Widener Summer in Venice, 2015

Widener University School of Law
In cooperation with Venice International University

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I. INTRODUCTION

Congratulations on your acceptance to the Venice International Summer Law Institute. Our program will give you an enriching academic experience and ample opportunities to enjoy the history and culture of Venice and the Veneto region. You will have the chance to meet students and faculty from another culture, and enlarge your view of the world and yourself.

The Institute will offer international law classes, tours, and an introduction to Italian culture. Classes will be held at Venice International University on Isola di San Servolo (San Servolo Island). But the most lasting impressions from the summer may well be the friendships you make with the veneziani (inhabitants of Venice) and other students as well as gaining a new appreciation for Europe and its role in the global community.

You will have the opportunity to travel this summer. Less than an hour away from Venice, you can explore the lush meadows of the Dolomites; a bit further are the hills and vineyards of Tuscany. A short ferry ride takes you to the sandy beaches of Croatia. Longer journeys to Paris, Vienna, Prague, Rome and other European cities can contribute to the memorable summer. Whatever your interests, Venice’s location provides a convenient jumping off point for your European travels.

When you return to the United States, you may be surprised at how much your perspective has been enriched and changed. Viewing our own culture and habits through the prism of travel makes it easier to laugh at our own foibles and American idiosyncrasies.

I hope that you will take time to read through this Manual. The more thorough your preparation for the trip, the more enjoyable it will be. In addition to the information provided here, there are numerous travel books that will provide you with information on Italy and other countries you may want to visit.

Here are some useful websites to help you learn more about traveling.

Travel

◊ www.travel.state.gov is the U.S. Department of State’s official website for information about foreign travel. It includes information about passports,
visas, country-specific information, and general travel information and tips.

◊ www.statravel.com is a comprehensive travel service especially for students.

**Venice**

◊ [http://goeurope.about.com/od/venice/](http://goeurope.about.com/od/venice/). There are also links for other European cities.

◊ [www.europeforvisitors.com/venice](http://www.europeforvisitors.com/venice)

**Here are some general foreign travel tips.**

◊ Remember to be flexible. No matter how well prepared you are, things will be different from what you expected. So relax, pay attention, and go with the flow.

◊ Europeans in general tend to be more formal than Americans. With the exception of fellow students, who may be more informal, you should never address persons whom you meet by their first names. *Signor, signora, or signorina* are the appropriate forms of address. Do not switch to first names unless invited to do so.

◊ We are conditioned by our own culture and we need to remember that others may have a completely different view. Accept that others have different values and different habits. Give yourself time to relax and experience your new environment. It takes a while to appreciate the differences that you’ll encounter.

◊ Above all, remember that you are a guest in a foreign land, and must observe and respect the customs of your hosts.

Widener University School of Law is taking every precaution to ensure that all travel in our summer programs is as safe as possible. We are in close contact with our host institutions and are able to assess whether the local conditions warrant any changes to our programs. We are also monitoring the United States Department of State’s Travel Advisories for each country in which we sponsor a program; we will let you know if there is a change in the State Department’s assessment of the safety of travel in any one of these countries. Here are some things you can do to enhance your own peace of mind about traveling abroad this summer.
Visit the State Department’s Bureau of Consular Affairs web site periodically. http://travel.state.gov/. You can read the general information they post about international travel as well as country-specific information. Click on the appropriate letter for every country you intend to visit this summer. You can also call the Bureau of Consular Affairs at 202-647-5225.

Let us know if your plans change. It is very important for us to have an accurate count of who will be participating in each summer program. If your plans change, you can contact Widener’s international programs coordinator in Wilmington, Arlene Trapuzzano, at artrapuzzano@mail.widener.edu. You may also contact the Venice Institute program Director, Professor Chris Robinette at cjrobinette@widener.edu.

Let us know if you change your contact information, such as telephone or email address.

We do not expect current world events to affect our summer program in Venice, but we will advise you promptly if there are any changes. Changes to our programs will be indicated on the websites for each program. In addition, in the unlikely event that any of our programs are forced to close due to world events, we will notify all current enrollees by telephone and by email.

II PREPARATION

Go to the U.S. State Department site for up-to-date information about passports and visas. http://travel.state.gov/.

A. Passports, Visas & Other Important Documents

1. Passport

   In order to travel outside of the United States, you will need to have a valid passport if you are a U.S. citizen. Passports can be obtained either through the mail or in person at a U.S. Passport office or certain courthouses. For information, see http://travel.state.gov/passport/. If you mail your passport application, allow at least six to eight weeks for your passport to arrive. In past years, the U.S. passport office became backed up and many people did not get their passports in time.
Start now with your application. You can have passport photographs taken at many U.S. post offices, AAA offices and at numerous photography shops. You may wish to bring several extra passport photos with you to Venice for use in purchasing transportation passes or in the event your passport is lost. **Protect your passport at all costs!** It is your most vital document while traveling in Europe. It is your most reliable form of identification, and you will need it to re-enter the U.S. Make sure your passport is secure at all times, either on your person or in your locked apartment. **If your passport is lost or stolen**, contact the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate or go to the local police authorities. If you can provide consular officers with the information that was contained in your passport, they may be able to issue you a new one. We recommend that you photocopy your passport, your birth certificate, and other important identification documents, and keep one copy with you but separate from your passport in your luggage and another copy with a reliable person at home.

