

# ITALY AND TRANSNATIONAL EDUCATION

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*This survey on Transnational Education (TNE) gives a set of information on how this issue has developed in relation to Italy in recent years.*

*It consists of 4 chapters concerning:*

- I. Italy as TNE importer*
- II. Italy as TNE exporter*
- III. International institutions operating in Italy*
- IV. Italian regulations on TNE*

*The survey reflects CIMEA's studies and research on the topic.*

## I. ITALY AS A TNE IMPORTER

The main typologies of imported TNE in Italy are: branch campuses, filiations, off-shore institutions, multinational corporate universities, distance learning and virtual universities.

### 1. Branch campuses

A campus established in Italy by a foreign higher education institution. It offers its own educational programmes/qualifications, irrespective of the students' provenience.

Examples of branch campuses in Italy are:

\* THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY - The Bologna Center, Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, Bologna (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://www.jhubc.it>

\* ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY, Rome Campus (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://new.stjohns.edu>

\* THE LINK CAMPUS UNIVERSITY OF MALTA (Malta)

It has a few special agreements with some Italian universities.

Web Site: <http://www.unilink.it>

### 2. Filiations

A peculiarity of Italy, mainly due to her unique cultural, artistic and architectural heritage, is to attract foreign students, at undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate level, wishing to deepen their knowledge in Italian art, architecture, design and culture *lato sensu*.

The following list consists mainly of filiations of U.S. institutions which offer various programmes lasting from a few weeks to a full academic year. They generally grant credits to be transferred to the respective home institutions; usually, they do not award diplomas or degrees.

There are three different types of filiations: institutions open to students enrolled at any foreign universities, institutions open exclusively to students enrolled at the home universities, institutions resulting from multilateral agreements amongst US universities.

Institutions open to students enrolled in any foreign universities

Examples of such institutions are:

THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY, Graduate Research Center on Europe, Trento (U.S.A.)

It results from a bilateral agreement between the University of Trento and the American University

Web Site: <http://www.american.edu/academic.depts/sis/trento>

FAIRFIELD UNIVERSITY FLORENCE PROGRAM (U.S.A.), High School

Web Site: <http://www.fairfield.edu/sce/studyabroad/florence.htm>

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY FLORENCE PROGRAM (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://www.international.fsu.edu>

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, FLORENCE (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://www.villalebalze.org>

GONZAGA UNIVERSITY, FLORENCE (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://www.gonzaga.edu/studiesabroad/florence.cfm>

HARDING UNIVERSITY, FLORENCE (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://www.harding.edu/international/huf.html>

PITZER COLLEGE IN ITALY, PARMA (U.S.A.)

Web Site: [http://www.pitzer.edu/academics/ilcenter/external\\_studies/italy.htm](http://www.pitzer.edu/academics/ilcenter/external_studies/italy.htm)

RICHMOND, THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY IN LONDON - FLORENCE PROGRAM (U.S.A.)

Web Site: [http://www.richmond.ac.uk/undergraduates/special\\_programs/florence.asp](http://www.richmond.ac.uk/undergraduates/special_programs/florence.asp)

[http://www.richmond.ac.uk/ma/studying\\_florence.html](http://www.richmond.ac.uk/ma/studying_florence.html)

RICHMOND, THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY IN LONDON - ROME PROGRAM (c/o DILIT International House) (U.S.A.)

Web Site: [http://www.richmond.ac.uk/undergraduates/special\\_programs/rome.asp](http://www.richmond.ac.uk/undergraduates/special_programs/rome.asp)

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY JUNIOR YEAR IN ITALY, FLORENCE (U.S.A.)

Web Site: [http://studyabroad.rutgers.edu/program\\_it\\_florence\\_yr.html](http://studyabroad.rutgers.edu/program_it_florence_yr.html)

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE ROME PROGRAM (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://www.saintmarys.edu/~modlangs/rome.html>

SMITH COLLEGE, FLORENCE (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://www.smith.edu/studyabroad/jya/florence.html>

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY, SYRACUSE SEMESTER IN ITALY, FLORENCE (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://www.syr.fi.it/new/index.html>

THE HARVARD UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR ITALIAN RENAISSANCE STUDIES (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://www.itatti.it>

THE VERGILIAN SOCIETY OF AMERICA (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://www.vergil.clarku.edu>

TRINITY COLLEGE - CESARE BARBIERI CENTER, ROME (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://www.trincoll.edu>

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT FLORENCE STUDY PROGRAM (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://www.uconn.edu>

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA STUDIES ABROAD PROGRAM AT CORTONA (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://www.visart.uga.edu/cortona/html>

UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS BERNARDI CAMPUS (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://www.stthomas.edu/rome>

Institutions open exclusively to students enrolled in the home university

Examples of such institutions are:

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM IN FLORENCE (U.S.A.)

