

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA STUDY ABROAD CONSORTIUM

NEWSLETTER

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WEEK 5 IN FLORENCE

THIS PAST WEEK...

This past week, students enjoyed a weekend in Venice with AIFS staff. They also attended a lecture for their Italian Life & Culture course on A Brief History Since the Unification, followed by a Thursday walking tour focused on Fascism in Florence.

During this season, students are quite busy with classes, academic work, social life, in-person visits, traveling, and more. This week provided a chance to rest and catch up on various activities.



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ILC LECTURE & TOUR

On Tuesday, students attended a lecture on A Brief History Since the Unification, covering the birth of the Italian state in 1861 through to the present day. The discussion explored why these events remain relevant today, what Italian history reveals about modern society, and the historical roots of regionalism.

This was followed by a walking tour on Thursday, focusing on Florence during the 1930s and 1940s and the impact of Fascism on the city.



A WEEKEND IN VENICE

This past weekend, students traveled to Venice on a high-speed train with AIFS staff. Upon arriving on Friday, they checked into their hotel in the city center and had time for lunch. Afterward, they took part in a historical walking tour of Venice. The evening was then free for students to explore at their leisure.

On Saturday morning, they took a private boat to the island of Murano, where they observed the ancient art of glassblowing, a craft that originated on the island. What an incredible experience (pictured below)! The rest of the evening and the following day were free, allowing students time to explore before traveling back to Florence on Sunday evening.



THIS COMING WEEK...

This week, students are focused on quizzes, exams, projects, and presentations as spring break begins this weekend. Time flies—we're already halfway through the semester!

In the Visual Theory and Practice – Ceramic Arts course, a guest model will be posing for students working with clay.

Meanwhile, the Media 10 class will attend a screening of *The Truffle Hunters* at Spazio Alfieri, a theater in Florence.

On Tuesday, students will take part in an ILC walking tour exploring the myths, hidden treasures, and legends of Florence, followed by Thursday seminars with NCSAC professors.

A busy week before students head off for spring break! Stay tuned for a brief update next week.