2. Visa

   It is not necessary for U.S. citizens to obtain a visa to enter Italy or travel in Western Europe, so long as you stay no more than 90 days. Your passport should be valid for at least six months beyond your stay. If it is not, renew it now. If you are not an American citizen, then you need to call your own consulate for visa information regarding travel in Europe.

   If you plan to travel outside of Western Europe, you should check entry requirements of the countries that you propose to visit to determine whether you need a visa. Visa information is available through the countries’ own web sites, as well as through the State Department website. See http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1765.html for more information. You may need to obtain visas prior to your departure from the U.S. You can also use a private company to obtain your visa for a fee.

3. International Student Identity Card

   We recommend that you obtain an international student identification card. This will enable to get discounts on air fare,
at some lodgings and cultural sites, and on train passes. In addition, it provides significant additional medical coverage. Go to www.statravel.com to find out more information on what other services are offered to students who purchase an ISIC. The card can be obtained from student travel agencies, such as Let’s Go Travel - 877-370-ISIC or www.letsgo.com and STA Travel - www.statravel.com/.

4. International Youth Hostel Card

If you plan on staying in youth hostels, you may want to purchase an International Youth Hostel Federation ("IYHF") card. Although there are many independent hostels in Europe, those affiliated with the IYHF are regulated and more consistent in quality. You may stay at IYHF affiliated hostels without the card, but you will have to go through an initiation process to get validation stamps, and you will have to pay a supplemental fee. The IYHF card may be obtained from STA Travel, or directly from American Youth Hostels, www.hiusa.org.

B. Getting to Venice

If you haven’t yet purchased your flight to Europe, start checking now for the best airfares. There are several ways to make travel arrangements. Your best bet is contact STA Travel or Student Universe(www.studentuniverse.com) to learn more about student airfares. Depending on your particular needs, you may be able to get a reduced fare for being a student. You can then compare the price STA gives you with other travel agencies, web travel services, or the airlines’ websites. Booking Buddy (www.bookingbuddy.com) lets you check several travel sites, such as Expedia, Orbitz, Priceline, Hotwire and others, through one convenient site.

The closest airport to Venice is Marco Polo Airport (airport code VCE). Frequently, flights to larger European cities, such as Rome and Paris, are substantially cheaper than flights to Venice. If you are planning on traveling before or after the program, you may wish to plan your travels to arrive or depart from a larger city. Most flights from the East Coast of the United States to Venice’s Marco Polo Airport are overnight flights and you will be tired when you arrive. Then, from Marco Polo Airport you will need to take two boats to get to Venice International
University on the island of San Servolo, so be mentally prepared for some further travel, albeit by water, to get to your final destination.

1. Airport Check-in

Check the airline and airport rules regarding checking luggage and carry-on before you travel (e.g., regarding computers, liquids, film if you use it, etc.). The rules tend to change frequently. It is generally recommended that you arrive 2 hours early for an international flight. It is a good idea to put identification on the outside, and inside of your luggage (in case the outside I.D. falls off). You may find it helpful to put something unique on the outside of your luggage, e.g., a decal or ribbon to ensure that it does not get picked up by someone else by accident. **DO NOT PUT PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS IN YOUR CHECKED LUGGAGE. CARRY THEM WITH YOU ON THE PLANE.** If you are flying within Europe before or after the program, remember that, although most airlines permit you to take one or two free checked bags between the U.S. and Europe (check your airlines baggage rules), flights wholly within Europe may have a charge for checked baggage. The cost of a checked bag can be quite expensive on European airlines. Verify the cost of additional bags when you book the flight if you anticipate having more than the allowed bags.

C. Housing

For interested students, Widener has arranged for accommodations in the residence hall on San Servolo where Venice International University is located. These rooms are available as doubles, triples and a limited number of singles. The accommodations are reasonably priced, air conditioned and have Internet access. There is a 24 hour computer lab on site available for resident students. To reserve a space in the San Servolo residence, contact Widener’s international programs coordinator, Arlene Trapuzzano, artrapuzzano@mail.widener.edu or 302-477-2248. Rooms are available on a first come, first served basis. If you wish to check in a day or so before the program, you will need to indicate that on your housing form and the residence will accommodate you if rooms are
available. Otherwise, you may wish to stay in a youth hostel or hotel if you arrive in Venice early. The phone number for the Reception at the San Servolo residence is (+39) 0412765001.

Food tip from past students staying at Venice International University: Students who have stayed on San Servolo speak highly of the rooms at VIU (clean and comfortable), but want you to know that there are very limited food choices there (only pastries). Because classes start at 9 a.m. and don’t end until 1:00 p.m. each day, students should plan ahead and keep some groceries in their room (e.g., bananas, granola bars, etc.) that they can eat before class and/or bring with them to class each day.

Students may also choose to rent apartments or rooms in a bed & breakfast or hotel, by themselves or in pairs or groups. Past students recommend staying in an accommodation that permits you to cook meals to save money. For students who choose not to live at VIU, Widener takes no responsibility for the apartments that students rent. The rental agreement is strictly between the student and the lessor. The director can provide guidance, however, regarding the various districts of Venice.

Students interested in finding a roommate may speak to Ms. Trapuzzano or use the TWEN site to communicate with other students about rooms, travel or the program generally.

