COURSE DETAIL

URBAN SUSTAINABILITY IN FLORENCE AND THE SMART CITY MODEL
Country Italy
Host Institution UC Center, Florence
Program(s) Italian in Florence,Made in Italy, Florence
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Urban Studies Environmental Studies Economics
UCEAP Course Number 108
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title URBAN SUSTAINABILITY IN FLORENCE AND THE SMART CITY MODEL
UCEAP Transcript Title SMART CITIES
UCEAP Quarter Units 5.00
UCEAP Semester Units 3.30

Course Description

This course examines how cities pursue sustainability through governance, planning, and citizen participation. Students explore how environmental, social, and economic dimensions of sustainability intersect within urban policy and daily life, connecting global frameworks—such as the UN 2030 Agenda and the European Green Deal—to local experimentation and community-driven innovation. While Florence provides a unique laboratory for studying how a historic city responds to contemporary challenges (climate adaptation, mobility transformation, housing pressures, and social inclusion) students are encouraged to compare it with other urban contexts across Europe and beyond. This comparative perspective fosters cross-fertilization among diverse models of governance and participation, allowing students to grasp how cities function as *complex adaptive systems* —dynamic environments where multiple actors, ideas, and scales interact to shape sustainable urban futures. USF combines analytical seminars, field explorations, and participatory exercises. Through simulations, role play games and collaborative projects, students experience the dynamics of real-world decision-making and democratic governance in sustainability planning.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

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Host Institution Course Details
https://uceap.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/DocumentLibrary/EXHotfYk2ndFt1PQcnuTZs0BrgOS...

Host Institution Campus
UC Center, Florence

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree
Host Institution Department
Course Last Reviewed 2023-2024

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