of the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

18. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to read in the language?

No
improvement

Little
improvement

Improved
somewhat

Improved

Very much
improved

19. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to write in the language?

No
improvement

Little
improvement

Improved
somewhat

Improved

Very much
improved

20. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to speak in the language?

No
improvement

Little
improvement

Improved
somewhat

Improved

Very much
improved

21. Please comment on the progress you made in your target language. Was it greater or less than you had expected? What do you think were some of the factors that contributed to your progress (or lack thereof), either on your own part or on the part of the program? Do you have any specific suggestions for the program and/or for future students that pertain to language learning?

I progressed more or less as I expected to thanks to my classes, my readings, and especially living with a host family.

I'd only suggest that language school right before going abroad is extremely helpful.

22. Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students?

Yes

No

Please explain:

I was able to study aspects of Italian history (especially its unification in the 19th century) that are very rarely studied (or even heard of) here.

23. Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

Yes

No

Please explain:

.....

24. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #1

Scrittura

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Middlebury College in Florence

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

papers, exams, homework, class participation

Please describe the course content:

we studied grammar but also Italian culture through the context of writing papers and studying literature and language

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

the teaching style was informal and the teacher often used film, music, and poetry

Other comments about this course:

.....

25. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

26. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

27. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #2

The European Union

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Middlebury College in Florence

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

one term paper, mid term, final

Describe course content

we discussed the origins of the EU, its structure, its function, and its future

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

the class was a lecture

Other comments about this course:

the professoressa was amazing and extremely knowledgeable

28. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

29. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

30. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #3

Internship as English teacher at elementary schools

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

i had to keep a log of my experiences and be evaluated by the teachers i worked with

Describe course content

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Other comments about this course:

i was responsible for teaching my own english/ american culture lessons sometimes but usually i acted more as an assistant to the teachers

31. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

32. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

33. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #4

European History 1492-1789, modules 1 and 2

At which institution/university did you take this course?

UNiversity of Florence

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

final oral exam

Describe course content

the first module was a general history of europe while the second focused on france, the valois kings, poland, and the role of france and the valois kings in poland

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

lecture

Other comments about this course:

i'm used to a lecture class but this course was extremely challenging as the teacher was a bit disorganized and spoke very fast!

34. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

35. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

36. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #5

History of Florence 13th -16th centuries

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Middlebury College in Florence

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

one term paper, midterm, final

Describe course content

we discussed everything related to the history of florence from the ruling families to religion to art

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

lecture and tours of historic florentine sites

Other comments about this course:

this course was an amazing view into the history of florence and made me feel very well acquainted with the city

37. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

38. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

39. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #6

Europe and the Middle East

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Middlebury College in Florence

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

papers, exams, presentations

Describe course content

we discussed relations between europe and turkey, iraq, and iran in the late 19th and 20th centuries. we also discussed America because we're pretty much unavoidable in that region...

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

the class was lecture style

Other comments about this course:

.....

40. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

41. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

42. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #7

Modern Italian History

At which institution/university did you take this course?

The University of Florence

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

final oral exam

Describe course content

we discussed Italy right after its unification-- we learned about changes with the language, beaurocratic structure, the army, culture, etc

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

lecture

Other comments about this course:

this class was SO hard because i was completely unfamiliar with the jargon and also because the teacher assumed students had a fairly in depth knowledge of modern italian history and italian social and governmental structures

43. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

44. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

45. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #8

History of the Risorgimento (Unification of Italy)

At which institution/university did you take this course?

University of Florence

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

one final oral exam

Describe course content

we discussed the situation in Italy and Europe in the 19th century as well as the cultural climate that led up to the unification of Italy. We did not discuss but had to read about the various battles that took place over a span of twenty or so years that led to the actual physical unification.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

lecture

Other comments about this course:

The professor for this class was extremely interesting but he too assumed at the start that all students had a basic knowledge of the Risorgimento. His class served more as a more in-depth look into it.

46. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

47. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

48. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #9

History of Political Doctrines, modules 1 and 2

At which institution/university did you take this course?