1. A few general tips.

If you are living at VIU, take the Line 20 vaporetto from San Zaccaria vaporetto stop in San Marco to Isola di San Servolo. If you are not living on the campus, before you leave the U.S., make sure you know exactly how to get from the airport or train station to your apartment: (1) Ask the manager of your property what the best form of public transportation is from the airport or train station and what stop to get off; (2) Ask the manager exactly how to get from the stop where you will get off to your lodging; (3) make sure you understand the answers; and (4) get the manager’s phone number!

Vaporetto pricing tip: A 7-day ticket for the Vaporetto costs € 50 or approximately $70 US. Be sure to budget ahead for this added cost of transportation back and forth to the island of Venice, Lido and other nearby island destinations like Murano,
Burano and Torcello. A one-use pass on the Vaporetto is € 7 or approximately $9.75 US, making the 7 day ticket a better value. When you arrive in Venice, and buy that first Vaporetto pass to get you from the San Zaccaria stop on the island of Venice to San Servolo (via line 20), consider buying the 7 day ticket for € 50 and putting it to good use on your first ride to the campus of Venice International University.

**Location**

Prices range according to size and location. The cheapest apartments are in the sections called Castello and Cannaregio. Cannaregio is the furthest from San Marco, from which you will take a vaporetto to the island on which VIU is located. Although most convenient, the most expensive area is San Marco. The Dorsoduro and San Polo areas are also reasonably convenient to San Marco. Another option is the Lido, the only island in Venice that permits cars and has a beach. The Lido is the terminus of the vaporetto line that leads from San Marco to VIU (Isola di San Servolo) and is only a short ride from VIU. When you inquire about an apartment ask about transportation or walking distance to San Marco (or the Lido vaporetto stop if the apartment is on the Lido). You will need to take a vaporetto from San Marco or the Lido to VIU.

**Apartments**

Many students have enjoyed sharing an apartment with others in the program. Make sure the landlord approves of how many people will be living in the apartment. Apartments may provide a phone to call out. You might pay extra for an air conditioned place; for many students, this is well worth the additional cost. Check with the landlord about air conditioning before you lease. If the apartment is not air conditioned, you will want to have a fan because Venice will get quite warm and muggy in the summer. In some apartments, you will pay extra for utilities, phone, and the final cleaning when you leave. Make sure you know before you agree to rent what all the additional costs will be.

**Small hotels or B & Bs (Pensiones).**
It may be possible to book a double room in smaller, more
economical hotels in Venice for the period of the program. This will be more expensive than an apartment, but it is an option for those who might be interested. The Law School cannot vouch for either the quality or the final prices of such hotels.

5. Resources

Some sites that students have successfully used this year and in past years are:
www.luxrest-venice.com  [(011) (39) (041) 296-0561]
www.venicebooky.com
www.venere.com
www.studentsville.it/student_rooms_venice.htm
www.VeniceBy.com
www.cheapvenice.com
www.veniceapartment.com
www.romesweetrome.com
www.mwz-online.com/english/english.htm
www.vrbo.com/vacation-rentals/europe/italy/veneto/venice
www.guestinitaly.com

D. Packing and Luggage

Remember that you will be in Europe at least two weeks, so plan carefully before you pack. Consider the things you will be doing. For class and walking around the city, dress comfortably, but appropriately. Try to dress as locals dress; avoid extremely casual summer wear or sloppy attire.

For special events, you will need casual business attire, such as dress pants or skirt and dress shirt. Only at the most exclusive restaurants, the theater, or the opera is a tie required.

For weekend travel and/or travel before or after the program, you will need light casual clothes that pack easily and don’t require significant amounts of care. A bathing suit is useful for trips to the Lido beach. You may not enter some churches (such as the Basilica di San Marco) with shorts above the knee or bare shoulders. Women may wish to put a wrap-around skirt, silk scarf or shawl in your knapsack, just in case.
Most travelers bring too much rather than not enough. Travel light and you will thank yourself later! Remember you will be toting your bags through the streets of Venice, and up and down the stairs of countless charming bridges to reach your apartment. In addition to the suitcase, duffel, or backpack in which you pack your clothes, you might also want a smaller pack for day trips or weekend travel. Remember to bring COMFORTABLE shoes, since you will be walking everywhere.

The weather in Venice tends to be sunny, but rain can be expected. Temperatures range from the high 70s to the 90s during the day; it can be very hot and humid later in the summer. Air conditioning is not as common as in the U.S. in restaurants, museums and stores. Rainy evenings can be cool so you may wish to bring a light sweater.

Computers. All or nearly all students bring laptop computers with them. It is entirely a personal choice, depending on whether the convenience of having it outweighs the inconvenience of carrying it around and always ensuring its security. It may depend on the security of your accommodation (private apartment v. hostel) and how much traveling you intend to do before or after the program.