Web Site: [www.calstate.edu](http://www.calstate.edu)

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA

Web Site: <http://www.cua.edu>

CORNELL UNIVERSITY (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://www.rome.cornell.edu>

DARTMOUTH COLLEGE, ROME (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://www.dartmouth.edu>

DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Web Site: <http://www.oia.duq.edu/icampus/home.htm>

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY, ROME (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://www.design.iastate.edu/ROME>

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY PROGRAM IN ITALY, FLORENCE (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://www.jmu.edu/international/studyabroad/firenze.html>

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY – FLORENCE (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://dept.kent.edu/cicp/italy/index.htm>

MONASH UNIVERSITY IN PRATO (Australia)

Web Site: <http://www.ita.monash.edu>

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY, “The Austin E. Knowlton School of Architecture Study Abroad Program in Italy” Web Site: <http://www.osu.edu/index.php>

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY IN FLORENCE (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://www.nyu.edu/global/florence>

PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY, ROME (U.S.A.)

Web Site: [http://www.international.psu.edu/students\\_study\\_abroad/prog\\_region\\_europe.htm#Italy](http://www.international.psu.edu/students_study_abroad/prog_region_europe.htm#Italy)

RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://www.risd.edu/risdabroad.cfm>

STANFORD UNIVERSITY, FLORENCE (U.S.A.)

Web Site: [www.stanford.firenze.it](http://www.stanford.firenze.it)

VASSAR COLLEGE (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://italian.vassar.edu/index.html> <http://italian.vassar.edu/siena.html>

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS, ROME PROGRAM (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://www.arkrome.it>

UNIVERSITY OF DALLAS (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://acad.udallas.edu/rome/academic.html>

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON ROME CENTER (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://depts.washington.edu/roma>

### Institutions resulting from multilateral agreements amongst US universities

Examples of such institutions are:

THE SACI, Bowling Green State University Studio Arts Centers International, Florence (U.S.A.)

Web Site: <http://www.saci-florence.org>

DUKE UNIVERSITY CENTER IN ROME (U.S.A.)

Web Site: [http://www.aas.duke.edu/study\\_abroad/iccs/index.php](http://www.aas.duke.edu/study_abroad/iccs/index.php)

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, FLORENCE (University of Michigan - University of Wisconsin - Duke University) (U.S.A.) Web Sites: <http://www.umich.edu> <http://www.wisc.edu> <http://www.duke.edu>

### **3. Off-shore institutions**

They are autonomous institutions established in Italy but belonging, in terms of their organisation and contents, to the educational systems of other countries; some are accredited by regional or national accrediting commissions in the U.S.; some may have articulation agreements with other educational institutions in the country to which they belong.

Examples of such institutions are:

THE AUR, AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ROME

Web Site: <http://www.aur.edu>

THE JOHN CABOT UNIVERSITY

Web Site: <http://www.johncabot.edu>

### **4. Multinational corporate universities**

These institutions are usually parts of big transnational corporations and organise their own higher education study programmes offering qualifications which do not belong to any national system.

Examples of such institutions are:

THE ST UNIVERSITY IN CATANIA, being the corporation the French-Italian company STMicroelectronics Web Site: <http://www.st.com/stonline/company/stu/staff.htm>

ENI CORPORATE UNIVERSITY Web Site: <[www.enicorporateuniversity.it](http://www.enicorporateuniversity.it)>

## 5. Distance learning and virtual universities

Institutions where the learner, who self-administers the learning process at home, is provided with course materials via post or web-based solutions.

An example of such institutions is:

The OPEN UNIVERSITY OF LONDON, with a virtual branch in Milan

Web Site: <http://www.open.ac.uk>

## II. ITALY AS A TNE EXPORTER

The main typologies of exported Italian TNE are: branch campuses, and virtual universities.

