About the Florence Immersion LLC
The Florence Immersion Living Learning Community provides residents with an enhanced, engaging environment in which to pursue their study abroad experience. Participation in the LLC will foster global citizenship through shared intellectual endeavors and language acquisition, cross-cultural exploration, residential interactions, leadership activities, and volunteer experiences. Over the course of the year, the curriculum and programming will support students in using design thinking to create lives that are both meaningful and fulfilling. LLC residents will:

- Be an integral part of a smaller community within the FSU Florence program
- Enroll in Italian language classes during fall and spring semesters (3-4 credits each, depending on level)
- Enroll in HUM1921 LLC Colloquium (fall semester), and ENT1611 Designing Your Life (spring semester); each course is 1 credit hour
- Participate in educational cultural events throughout the year
- Explore community service and volunteerism opportunities within the Florence community
- Strengthen leadership skills and cross-cultural competency
- Benefit from meaningful, sustained interaction with the LLC Director and other FSU IP staff and faculty

The program is designed for students to be resident for at least two semesters (fall & spring). We anticipate operating the LLC during the summer term as well, though expectations and logistics have not been confirmed. LLC residents who meet expectations outlined in the LLC Agreement (provided in the IP portal upon acceptance to the LLC) for fall/spring and wish to continue as LLC residents in the summer will be able to do so.

Eligibility, Application Process, & Acceptance
All admitted Florence First Year Abroad students are eligible to apply for the LLC by completing the Florence Immersion LLC application, which consists of six short answer questions. Selection will be based on the short essay application, as well as any information provided in students’ application for admission to the University. We welcome applications from students with a wide variety of interests, backgrounds, majors, experiences and demographics.

Once you begin an application, you can save your work, exit the system, and return to complete later if needed; applications must be submitted on or before Monday, May 31st. After review, applicants will be extended invitations to join the LLC (or notified of their waitlist status) via email in mid-June. Selected applicants must formally accept their invitation by completing the Florence Immersion LLC Agreement within their IP Student Portal.

Housing
The Via de Neri residence is situated within the FSU Florence Study Center. It is a co-educational residence comprised of 8 apartments, housing up to 23 students and one program assistant. Apartments are in the
upper floors of the Study Center, allowing students quick access to the other Study Center amenities, such as the library, classrooms, computer lab, café, administrative offices, the Academic Resource Center (ARC), and more.

**Meet the LLC Director**
The Florence Immersion LLC Director is Charles Panarella. Charlie is a dual U.S./Italian citizen who grew up in New York City and has spent the last four years living and working in Florence. He’s an integral member of our staff and faculty, regularly teaching Italian language classes and serving as the Academic Coordinator. His passion is helping students fulfill their potential and develop a growth mindset. Students will engage with Charlie, as well as other local staff, faculty and community friends of the program.

**Frequently Asked Questions**

- **What’s a Living Learning Community?**
  A popular feature of residence halls on Florida State’s main campus, a Living–Learning Community (LLC) is a small group of students who live together, share an interest, and take one or two of their classes together — usually in a small classroom inside their residence. Designed primarily for first-year students, LLCs are a great way for incoming freshmen to plug into a supportive network of students and distinguished faculty early in their FSU career. FSU International Programs is excited to bring this tradition of residential student engagement & support to FSU Florence.

- **When will I find out if I’m accepted to the Florence Immersion LLC?**
  We endeavor to extend LLC invitations to selected applicants in mid-June, prior to registration for fall courses. In the event LLC selection has not been completed before class registration begins, interested students should register for an Italian language course; IP will automatically enroll LLC residents in the 1 credit hour colloquium course each semester.

- **Who is eligible to apply for the Florence Immersion LLC?**
  LLC residents must commit to academic, volunteer, and leadership activities for a minimum of two semesters (fall and spring). Therefore, all admitted Florence First Year Abroad students are eligible to apply for the LLC.

- **What are the required courses?**
  **HUM1921 LLC Colloquium** (1 credit hour, fall semester)
  The objective of this course is to create a learning community where you feel welcome, valued, and heard while seeking to provide the conditions for you to develop a growth mindset to achieve your goals. The course will allow you to study leaders, thinkers, athletes, coaches, and entrepreneurs so you can begin forming your personal philosophy towards how you will persevere, set goals, and overcome obstacles you may face along the way.

  **ENT1611 Designing Your Life** (1 credit hour, spring semester)
  This course focuses on finding your passion to which you will apply the growth mindset we explored in HUM1921. It is designed to help you figure out who you are, who you want to be, and where you want to go to create a meaningful and fulfilling life. It teaches you to use the Design Thinking process to actively create the life you want based on your interests and values. Using ideas from *Designing Your Life: How to Build a Well-Lived, Joyful Life* by Bill Burnett and Dave Evans, the course also explores your purpose in college and your major, educational wayfinding, innovating Florida State experiences, and
creating your preliminary post-graduation plan. This hands-on class utilizes small group discussions, personal and group reflections, in-class activities, field experiences, and design team collaboration.

- **If selected for the LLC, how will that impact my housing preferences (e.g. roommate requests)?**

  All students must complete a *Medical, Special Needs, and Housing Preference* form within their [IP Student Portal](#) prior to departure. LLC residents who have also indicated a preference to be matched with a specific roommate(s) should understand this request can only be considered if each roommate meets all criteria and deadlines for (a) applying to the LLC; (b) requesting each other as roommates; and (c) being selected for and accepting an invitation to the LLC.

The above description of the LLC accurately reflects the expectations and intentions of FSU International Programs and FSU Florence; like all other programs elements, LLC requirements and expectations are subject to modification at any time in order to comply with local public health recommendations as well as the policies & practices of Florida State University.