

University of Warwick
Italian Studies Warwick Venice Research Skills Practicum
November 2011 – March 2012

PURPOSE:

- To gain experience and understanding of qualitative research methodologies.
- To collect qualitative data on student/alumni experience and outcomes of studying in Italy and on student/alumni perceptions of shifts in their own intercultural competency.

OUTCOMES:

Research skills:

- Introduction to qualitative research methods and survey development through participation in a guided practicum; this has the potential to be included in a professional *curriculum vitae*. [For tips on how you might present this as a form of work experience see <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/careers/applications/cv>]

Data collection:

- Development of an online survey for circulation to Year Abroad alumni from the Italian program based on qualitative research data from interviews and/or focus groups, participant observation and discussion/reflection (survey will include a focus on career development and other long term impacts of the Year Abroad experience).

STAGE 1: ACTIVITIES TO COMPLETE IN VENICE: 14th-17th November (Approx. 7 hours)

- Briefing meeting: Monday 14th November, 10am – 11am, Palazzo Pesaro-Papafava
- Group Discussion 1 (preparatory reading, methodological issues, project planning, Interview strategies, drafting interview questions, Survey Monkey): Tuesday 15th, 10am – 12pm.
- Individual interviews with researcher: Monday/ Tuesday/ Wednesday (TBA)
- Moodle Reflective Journal Project: Wednesday 15th 10am – 11am
- Group Discussion 2 (: Thursday 17th, 10am – 12pm).

STAGE 2: ACTIVITIES TO COMPLETE AND SUBMIT BY JANUARY 13th (Approx. 13 hours)

- Participant observation of student activities (where possible).
- Online or face-to-face interviews with Italian Studies students and/or staff.
- Typed summary of interviews (1-2 pages, plus recording where possible).
- Typed summary of observations and/or autoethnographic accounts, plus photos/textual documentation (1- 2 pages)
- Typed personal reflection on your research experience (1-2 pages)

SUBMISSION OF STAGE 2 RESEARCH MATERIALS: All material should be submitted by email to ██████████@monash.it by Friday 13th January 2012.

STAGE 3: ACTIVITIES TO BE COMPLETED DURING VISIT TO VENICE IN MARCH

- 15 minute group presentation to staff and peers reporting on the project and the draft questions that have been developed for the alumni survey.
- Submission of finalised survey questions, incorporating peer feedback from the above presentation, to Loredana Polezzi (L.Polezzi@warwick.ac.uk)