E. Travel Guides

There are too many Venice and Italy travel guides to list here. Browse through the selection on the web or at a bookstore. Consider whether you want a book about Venice, about Italy, or about Europe more generally. You might consider investing in two, or sharing with friends, as the books have overlapping information, but different emphases (architecture, nightlife, etc.), scope (Venice, the Veneto, Italy, etc.), and are intended for different budgets. Most guidebooks contain user-friendly maps, handy tips on interesting sights you might otherwise miss and interesting historical summaries that give you helpful context in your travels. Many students have relied on Fodor’s Venice which has abundant information, great maps, and terrific background information about the region and about individual places you might visit. Other students like the Rick Steves series, such as Italy 2013 or Venice 2013 and the Lonely Planet series (Best of Venice) and Access Guide: Florence and Venice. You can also look at the classic Let’s Go! books on Italy. Let’s Go is an extremely comprehensive student guide, listing the best sites to see, where to
eat and sleep inexpensively (with explicit directions to get there), and historical information. Some students have also liked the Affordable series (Affordable Italy). Two additional excellent travel books are Fodor's Italy 2013 and Frommer's Italy. You can check on the web to get a sense of the coverage of these guides. If you have time, you might also try to learn some Italian before you go, with Rick Steves, Berlitz, Pimsleur, or other audio or computer-based courses.

F. Finances and Budgeting

Your guidebooks will provide you with a good indication of what things cost in Italy. Some students said they spent considerably more than they had expected, while others said that their budgets were quite realistic. Italy uses the Euro (€) (as do most European countries). The rate of exchange changes daily.

1. Plan a budget before you arrive

   It is important that you take some time to plan your budget before you arrive in Europe. Remember that Venice can be very expensive, as are most major European cities (similar to New York, Chicago or San Francisco).

   You should also estimate whether and where you will be traveling on weekends, and if so, what your meals, transportation, accommodations, and incidentals (souvenirs, admissions) will cost. Traveling in pairs or small groups can often save money.

2. Getting cash before you travel.

   You should be able to get Euros right in the airport either from the ATM or currency exchange booth. If you wish to arrive in Italy with Euros, you can obtain Euros in the US airport, as well as at Thomas Cook, American Express, and other money exchange centers. Many banks will sell Euros to their customers as well, so check with your bank if you are interested.

3. Modes of payment

   **Cash.** It is often easiest to pay for things in cash, since there
are ATM machines throughout the city that will accept your American bank card (look for the “Bancomat” signs). Check with your bank to ensure your card is linked to a widely available network, if you are unsure if your card can be used outside of the country. Your bank and the Italian bank may charge a fee each time you withdraw money using your ATM. If you take out large amounts of money less often in order to reduce the withdrawal fee, make sure you take the money from the machine in a safe way and keep it safely.

**Credit Cards.** Most establishments also accept credit cards, but you should check in advance. Some credit card companies charge a “conversion fee” when you use your credit card abroad. This will only show up on your statement at the end of the month, but you can call your credit card company before you leave to find out about it. **Notify your credit card companies and your bank that you will be traveling in Europe before you leave.** This will ensure you have no difficulties using your cards abroad.

### III ARRIVAL IN ITALY

Widener’s Summer Institute in Venice begins with the first class at 9:00 a.m. on June 22, 2015. Make sure you arrive in Venice with plenty of time to get yourself organized, learn your way around a bit, and overcome jet lag. Professor Chris Robinette, the Director of the Program, will be arriving in Venice several days in advance. He can be reached e-mail, cjrobinette@widener.edu. **IN THE CASE OF AN EMERGENCY,** you may reach him before he leaves for Venice, at his U.S. cell phone at 215-704-9729. On or before the first day of classes, Professor Robinette will provide you with a phone number at which he can be reached directly in Italy.

**A. What To Do When You Arrive**

The easiest thing to do is to look for the international sign for an information booth, a lower case “i” or “/”.

There is public transportation into the city from the airport and the train station.

1. From the airport
Buses are the most economical and quickest way to get into the city. You’ll need to buy a ticket (biglietto) in advance at the ATVO/ACTV booth in the arrivals hall in the ground floor of the airport. The blue ATVO shuttle is about €4, is a bit quicker, and has a luggage compartment. The orange ACTV #5 is the local bus; it has no luggage compartment and will stop several times, so stay on board until you've crossed the causeway and reached the end of the line. Either way, it takes about 20 minutes to get to the Piazzale Roma, from where you can walk or take a vaporetto to the landing nearest your apartment or hotel. A land taxi is also an option, costing about €45.

There are two boat options from the airport:

1. **Water bus (aka Alilaguna or motoscafo):** Tickets (costing about €15) can be purchased in the arrivals hall of the airport. The large yellow waterbus at the dock next to the terminal makes several stops throughout the lagoon, at some of the outlying islands, and at several places in Venice. You want to take the Alilaguna that includes a stop at San Marco and/or San Zaccaria. For example, Linea Blu includes stops at San Zaccaria and San Marco. It’s about 1 hour and 20 minutes on the Alilaguna water bus from the airport to San Marco but the scenery is quite enjoyable.

2. **Private water taxi** (for you and you alone, like a cab in New York City). The privately hired water taxi is expensive. This is a more expensive option -- about €110.0 – 115.0 one way. It’s fun and really fast (about 30 minutes) and could be an option if money is no object or you’re with a number of traveling companions to divide up the cost. The cost is not set, so negotiate it ahead of time.

For many people, the boats are worth it for any first-time visitor to Venice. There’s something special about arriving in Venice on the water as visitors have done for centuries past. And nothing compares to stepping ashore at the Piazza San Marco, where the ancient glory of Venice proudly welcomes you. What you see before you is what astonished visitors first saw of Venice 500 years ago at the height of the Italian
Renaissance. Or, you could take the bus.

