Casa Italiana

NINA GROSS, Student Director
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OVERVIEW

Casa Italiana will provide an introduction to different aspects of Italian culture with a special focus on Italy's traditions, language, and contemporary every-day life. Students in the Italian house will enjoy a unique learning experience in which the rich culture of Italy will be explored through a variety of activities. The use of Italian on a daily basis is encouraged and is an important aspect of the program, but there is no requirement that members are already proficient in the language right from the start. In fact, we expect and are excited that there be variation among speaking levels in the house. The only real requirement is a genuine interest in Italian language and culture!

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Learning Objective #1

Each member will broaden his or her understanding of Italian language and culture.

Action Steps

- Our events are centered around Italy, its language, its culture.
- Students will be encouraged to use their own linguistic/cultural experience and/or knowledge from classes/personal interest when creating events.
- Those who can already speak the language fluently will make it part of their daily routine for the benefit of the other members of the house.
• We will advocate attendance of Tavola Italiana at group meetings. It will not be a required house activity, but we will recommend it for those who want extra practice.
• We will utilize words of the day boards with a common Italian word or phrase as a fun way to incorporate more and more language into the house.

**Learning Objective #2**

Weekly meetings will be held to assess the progress of the program, to discuss issues concerning life in the suites, and to prepare the events.

**Action Steps**

• At the beginning of each semester, we will call a preliminary meeting for the members to introduce themselves to the group and so that we can all share the times each week that we are available.
• We will pick a time that everyone is free and make that our meeting time and from then on will meet at this time each week to discuss upcoming events, planning the events, and any issues/difficulties that members are having/foresee.

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**About the Global Village**

This program is part of the Global Village Residential Learning Community (RLC). For UVM students interested in exploring other cultures, studying abroad, or pursuing lives and careers in an increasingly interconnected world, the Global Village may be just the place for you! Drawing on the resources of the Living/Learning Center and its dynamic network of student- and faculty-led programs, the community of learners that make up the Global Village will be engaged in coursework, lectures, concerts, exhibits, faculty and peer mentoring, social connections with international students, group meals, and trips that:

• Explore the many connections among language, art and culture at regional, national, and international scales.
• Share disciplinary expertise within an environment that values a holistic approach to “living and learning.”
• Encourage formal and informal contacts among students, faculty, and staff within the Global Village, the Living/Learning Center, the other Residential Learning Communities, and the university as a whole.
• Aim to be a complement to existing international and cross-cultural programs at UVM.
“Think globally and act locally” by outreach to the international community at UVM and within the greater Burlington area.

More information about the Global Village RLC can be found at: http://www.uvm.edu/globalvillage

**GRS 025: The Global Village Seminar**

GRS 025: The Global Village Seminar is a largely self-paced, one-credit course designed to help you get the most out of your experience as a citizen of the Global Village Residential Learning Community. All new Global Village residents **must** enroll in GRS 025 for one credit during the fall semester or spring semester. (Returning Global Village students who have not yet satisfactorily completed the class must enroll in GRS 025 during the fall semester.) This course will be graded on a “Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory” basis. The course will be partly comprised of a series of “Common Hour” community gatherings held on Thursday afternoons. The primary purpose of the Common Hour meetings is to build a stronger sense of community among the members of the many Global Village houses and programs. As well, the Common Hour gatherings will help Global Village citizens build a common knowledge and skill set, including such topics as intercultural communication, globalization, etc. A variety of program offerings will take place during Common Hour meetings, such as special guest lectures, interactive dialogue and social gatherings. During weeks when the Common Hours are not held, you are expected to participate in one educational event or activity with a global cultural theme. We’ll provide you with a list of suggested events and activities, or you can identify other events/activities with a global cultural theme; you choose which ones you wish to attend.

We’ll provide you with a Global Village Passport; use it to keep track of your activities and explorations. In addition to documenting participation in Common Hours and the educational events/activities, you will need to do reflective writing in the form of five short journal entries on the cultural/educational events that you participated in, along with a lengthier essay looking back on your most meaningful experience of the semester within the Global Village.

Returning Global Village students are also invited (but not required) to enroll in GRS 025 during the fall semester or spring semester.

If you anticipate a problem with fulfilling this course expectation (such as if you will already be enrolled in 18 credits), please contact Prof. Joseph Acquisto, Faculty Director of the Global Village, at Joseph.Acquisto@uvm.edu

For more details about this course, visit: http://www.uvm.edu/~gvr1c/?Page=passport/passport.html&SM=passport/sub-menu.html