### 1. Branch campuses

The UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA has a branch campus operation in Argentina, regulated by a bilateral agreement.

Web Site: [www.unibo.it/Portale/Struttura+organizzativa/Buenos+Aires/default.htm](http://www.unibo.it/Portale/Struttura+organizzativa/Buenos+Aires/default.htm)

The UNIVERSITY OF BARI offers postgraduate programmes in Argentina on the basis of a bilateral agreement.

Web Site: [www.uniba.it](http://www.uniba.it)

### 2. Virtual universities

Italy has recently established a new category of higher education institutions, that is telematic universities (*università telematiche*). In 2004 the first telematic institution has been authorised to set up official degree courses; it is named *Università telematica Guglielmo Marconi*.

Italy has also authorised three main consortia for distance learning. They, made up of universities and companies, are: Nettuno, Forcom, Icon. Each of them provides technical tools, teaching/learning materials and tutorial assistance. Individual students enroll at one of the member universities, and are awarded a degree coming under the Italian university legislation.

The classification of these institutions as TNE providers depends on one the following on elements:

- their educational offerings are specifically devised for students outside Italy;
- non-Italian universities are members of the consortium
- technical assistance centres are located outside Italy.

These institutions are:

UNIVERSITÀ TELEMATICA GUGLIELMO MARCONI

Web Site: [www.unimarconi.it](http://www.unimarconi.it)

CONSORZIO NETTUNO

Web Site: [www.uninettuno.it](http://www.uninettuno.it)

CONSORZIO FORCOM

Web Site: [www.forcom.it](http://www.forcom.it)

CONSORZIO ICON (ITALIAN CULTURE ON THE NET)

Web Site: <http://www.italicon.it>

### III. INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS OPERATING IN ITALY

Italy hosts a number of institutions offering "international" programmes/qualifications which do not belong to any specific educational system. They:

- may have been established in Italy on the basis of an agreement between Italian competent authorities and the supporting governmental international organisation/s;
- may have been established in Italy on the basis of a governmental agreement between Italy and other countries;
- may have branch campuses in several countries.

Examples of such institutions are:

EUI, EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE IN FLORENCE

Web Site: <http://www.iue.it>

VIU, VENICE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Web Site: <http://www.univiu.org>

ICGEB, INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR GENETIC ENGINEERING AND BIOTECHNOLOGY IN TRIESTE

Web Site: <http://www.icgeb.trieste.it>

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY CENTRE FOR CULTURAL HERITAGE IN RAVELLO

Web Site: <http://www.cuebc.amalficoast.it>

CISM, INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR MECHANICAL SCIENCES IN UDINE

Web Site: <http://www.cism.it>

ICPT, INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR THEORETICAL PHYSICS

Web Site: <http://www.ictp.trieste.it>

ICCROM, INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF THE PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY

Web Site: <http://www.iccrom.org>

ROSTE, UNESCO REGIONAL BUREAU FOR SCIENCE IN EUROPE IN VENICE

Web Site: <http://www.unesco.org/venice>

EAEME, EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT EDUCATION,

Web Site: <http://web.jrc.cec.eu.int/asso-eaeme>

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR ADVANCED MEDITERRANEAN AGRONOMIC STUDIES or "Centre international de Hautes Etudes Agronomiques Méditerranéennes" (CHIEAM)

Web Site: <http://www.iamb.it>

### IV. ITALIAN REGULATIONS ON TNE

Here below the Italian legislation is recorded that deals with TNE matters in relation to Italy. Legal provisions are listed in chronological order.

#### Exemption from fiscal duties

LAW 7 APRIL 1989 NO. 154, ART. 34, PARAGRAPH 8-BIS

Foreign universities are exempted from the payment of VAT with reference to their educational transactions.

### **Authorisation of foreign educational and cultural institutions**

PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 389 OF 18 APRIL 1994

The decree simplifies the proceedings for the authorisation of institutions of the above mentioned categories. Two different procedures are defined concerning respectively the authorisation of institutions from Eu member states and those from non-Eu countries. The decree provides for the regular supervision of the institutions by the competent Italian State authorities (Ministry of Education, Ministry of Cultural Assets).