**Your final (and thankfully short!) leg of the journey to VIU – Vaporetto Line 20 from the San Zaccaria stop to San Servolo:** Once in Venice (either at the bus station – Piazzale Roma or Piazza San Marco) you’ll need to find your way to VIU or your apartment. For VIU, you will need to get to Piazza San Marco. From there, you’ll take Vaporetto Line 20 from the San Zaccaria vaporetto stop to San Servolo. **TIP:** As you walk along the waterfront from Piazza San Marco to get to the San Zaccaria vaporetto stop (a short walk of only a few minutes), with the water on your right and the Piazza San Marco on your left, you will go over a charming pedestrian bridge. Stop in the middle of this bridge and look to your left. You are looking at the famous “Bridge of Sighs” that has delighted visitors for centuries. From there continue on to the San Zaccaria vaporetto stop and take Line 20 to San Servolo.

For students staying in private apartments, ask your realtor for suggestions as to the best location for arrival (Piazza San Marco or Piazzala Roma), which vaporetto (if necessary) you need to get to your neighborhood and which vaporetto stop is best for you. Wherever you stay, make sure you know, before you leave, how to get to your lodging. You can ask your renter for walking instructions from Piazzale Roma or the nearest vaporetto stop.

2. From the train station (Stazione Ferroviaria Santa Lucia)

Trains arrive at the Stazione Ferroviaria Santa Lucia, an incongruously modern but efficient railway station next to the causeway that leads to the mainland. Right outside the station are vaporetto stops, where boats can take you to stops up and down the Grand Canal. As you leave the station's main entrance, head toward the floating waterbus platforms. Buy a ticket before boarding the No. 1 vaporetto, which makes stops all along the Grand Canal, or the No. 82 express boat to San Marco. Be sure you're going in the right direction - *i.e.*, toward San Marco unless you're staying in one of the outlying districts. Get off at San Marco and switch to vaporetto line 20 at the San Servolo stop. From there you take a short ride to San Servolo and VIU.
B. Program Information

The program is held at Venice International University located on Isola di San Servolo (San Servolo Island). The island is reached by taking the Line 20 vaporetto either from San Zaccaria (San Marco) or the Lido. Classes begin on Monday, June 22 at 9:00 a.m.

IV. CLASSES & LECTURES

A. Course Offerings

**June 22-June 26**
Comparative Corporate Law (one credit — Justice Randy Holland) Today's global economy has resulted in a proliferation of multi-national corporations. Frequently, the parent corporation is governed by the law of one country and one or more subsidiaries are governed by the laws of other countries. This course will make a comparative assessment of the advantages and disadvantages to incorporating in a particular country. It will focus on corporations considering mergers, acquisitions, or joint ventures with corporations outside of their own jurisdiction and on the reasons why a corporation may decide to form a subsidiary under the law of another jurisdiction. For those comparative purposes, the law of Delaware will be used as the United States model.

**June 22- July 3**
Tort Law in Global Perspective (one credit – Prof. Christopher Robinette) This course will focus on the ways major tort issues are handled in different countries (with emphasis on the United States and Europe). The first class will include the basic tort systems in various countries, including a discussion of common and civil law. Subsequent classes will cover substantive tort areas on a comparative basis: verbal insults, automobile accidents, medical malpractice, defective products, privacy, defamation, and governmental liability. Several international topics would be covered, including the Alien Tort Statue, Torture Victim Protection Act, and the Warsaw Convention.

**June 29 – July 3**
European Union Law (one credit – Prof. Massimiliano Granieri) This course will deal with the sources of EU law and, in particular, with regulations, directives, recommendations and other
acts of the European institutions. It will also focus on the role of the European Court of Justice as the highest authority in the judicature system of the EU law and its function in shaping the EU law. Finally, the Four Freedoms of the EU will be discussed as well as their evolution in the opinions of the EU Court of Justice.

B. Course Selection

Course selection will normally be done through the mail prior to arrival at the Institute. Students should make every effort to finalize their course plans at this time. Students will, however, be allowed to add or drop courses after the first day of classes in each session. After this period, students may not add or drop courses. Students withdrawing from a course after this period will receive a "W" indicating withdrawal on the transcript to be sent to their home institution. Refunds may be granted (in whole or part) in cases of withdrawal, depending on the date on which notice of withdrawal is given. In order for us to process any withdrawal expeditiously, it is critical that you inform us promptly should you decide not to attend the program.

C. Class Attendance

Student and course requirements for the Institute are the same as those for the Widener University School of Law. The Widener Student Honor Code applies. (See below.) Classes are held on the dates and at the times indicated on the schedule and on the last page of this manual.

Class requirements are fully equivalent to law school classes in the U.S. Class starts on time, and attendance will be taken in all courses. The ABA requirement that a student attend 80% of class hours is enforced. Any student not attending 80% of classes will be given an "F" in the course. This rule is enforced. There is no refund for poor attendance, and no credit will be given for the course. In exceptional cases, a student who receives an "F" for excessive absences may petition the Dean of Students for relief. Only upon a showing of extraordinary circumstances beyond the student's control, the Academic Standards Committee may withdraw the "F" and grant a "W" or withdrawal in the course.
D. Exams

All exams for the program are take home exams. Details on exam due dates will be given during the first day of class in each session. If you have questions about the exams before arriving in Venice, please contact Professor Robinette.