University of Florence

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

final oral exam

Describe course content

the first module was a general overview of the history of political thought beginning in ancient greece and ending more or less with marxism, the second module centered on marxist thought and its offsprings

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

lecture

Other comments about this course:

this course would have been difficult even in english but it was very interesting and rewarding

49. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

50. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

51. Did Middlebury provide you with an appropriate orientation on arrival?

	Poor		Good		Excellent
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

52. Did Middlebury provide you with sufficient support while you were abroad?

Poor

Good

Excellent

53. Were the on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) helpful to you during your study abroad?

Not helpful

Somewhat helpful

Very helpful

54. Did you see or experience any form of discrimination or harassment in your host country?

Yes

No

55. If you answered yes to the question above, what advice would you give to future students? Likewise, if you have advice for Middlebury staff, please share that as well.

People assumed that I couldn't speak English because I was American. (Not in the schools obviously but almost daily around town.)

56. Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

Yes

No

Please explain:

Florence is an amazing city to live in!

57. What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

Ferrara has the reputation of being the more serious choice for study abroad in Italy but my time in Florence was definitely challenging. I still had the direct enroll experience but was able to balance its large classes based almost solely on memorization with smaller, more interactive classes at the Middlebury sede.

58. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you attend Middlebury's on-campus pre-departure orientation meeting(s)?

Yes

No

59. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you find the pre-departure meetings and handouts useful?

Yes

No

N/A - Did not attend meetings

60. ALL STUDENTS: What aspects of the pre-departure process did you find particularly useful (or not), and how would you recommend that we improve the pre-departure meeting or supplemental materials?

honestly it was a good pre-departure process but its all papers and anecdotes until you're really there to see it and live it for yourself!

1. Home Institution

Middlebury College

Other Institution

If other than Middlebury, please indicate your home institution:

.....

2. Your academic program

Major

IS

Month & Year of (expected) graduation

Feb '09.5

3. What was the period of your study abroad?

fall semester

spring semester

academic year

spring semester followed by fall semester

4. Given that educational systems abroad differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on your learning, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment?

I remember that it was somewhat difficult to begin with because of both inadequate facilities and long lecture style classes, but after a bit of patience and some laughs one adjusts to the longer classes and "italian style" . in the end I found that I learned as much, if not more from the chaos that is the italian educational system.

5. AFTER studying abroad, how do you now view the differences/similarities between the culture of your host country and that of your own?

	Identical	Very Similar	Mostly Similar	Somewhat Different	Very Different
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6. Please Comment:

At the end of the day we are both western societies, but still many of their values, mindsets and approaches to problems really do vary from our own. For instance the idea of the "bella figura"

7. In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What personal characteristics did you find most useful during your time abroad?

I grew alot during my time abroad. It was the first time that I went appartment hunting, payed monthy bills, cooked for myself every night and created a life outside a school environment. I think the most useful characteristics where patience, curiosity, and the ability to not take everything so seriously.

8. How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

I now know that I enjoy living in Italy and Italian culture so will probaly continue studying it and maybe will look to living there in the future.

9. What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
- Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
- Apartment
- Other (please describe)

10. Do you feel that your housing situation provided you with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided you a context for gaining insight into the host culture?

Not at all - it was isolating

Somewhat helpful, but less than I expected

As helpful as I expected

Somewhat more helpful than I'd expected

Very helpful in terms of fostering insights and/or my integration

11. Please comment on your response to the question above.

I live with an Italian grad student and an Albanian immigrant, both welcomed me into their friend group and were more than willing to discuss their thoughts on italian culture.

12. Did you take courses alongside students from the host country?

- Yes
- No

13. If you answered yes to the question above, how well do you feel that your mainstream classes helped you to develop relationships with nationals of the host country or integrate into the host culture?

- Poor
- Neutral
- Helpful
- Very Helpful
- Not Applicable

Comments

.....

14. Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

- Yes
- No

15. If you answered yes to the question above, were your extra-curricular activities helpful in assisting your integration into the host culture?

- | | Not helpful at all | Only slightly helpful | Somewhat helpful | helpful | Very helpful |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

16. Please describe the extra-curricular activities or internship in which you participated, and make any additional comments about these activities that you think would be helpful to Middlebury staff or future students.

I stayed in Italy for the summer working in 2 very differnt jobs. for the first part of the summer i worked as an au pair for a family. For the second half I was an intern at the US consulate in Naples where I worked alongside both american officers and local staff.

17. What kind of progress did you make in your listening comprehension of the language?

- | | No improvement | Little improvement | Improved somewhat | Improved | Very much improved |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

18. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to read in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

19. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to write in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

20. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to speak in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

21. Please comment on the progress you made in your target language. Was it greater or less than you had expected? What do you think were some of the factors that contributed to your progress (or lack thereof), either on your own part or on the part of the program? Do you have any specific suggestions for the program and/or for future students that pertain to language learning?

