



SET YOURSELF APART

ITALY

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CONFIDENCE

I was inspired to apply for IPDS-Italy because I'm interested in art history and Italian culture and also wanted to gain a meaningful teaching experience. I gained so much confidence abroad. It was fulfilling to look at a map and find my way around a city. I learned that I am capable of more than I realized. And I was more confident going into student teaching as well. I know that I am capable of teaching a room full of students who don't speak English and so feel more than prepared to be effective with students in the United States.



Catie at the Colosseum and walking the streets of Florence.

[Read Catie's Blog](#)

MEMORIES

Our first days in Italy were spent in Rome. One night the other participants and I decided to find the Trevi fountain, which is in a part of the city made up of mostly narrow, charming, walking streets. It was January and there were still lots of Christmas lights strung everywhere. We were a little lost, wandering from street to street, but at one point we suddenly heard the sound of water. We turned the corner and there was the Trevi fountain, surrounded by people, and darkness and glowing from within. It was a magical moment.

You will make so many memories and learn so much about yourself in a short amount of time!

Favorite Aspects of the Program

- Climbing to the top of Florence's cathedral, the Duomo.
- Seeing the Pietà by Renaissance sculpture Michelangelo Buonarroti in St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City.
- Visiting the Uffizi Gallery of art in Florence.
- Eating fresh Mozzarella.
- Touring a wine cellar. Learning how Prosecco is made.
- Throwing coins in the Trevi Fountain
- Gazing up at the Sistine Chapel.