



Johnny Thiel Milan, Italy





TRAVEL, TRAVEL, TRAVEL! See the world while you have the chance and experience as much of it as you possibly can.



If I could do it over, I would stay longer!

Majors: Communications & Sports Administration

Years/Term Abroad: Spring Semester 2017

Name of program and why you chose it: Universita Cattolica de Sacro Cuore International Exchange Program - I chose this program because I had always wanted to study abroad in Italy, and this program offered classes that were taught in Englis. This was perfect for me since I spoke no Italian going into the semester.

Describe the Housing Situation: I lived in a two bedroom apartment with three other students from the U.S. Our apartment had one bathroom and a kitchen and was about a five minute walk to the nearest metro station. The metro ride usually took about 30 minutes to get to school in the morning.

Experiences with Culture Shock or Reverse Culture Shock: My biggest experience of culture shock was how little Italians care about time and being on time.

How has this experience enriched your Bellarmine educational experience?

I now have a greater perspective on the world and understand that the world is much bigger than Louisville.

What do you know now that you didn't know before going abroad: Save up as much money as you can before you go! You are going to spend more than you thought so save up as much as you can.

Greatest Challenge: Definitely the language barrier. Not being able to speak Italian was definitely a challenge that I faced early and often while abroad. However, after my language class and being immersed in the language for a few weeks, I started to be able to say and pick up on simple things which ended up being a big help.

Best Memory: My group of friends and I spent our last weekend together on the beautiful beaches of the Amalfi Coast. This was my favorite place that I travelled to and an unforgettable memory.

Study abroad gave me friends and memories that I will cherish for a lifetime.