The element that improved the most is my ability to understand Italian, I think this is thanks to the fact that I spent lots of time with Italians and they never really tried to speak in english with me, unlike in france, where I am now, where all people want to do is practice their english.

22. Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students?

Yes

No

Please explain:

oral exams/what you learn is up to you

23. Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

Yes

No

Please explain:

what you learn is up to you

24. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #1

Contemporary Italian History

At which institution/university did you take this course?

University of Florence

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

oral exam

Please describe the course content:

process of unification from french revolution through policies of italy's historic parties to create italians

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

lecture

Other comments about this course:

was 2 different courses but only earns one credit

25. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

26. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

27. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #2

History of the Church

At which institution/university did you take this course?

University of Florence

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

oral exam

Describe course content

History of the churches reaction to modernity from the french revolution and the politicalization of religous devotions

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

lecture

Other comments about this course:

2 courses

28. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

29. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

30. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #3

Political history of middle east and europe

At which institution/university did you take this course?

middlebury

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

exams, an hour presentation

Describe course content

iraq, iran, turkey

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

lecture

Other comments about this course:

.....

31. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

32. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

33. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #4

Italian writing

At which institution/university did you take this course?

middlbury

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

papers, exams, an oral presentation

Describe course content

writing theory

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Other comments about this course:

34. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

35. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

36. Did Middlebury provide you with an appropriate orientation on arrival?

	Poor		Good		Excellent
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

37. Did Middlebury provide you with sufficient support while you were abroad?

Poor

Good

Excellent

38. Were the on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) helpful to you during your study abroad?

Not helpful

Somewhat helpful

Very helpful

39. Did you see or experience any form of discrimination or harassment in your host country?

Yes

No

40. Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

Yes

No

Please explain:

.....

41. What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

I would recommend that students just don't discount Florence because they think they won't meet Italians, it is a bit harder because it is not as small as Ferrara, but it is a success really depends on the individual

42. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you attend Middlebury's on-campus pre-departure orientation meeting(s)?

Yes

No

43. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you find the pre-departure meetings and handouts useful?

Yes

No

N/A - Did not attend meetings

44. ALL STUDENTS: What aspects of the pre-departure process did you find particularly useful (or not), and how would you recommend that we improve the pre-departure meeting or supplemental materials?

i enjoyed talking with the students who had just gotten back

1. Home Institution

Middlebury College

Other Institution

If other than Middlebury, please indicate your home institution:

Yale University

2. Your academic program

Major

Italian

Month & Year of (expected) graduation

May 2009

3. What was the period of your study abroad?

fall semester

spring semester

academic year

spring semester followed by fall semester

4. Given that educational systems abroad differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on your learning, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment?

It was wonderful being in a different academic environment. Taking courses in the US that have to do with other cultures is certainly expanding, but with studying abroad you realize that there are entirely different frameworks and modes of discourse in other countries and other languages that you could have never known about had you remained in the US.

5. AFTER studying abroad, how do you now view the differences/similarities between the culture of your host country and that of your own?

	Identical	Very Similar	Mostly Similar	Somewhat Different	Very Different
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

6. Please Comment:

I think Italians make everyday life much more of an occasion, celebrating the cyclical nature of life in food, friends and family. Americans are much more driven by accomplishment, which feed off of a more linear view of things in which we celebrate only pinnacle moments.

7. In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What personal characteristics did you find most useful during your time abroad?

I loved learning how to travel on my own and adapt to new situations in which I knew no one and little about the place I was in.

8. How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

I would love to return to Italy. I want to wholeheartedly embrace the Italian way of life, honoring family, friends and food.

9. What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
- Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
- Apartment
- Other (please describe)

10. Do you feel that your housing situation provided you with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided you a context for gaining insight into the host culture?

Not at all - it was isolating

Somewhat helpful, but less than I expected

As helpful as I expected

Somewhat more helpful than I'd expected

Very helpful in terms of fostering insights and/or my integration

11. Please comment on your response to the question above.

Our landlady was not extremely helpful and her daughter with whom we lived was pretty solitary, though very nice.

12. Did you take courses alongside students from the host country?

- Yes
- No

13. If you answered yes to the question above, how well do you feel that your mainstream classes helped you to develop relationships with nationals of the host country or integrate into the host culture?