E. Grading

Course instructors use the Widener University grading system. Courses will be graded on an A through F basis. Widener has no D- or F+ Grades. For students from other institutions, grades will be reported to your home law school. Each law school determines whether to accept the letter grade or to change it into a pass or fail. While home institutions may change grades into pass or fail, students may not elect to take courses at the Institute on a pass/fail basis.

F. Widener Student Honor Code

Students attending Widener’s Summer Institutes are subject to the Law School’s honor code, which is available at http://law.widener.edu/Gateway/CurrentStudents/Forms/HonorCode.aspx. Relevant portions are mentioned below.

**Substance Abuse**: Students are responsible for ascertaining and obeying all laws regarding drugs and alcohol in the countries in which they are residing or traveling. Any infraction of such laws will also be considered an infraction of Widener University Substance Abuse Policy. Any student who violates this policy may be disciplined, suspended, or dismissed.

**Sexual Harassment:**

**Section 1. Human Rights Policy.**

It is the policy of Widener University not to discriminate on the basis of sex, physical handicap, race, age, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, marital status or sexual or affectional preference in its educational programs, admissions programs, employment practices, financial aid, or other
school administered programs.

**Section 2. Discrimination and Harassment**

Widener University seeks to create and maintain an academic environment in which all members of the community are free from unlawful discrimination and harassment.

**Definition of Sexual Harassment.** Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature constitutes sexual harassment when:

1. submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment or academic rating; or
2. submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment and/or academic decisions affecting such individual; or
3. such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or academic performance, or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive work or classroom environment.

Sexual harassment in academe includes the use of authority to emphasize the sexuality or sexual identity of a student in a manner which prevents or impairs that student's full enjoyment of educational benefits, environment or opportunities. Academic administrators are required to acquaint their faculty with the seriousness of these issues and with the Widener institutional policy.

Any faculty member, staff member or student who believes himself or herself to have been injured because of a violation of these policies should make a prompt, written report to the Program Director. Any reports of sexual harassment or discrimination will be promptly investigated and referred to the appropriate body for disposition.

Any questions concerning the application of the Honor Code should be directed to Professor Robinette.
V. ENJOYING VENICE

A. Getting Around

1. Information

Brush up on your map-reading skills, because they will be of vital importance to you. A map of the city can be obtained at the Tourist Office in the train station (Stazione). There are tourist kiosks in Piazza San Marco and Campo Santa Margherita that offer maps as well. A fun way to get oriented before you fly over is to use www.mapquest.com or www.mappy.com to find the location of your apartment. Then use Google Earth to check out your neighborhood by satellite photo. Once you’re there, learn the way the locals get around. Tourists get lost hopelessly trying to find street name after street name. But you’ll know better because you’ll remember the Yellow Brick Road trick. There are only two ways to get around Venice: on foot or on water. There is no road public transportation because there is no traffic on the streets.

2. Walking: Follow the yellow brick road!

Don’t worry if you keep getting lost walking around during the first few days; that’s to be expected. Here’s a good way to orient yourself. Don’t follow street signs that closely. Instead, look around for yellow direction signs with arrows marking the general direction to one of a handful of key Venice locations: Rialto (the Rialto bridge); Academia (the Accademia bridge), Ferrovia (literally, the “iron way” – i.e., the railroad station); Piazzale Roma (the bus station, not far from the railroad station); and, of course, Piazza San Marco. These yellow directional signs are usually up on the second floor of various buildings. Think “follow the yellow brick road” every time you come to a street crossing and you will pick up the new yellow sign and follow the correct route. If, for example, you want to walk to Piazza San Marco, follow the yellow signs for San Marco and ignore the signs for Ferrovia, etc. On your street map also look for “campos” which are charming public squares. The “yellow brick road” routes through Venice (you will become familiar with the main routes faster than you realize) all go
through campos. As you come into a campo, pause and look around the campo and find the next yellow direction sign for your continuing route. This way you will be sure to leave the campo by the correct street to your destination. While in the campo check for the campo’s name on your street map so you have a sense of where you are in the city and in relation to your destination. And, while you’re at it, why not rest a bit in that campo and enjoy a cappuccino and some friendly conversation? Remember, when you’re not on a boat, Venice is a city that is oriented from campo to campo. Between the campos are streets that seem to make no sense and some of which end at the water’s edge. But you’ll know just when and which way to turn because you’ll follow the yellow brick road!

3. Water-based Public Transportation - There are many different kinds of boats that cruise the canals.

**Traghetto** - With just three bridges crossing the Grand Canal's four-kilometer length, Venetians rely on gondola ferries called traghetto at seven points between the railroad station and the Santa Maria della Salute church. Follow the yellow gondola signs down to the water, where you'll pay only € 0.50 to reach the other side.

**Vaporetto** - The public boats called *vaporetto* and *motoscafì* run almost constantly, and you'll seldom have to wait more than a few minutes for one to come along. Your vaporetto pass can be used to get up and down the Grand Canal of Venice and also for island hopping to Lido, Murano and Burano.

