

I/O Psychology: Intercultural Consulting with Communities and Organizations

Spring 2024 Graduate Program

Visit <http://meredith.edu/oip> for Study Abroad 101, Study Abroad Advising, and Funding Workshops.

Application Deadline

Program applications accepted until **December 1, 2023**. Click "[Apply to Study Abroad](#)" to begin your application.

Dates

May 1 - May 12, 2024

Locations

Based in the heart of Tuscany, in Sansepolcro, Italy. Group excursions include a two-day trip to Florence, in addition to local day trips to Anghiari and surrounding regions.

Student Voices

"The I/O Psychology study abroad program was the best introduction to Italy that I could have hoped for! It was a wonderfully curated trip that invited me to appreciate the beauty and history of Italy through an authentic lens...looking at life, culture, and work through the perspective of the people of Sansepolcro and the surrounding Tuscany region." - Luisa Jaramillo, Summer 2022

Academics

PSYG 614: Intercultural Consulting with Communities and Organizations (3 credits)

Fulfills I/O program elective

The course is meant to give students hands-on experience with community and organizational consulting in another country. There will be a particular focus on gaining the intercultural and professional skills students will need when interacting with clients in diverse professional contexts. Students will gain an understanding of how national and cultural similarities and differences affect how one assesses and tackles organizational challenges. Through pre-departure readings and assignments, students will prepare pre-capture/desk study analyses and focus questions in preparation for site visits in-country. In-country assignments will be context-based and interactive. The format will include interviews, meetings with organizational leaders, excursions, and site visits with established community partners.

Faculty

Director: Dr. Joseph Mazzola

Associate Professor of Psychology and Program Director, I/O Psychology Master of Arts,
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Faculty: Dr. Jenna McChesney

Assistant Professor of I/O Psychology, jemcchesney@meredith.edu

Program Overview

Intercultural Consulting with Communities and Organizations is a 10-day program conducted in the picturesque Tuscany region of Italy. During this intensive elective, you will develop intercultural relationship-building skills and proficiency in community and organizational consulting through interactions with local business owners and community leaders.

Our journey will begin in Sansepolcro, Italy, a small medieval walled town located in the heart of Tuscany about halfway between Florence and Rome. You will spend time among the many rustic and ancient buildings of Sansepolcro, truly gaining a sense of what it is like to live in this exquisite country.

While in Sansepolcro and surrounding communities, you will interact with Meredith's established network of community partners, learning about industries at the heart of the Italian economy, such as wine and olive oil production, agritourism, textile manufacturing, and hospitality. Through these relationships, you will grow to understand not only the businesses that fuel the Italian economy but come to know the people who make the Tuscan region such an extraordinary place. The program will conclude in Florence, where you will see the integration of various influences into the Italian culture and economy.

As a future I/O professional, this program will provide you with invaluable experience in how to prepare for and conduct in-country site visits, as well as prepare consulting reports which will be shared back with our Italian partners. In other words, you will be participating in real intercultural consulting. Through this scaffolded program, you will gain cultural awareness and applied skills that can only be obtained through travel, application, and immersion.

Cost

\$2,950 includes:

- \$100 non-refundable application deposit
- Fulfillment of three credit hour elective requirement
- Accommodations in Italy
- Weekday breakfasts and lunches
- Academic excursions to Florence, Anghiari, vineyard, olive farm, and more
- On-site support from Meredith faculty

Additional expenses include:

- Round-trip airfare: \$2,000
- Passport, if applicable: \$165 + \$10 ETIAS visa
- International health insurance: \$55
- International cell phone plan: \$50
- Independent travel and personal spending money: \$500-1,000

Note: Estimates are based on previous student reports. Your spending habits may differ.

Scholarships and Financial Aid

Additional study abroad funding is available. Access the scholarship application at <http://meredith.edu/oip>. **Scholarship deadline: December 1, 2023.**

COVID-19 Protocols

The Office of International Programs strongly recommends all program participants arrive vaccinated against COVID-19 and up to date with all recommended boosters. The OIP will continue to implement ongoing COVID-19 mitigation and response measures in faculty-led study abroad programs.

Meredith College Office of International Programs reserves the right to make changes to the program itinerary, program capacity limits, schedule, cost, academic program, etc., as necessary.