- Poor
- Neutral
- Helpful
- Very Helpful
- Not Applicable

Comments

it was hard to do in one semester

14. Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

- Yes
- No

15. What kind of progress did you make in your listening comprehension of the language?

- | No improvement | Little improvement | Improved somewhat | Improved | Very much improved |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

16. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to read in the language?

- | No improvement | Little improvement | Improved somewhat | Improved | Very much improved |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

17. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to write in the language?

- | No improvement | Little improvement | Improved somewhat | Improved | Very much improved |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

18. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to speak in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

19. Please comment on the progress you made in your target language. Was it greater or less than you had expected? What do you think were some of the factors that contributed to your progress (or lack thereof), either on your own part or on the part of the program? Do you have any specific suggestions for the program and/or for future students that pertain to language learning?

I made great progress, though am eager to return and make more progress.

20. Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students?

Yes

No

Please explain:

all wonderful - Middlebury gets excellent teachers

21. Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

Yes

No

Please explain:

.....

22. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #1

History of Art in Renaissance Florence

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Middlebury

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

exams, papers

Please describe the course content:

looked at art slides

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

slides

Other comments about this course:

great

23. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

24. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

25. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #2

History of Renaissance Florence

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Middlebury

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

papers, exams

Describe course content

history

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

lecture

Other comments about this course:

.....

26. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

27. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

28. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #3

Writing

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Middlebury

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

papers, exams

Describe course content

improvement of our writing

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

discussion, reading, grammar

Other comments about this course:

.....

29. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

30. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

31. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #4

Historical Geography

At which institution/university did you take this course?

University of Florence

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Final oral exam

Describe course content

relationship of man with his environment, in tuscanly

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

lecture

Other comments about this course:

challenging

32. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

33. Did Middlebury provide you with an appropriate orientation on arrival?

	Poor		Good		Excellent
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

34. Did Middlebury provide you with sufficient support while you were abroad?

	Poor		Good		Excellent
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

35. Were the on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) helpful to you during your study abroad?

Not helpful

Somewhat helpful

Very helpful

36. Did you see or experience any form of discrimination or harassment in your host country?

Yes

No

37. If you answered yes to the question above, what advice would you give to future students? Likewise, if you have advice for Middlebury staff, please share that as well.

Speak Italian as much as you can! They really appreciate it and it makes you stand out from many of the students who come to Florence and don't learn the language.

38. Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

Yes

No

Please explain:

.....

39. What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

STUDY ABROAD. It is absolutely the best thing that you can do for yourself.

40. ALL STUDENTS: What aspects of the pre-departure process did you find particularly useful (or not), and how would you recommend that we improve the pre-departure meeting or supplemental materials?

More info on places in the city to see.

41. How did you learn of the Middlebury program? (Check all that apply.)

- searching the web
- a friend who attended a Middlebury program
- a friend (who did not attend a Middlebury program)
- a sibling or other family member
- a faculty member at my college/university
- by attending the Middlebury Language Schools
- a study abroad fair
- a study abroad office/adviser
- a news article

Other

.....

42. Why did you choose this particular program and site?

I really liked that all middlebury's classes were in italian and that you would get to take a class at the University of Florence. I also just loved Florence.

43. Did your expectations of the program as advertised before you went abroad match the reality of your experience during your study abroad?

- Completely matched
- Was what I expected for the most part
- Was somewhat different from what I expected
- Was vastly different than what I'd expected

Comments

in a wonderful way

44. Did you receive acceptance and pre-departure information in a timely fashion?

- Yes
- No

45. Did you find the mailings and online resources useful?

- Yes
- No

1. Home Institution

Middlebury College

Other Institution

If other than Middlebury, please indicate your home institution:

.....

2. Your academic program

Major

History of Art and Architecture

Month & Year of (expected) graduation

May 2009

3. What was the period of your study abroad?

fall semester

spring semester

academic year

spring semester followed by fall semester

4. Given that educational systems abroad differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on your learning, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment?

There was a lot less student involvement in classes than what I have experienced at Middlebury. Classes focused more on the memorization of many different things (in my case, art and architecture) and did not involve very much, if any, critical thinking. It gave me a different perspective on education and forced to truly learn a lot of material.

5. AFTER studying abroad, how do you now view the differences/similarities between the culture of your host country and that of your own?

	Identical	Very Similar	Mostly Similar	Somewhat Different	Very Different
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

6. Please Comment:

I cam to Italy with the expectation that although American and Italian cultures have their differences, they are generally pretty similar. This made my adjustment a bit harder as I realized that although they seem superficially similar, they are actually very different. And these differences were often subtle but very present.

