

## Italy: War and Fascism Summer 2018



Venice!

History professors Jane Wickersham and Melissa Stockdale will lead this program on Italy and the World Wars. World War I, the first “total war,” profoundly shaped the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Italy’s participation in World War I led directly to Mussolini’s creation of fascism as a political movement, his domination of the Italian state, and the country’s involvement in World War II. Both courses will address Italy’s participation in the most important European events of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The program begins with time in Rome, introducing the participants to Italian history and culture. The Coliseum and the Forum, as well as the Piazza Venezia, site of Mussolini’s most famous speeches, and Rome’s World War I memorial [are](#) included in the walking tours the students will take while there.

After Rome, the group will travel by train to Arezzo, the site of OU’s center in Italy and

the base for the majority of the program.

Students live in hotel rooms or apartments shared with at least one other participant. Breakfast is provided where the students stay, and meal vouchers for dinner are included in the program cost, to be used at various local restaurants. Students are on their own for lunch.

Classes are held Monday through Thursday in Arezzo, although some Fridays are used for day trips. The group will make two day trips, to Florence and Lucca, taking the train there and back each of those days. The program ends with two days and nights in the area of Padua and Venice.

An open three-day weekend during the program allows for independent travel within Italy or elsewhere.

The application process uses “rolling” admissions, with 24 places available for students. Applicants need to meet with [Karen Elmore](#), Director of International Programs for the College of Arts and Sciences, before completing an online application. Attendance at a Study Abroad 101 session is also required.



Arezzo Piazza Grande