**Routes.** Venice's waterbus routes change from time to time. This means that map and guidebook descriptions of the vaporetto lines are frequently out of date. Information about vaporetto routes and schedules can be found at www.actv.it/ or www.tripadvisor.com/Travel-g187870-s304/Venice-Italy-Taxis.And.Rental.Cars.html, a helpful site with information about vaporetto schedules. Please note that routes are subject to change and seasonal variation. When in doubt, check the timetables at the vaporetto stops.

*** PLEASE NOTE THAT THE VAPORETTO TO SAN SERVOLO DOES NOT RUN FROM 2:10 AM-6:55 am.

Things to know
At smaller stops, boats will come from both directions. Pay attention so you'll board the right waterbus! Occasionally, a boat will ignore certain stops or will terminate its run before the end of the line. The placard on the side of the boat will indicate any such deviations. (Either that or the conductor will shoo you off.) Routes marked with the handicapped icon are wheelchair-accessible.

ACTV (the Venice public transportation system) has a free postcard-size route map that you can obtain at its Piazzale Roma ticket office. ACT also offers a very useful printed timetable (in Italian only) and has a new Web site (see below) with both Italian and English text. If you board at a stop that doesn't have a ticket office, approach the conductor immediately after boarding and ask for a biglietto. Otherwise, you could be fined heavily for traveling without a ticket.

**Water taxi** - The sleek, wood-trimmed water taxis of Venice are priced for the limousine crowd. A short trip can easily cost €40.00 or more, not counting surcharges for radio-dispatched service, trips after 10 pm., or Sunday travel. Warning: Aquatic cabs don't have meters, so know what you're paying before the skipper casts off.

**Gondola** - The gondolas of Venice are beautiful but expensive. Prices seem to vary depending on where you hire the gondola, the route and the time. Strike a deal in advance or leave gondola rides to the ubiquitous flotillas of tour groups.

**B. Food**

There are open-air markets throughout the city, particularly near the Rialto. Eating out in Venice can be expensive - so be careful to check the prices on any place that has a menu before you sit down. A *trattoria* or *hostaria* is less expensive than a *ristorante*. Watch where the locals go and try those spots. Avoid tourist menus — they tend to be comprised of overpriced and mediocre meals.

Here are some different types of eating establishments you might like to try:
A **bacaro** (wine bar) will offer you an *ombra* (glass of wine) with *cicchetti* (warm snacks) which can make a meal. Stop in a bar for a *fragolino* (a strawberry wine - served cold) or a *prosecco* (a bubbling local wine).

A **trattoria** (sidewalk café) is often a good bet for a sit-down meal. On the menus, you’ll see abundant seafood (particularly crab and cuttlefish), as well as rice dishes such as *risotto* (with seafood or vegetables), or pasta dishes. Any bar has *tramezzini* - which are tasty little sandwiches - and *panini* - which are much bigger, hearty sandwiches.

**Feste** (festivals) are run by churches during the summer; these are outdoor affairs, with lots of cheap food and good music. And you’ll meet Venetians.

**Supermarkets** — There are supermarkets located at Campo Santa Margherita (Punto), Piazalle Rome (Coop) and larger stores (Billa) located throughout the city.

### C. Miscellaneous

1. **Respect for a foreign country in general**

   A basic principle of traveling is that YOU are a guest in other people’s country. Perhaps in part because Americans tend to travel less than others, Americans are often accused of forgetting this. There are simple things you can do to earn the respect of our hosts. Respect local habits and customs. Venetians are used to thousands of tourists flooding their city. So the best approach is to be polite, patient, and try to use at least the Italian courtesy words when shopping, eating, or being a tourist generally. When visiting attractions, obey warnings not to touch artifacts, or to be quiet. Enjoy and marvel at the cultural differences, but be sure to show respect for your host culture by being unobtrusive.

2. **Dress.**

   Try to dress neatly and conservatively. Italians show lots of skin on the beaches, but not in the cities.
3. Language.

Try to speak the language of the country that you are in as often as possible, or at least make the attempt. Although most Europeans speak more than one language, often including English, do not assume that everyone can speak English. If you need assistance, ask persons in their own language whether they speak English. ("Lei parla inglese?") Saying please (per favore), thank you (grazie), hello (buon giorno or ciao) and good bye (ciao or arrivederci) is always polite. Venetians speak the Venetian dialect, and standard Italian. In stores, the clerks will often speak some minimal English. In museums English tours are often offered, and most personnel speak a little English. Nonetheless, develop a small vocabulary so you can ask where the bathroom is, or the exit, or other simple requests.

4. Obey local laws.

You are subject to the laws of the country in which you are traveling. The American consulate may help you with translation or document replacement, but it will not help you avoid responsibility or liability.

5. Safety Tips

Venice is a safe city, and you generally will feel safe walking almost anywhere. You will be walking in Venice more than most people walk in the U.S., you will spend more time in crowded areas. Always remain aware of your belongings and your surroundings. The worst threat is from pickpockets and other petty thieves. Guard your money, credit cards and passport, if you are carrying it, at all times. Be especially careful when in airports or train stations. The best way to protect your belongings is to avoid looking like a tourist since it is often assumed that tourists have more valuables on them than locals. Do not call attention to yourself by wearing expensive jewelry or flashing your money around.