### **Authorisation of foreign university filiations in Italy**

Law No. 4 of 14 January 1999, Art. 2, paragraph 3 and Ministerial Directive of 23 May 2000.

Filiations of foreign universities may be authorised on condition that their programmes are offered only to students enrolled in the respective home institutions. Once authorised by the Minister of Education, the filiations are exempted from VAT payment.

### **Accreditation of foreign TNE institutions in Italy**

Law No. 148 of 11 July 2002 (ratification of the Lisbon Convention).

Under Art. 4 of the quoted law it is stated that specific regulations must be issued providing for the accreditation of TNE institutions located in Italy.

## **ESSENTIAL BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Adam, S., *Transnational education project. Report and recommendations*, 2001

<http://www.unige.ch/eua/En/Publications/HE%20texts/welcome.html>

Council of Europe/UNESCO *Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications Concerning Higher Education in the European Region*. Lisbon, Portugal, COE, 1997

Council of Europe/UNESCO *Code of Good Practice in the Provision of Transnational Education*. Council of Europe/UNESCO, 2000

Prebys, P & Pratesi, R. “*Educating in paradise*”, *le università americane in Italia*, QCR 2/2001

## **USEFUL WEBSITES**

<http://www.aacupi.org> Association of American College and University Programs in Italy (with the list of member institutions and locations)

<http://www.usembassy.it/Usa/education/list.htm> List of American College, University and Research Programs in Italy

## **ANNEX**

Here below are listed all affiliations of foreign higher education institutions are listed which have been authorised by the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research in conformity to Art. 2 of Law 4/1999.

American University, Graduate Research Center on Europe (U.S.A.)  
 Arcadia University Center for Education Abroad (U.S.A.)  
 Bowling Green State University, Studio Arts Centers International (U.S.A.)  
 California State University International Program in Florence (U.S.A.)  
 Catholic University of America (U.S.A.)  
 Cornell University (U.S.A.)  
 Dartmouth College (U.S.A.)  
 Duke University Center in Rome (U.S.A.)  
 Duquesne University of the Holy Spirit (U.S.A.)  
 Fairfield University Florence Program (U.S.A.), High School  
 Florida State University Florence Program (U.S.A.)  
 Georgetown University (U.S.A.)  
 Gonzaga University (U.S.A.)  
 Harding University (U.S.A.)  
 The Harvard University Center for Italian Renaissance Studies (U.S.A.)  
 Iowa State University (U.S.A.)  
 James Madison University Program in Italy (U.S.A.)  
 The Johns Hopkins University - The Bologna Center, Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (U.S.A.)  
 Kent State University – Florence (U.S.A.)  
 Link Campus (Malta)  
 Middlebury College School in Italy (U.S.A.)  
 Monash University in Prato (Australia)  
 New York University in Florence (U.S.A.)  
 Ohio State university, “The Austin E. Knowlton School of Architecture Study Abroad Program in Italy” (U.S.A.)  
 Pennsylvania State University (U.S.A.)  
 Pitzer College in Italy (U.S.A.)  
 Rhode Island School of Design (U.S.A.)  
 Richmond, the American University in London - Florence Program (U.S.A.)  
 Richmond, the American University in London - Rome Program (U.S.A.)  
 Rutgers University Junior Year in Italy (U.S.A.)  
 Saint Mary's College Rome Program (U.S.A.)  
 Smith College (U.S.A.)  
 St. John's University, Rome Campus (U.S.A.)  
 Stanford University (U.S.A.)  
 Syracuse University Syracuse Semester in Italy (U.S.A.)  
 Temple University Rome (U.S.A.)  
 Trinity College - Cesare Barbieri Center (U.S.A.)  
 University of Arkansas (U.S.A.)  
 University of California in Italy (U.S.A.)  
 University of Connecticut Florence Study Program (U.S.A.)  
 University of Dallas (U.S.A.)  
 University of Georgia Studies Abroad Program at Cortona (U.S.A.)  
 University of Michigan (U.S.A.)  
 University of St. Thomas Bernardi Campus (U.S.A.)

University of Washington Rome Center (U.S.A.)

USAC, University Studies Abroad Consortium; 29 Universities. (U.S.A.)

Vassar College (U.S.A.)

The Vergilian Society of America (U.S.A.)