7. In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What personal characteristics did you find most useful during your time abroad?

Living essentially on my own and not within the tight knit community of Middlebury contributed to my personal growth as did the challenges of learning to adjust to a different environment and the struggle to really delve into something I had never experienced before

8. How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

I was able to see a lot of art and architecture and understand it in a different way. Learning about these things in a different country, especially the one in which they exist, gave me an entirely new perspective.

9. What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
- Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
- Apartment
- Other (please describe)

10. Do you feel that your housing situation provided you with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided you a context for gaining insight into the host culture?

	Not at all - it was isolating	Somewhat helpful, but less than I expected	As helpful as I expected	Somewhat more helpful than I'd expected	Very helpful in terms of fostering insights and/or my integration
--	-------------------------------	--	--------------------------	---	---

-
-
-
-
-

11. Please comment on your response to the question above.

As stated above, it would have been nice to live with other students and be able to experience the social scene with people of my age. My housemates were a couple who were rather closed and seemed to view my presence as a burden. There was also a sense of hierarchy when I had to pay them, rather than a situation where I live with other students and we all pay the landlord.

12. Did you take courses alongside students from the host country?

- Yes
- No

13. If you answered yes to the question above, how well do you feel that your mainstream classes helped you to develop relationships with nationals of the host country or integrate into the host culture?

- Poor
- Neutral
- Helpful
- Very Helpful
- Not Applicable

Comments

.....

14. Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

- Yes
- No

15. What kind of progress did you make in your listening comprehension of the language?

- | No improvement | Little improvement | Improved somewhat | Improved | Very much improved |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

16. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to read in the language?

- | No improvement | Little improvement | Improved somewhat | Improved | Very much improved |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

17. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to write in the language?

- | No improvement | Little improvement | Improved somewhat | Improved | Very much improved |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

18. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to speak in the language?

No
improvement

Little
improvement

Improved
somewhat

Improved

Very much
improved

19. Please comment on the progress you made in your target language. Was it greater or less than you had expected? What do you think were some of the factors that contributed to your progress (or lack thereof), either on your own part or on the part of the program? Do you have any specific suggestions for the program and/or for future students that pertain to language learning?

I think that just talking to people in Italian all the time was what really contributed to my ability to speak the language. Readings also gave me a wider vocabulary and the ability to write better.

20. Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students?

Yes

No

Please explain:

.....

21. Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

Yes

No

Please explain:

.....

22. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #1

History of Florence

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Starr Middlebury School

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

exams, papers

Please describe the course content:

lectures and very little reading

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

well done lectures

Other comments about this course:

.....

23. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

24. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

25. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #2

Writing

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Starr Middlebury

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

quizzes, homework, papers

Describe course content

lectures, games, reading

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

see above

Other comments about this course:

.....

26. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

27. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

28. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #3

History of Art and Architecture Greek to Gothic

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Florence University

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

exam

Describe course content

lectures and reading

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

teacher lectured and expected a lot of outside reading

Other comments about this course:

.....

29. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

30. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

31. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #4

Architecture Independent Studio

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Starr Middlebury School

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

projects

Describe course content

Professor gave one on one lectures and readings and taught a lot of technical and conceptual ideas

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

the one on one level was very useful

Other comments about this course:

.....

32. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

33. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

34. Did Middlebury provide you with an appropriate orientation on arrival?

	Poor		Good		Excellent
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

35. Did Middlebury provide you with sufficient support while you were abroad?

Poor

Good

Excellent

36. Were the on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) helpful to you during your study abroad?

Not helpful

Somewhat helpful

Very helpful

37. Did you see or experience any form of discrimination or harassment in your host country?

Yes

No

38. If you answered yes to the question above, what advice would you give to future students? Likewise, if you have advice for Middlebury staff, please share that as well.

Do not pay attention to cat calls.

39. Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

Yes

No

Please explain:

especially for those who wish to study history of art and who would like to have a more city-like experience

40. What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

Be prepared to have large expenses

41. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you attend Middlebury's on-campus pre-departure orientation meeting(s)?

Yes

No

42. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you find the pre-departure meetings and handouts useful?

Yes

No

N/A - Did not attend meetings

43. ALL STUDENTS: What aspects of the pre-departure process did you find particularly useful (or not), and how would you recommend that we improve the pre-departure meeting or supplemental materials?

talking with other students was helpful.