**PROTECT YOUR VALUABLE DOCUMENTS AT ALL TIMES.** All your valuable documents--passport, Railpass, International Student ID, Youth Hostel Membership card, and traveler's checks--should be kept on your person or in a secure
**location in your locked apartment** at all times while traveling. Although most of the documents can be replaced, you will be wasting valuable time, effort and funds to do so. Make photocopies of all your valuable documents and credit cards, leaving one set at home, and keeping another set separately in your luggage. Some students prefer to use either a money pouch, which is hung around your neck and hidden under your clothes, or a money belt. However, this can be awkward when paying. If you do get robbed, call or visit the nearest police station and report it immediately. (In Venice, dial 112). You may need a copy of the police report for insurance claims. The number for any emergency service in Venice is 113.

6. Time

Venice is 6 hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time; thus when it is 2 pm on the East Coast of the U.S., it is 8 p.m. in Venice. Europeans use the 24 hour clock instead of am and pm. Thus, after noon, the time does not revert to 1 pm, but rather continues to 13:00 (1 p.m.), 14:00 (2 p.m.) and so on. Afternoon hours are U.S. plus 12. Most shops and businesses close from 12:00 until 14:00 for lunch.

7. Using the Telephone

Most students have smart phones and may find it convenient, before leaving the United States, to contact their U.S. wireless provider and upgrade their plan temporarily to allow for international calls and text messaging. Be sure to understand the costs for this upgrade -- not just the monthly cost, but also the cost for each international call or text.

An alternative to bringing your smart phone to Venice is to purchase a phone card. The cards are available in various amounts and can be purchased at the post office, train station or at newsstands. Note that the “minutes” on these cards are used up quite rapidly when calling from a public phone. Some students choose to purchase or rent inexpensive cell phones that use prepaid cards. You can also buy inexpensive international cell phones via the internet before you leave. There are phones throughout the country that can be used with the card.
**Friendly Reminder:** When you get to Venice you will likely be tired from your overnight flight and travels. But Venice is beautiful and you may want to go exploring right away, or perhaps just take a nap. Before you do either, please don’t forget to call or text home to let your loved ones know that you have safely arrived!

8. **Tipping**

Generally little or no tipping is required in Venice. The tip is always included in the prices set forth on the menu. It is customary, however, to leave a waiter or waitress small change. For example, if the bill for lunch is €15, you might give the server €16 and allow him to keep the balance. Be careful, especially in Italy, to read the small print on the menu to ascertain whether the listed prices include tip (*servizio*), a per person cover charge (*coperto*), or a charge for bread (*pane*). These charges, if not included in the prominently posted meal prices, can add as much as 20 - 30% to those posted meal prices. If you are not sure, ask before you order. If you travel and stay in hotels throughout Europe, then it is always customary to tip the persons who carry your luggage. In many parts of Europe, it is customary to tip persons differently than in the United States. Consult the guidebooks for guidelines for each country.

9. **Electricity**

The current used in Italy and most of Europe is 220 volts, alternating current, 50 cycles. This is in contrast to the 110 volt electricity used in America. The electrical plugs are also different. The Italian use two or three round prongs, rather than the flat prongs used in America. You will need a converter and adapter for European electric current, if you bring any appliances. (It's easier to buy a hair dryer there.) In order to use your electric appliances, *e.g.*, hair dryers, curling irons, electric shavers, you will need both an electric converter to convert the 220 volt current to 110 volts, and plug adapter to allow you to plug the American appliance into the European outlet. The kits are generally available at large hardware stores, department stores, or perhaps even at a discount store. **Do not attempt to use European current with only an adapter and not the converter.** Most laptop converters will
automatically convert 220 volts. Check yours to make sure.

10. Restrooms.

The toilets often flush with a footpedal, which is located alongside the bowl near the floor.

D. Medical Matters

We recommend that you check the status of your medical insurance and what arrangements it makes for payment in Europe, before you leave. Many insurance policies require that you purchase additional travel insurance.

**EMERGENCIES WHILE IN ITALY.** The American Citizens Services unit of the U.S. Embassy in Rome (119 Via Vittorio Veneto; 39-06/46741, fax 39-06/4674-2217; www.usembassy.it) is available by phone 24 hours a day to assist American travelers in Italy (offices open 8:30-1 and 2-5:30 weekdays, closed weekends and holidays). ACS can help with problems involving medical situations, lost or stolen property – such as replacing passports or having money wired from the United States – and hotel accommodations (if you’re stranded). ACS can also coordinate emergency travel arrangements. ACS recommends that U.S. citizens planning a trip to Italy consult its web site for travel advisories and security updates before departure. The site also includes useful contact information in Rome, such as hospitals with English-speaking staff and numbers for international bank and credit card companies. The U.S. State Department provides similar services in other countries; check its Web site (travel.state.gov).

VI. WEEKEND TRAVEL

You may wish to take weekends to travel both throughout Italy and to other points in Europe.

A. Information.

When traveling, you can often get information from Information booths, designated by a small “i”, located in all major airports and train stations.
B. **Travel by train.**

The trains are fast, clean, and comfortable, and they go virtually everywhere, even to tiny, out-of-the-way towns. A rail pass is very economical, as it allows you unlimited travel within a defined period of time for a single price. Often the cost of a single trip between two major cities will exceed the price of a rail pass, which will entitle you to an entire month of travel. Several kinds of rail passes are available at different prices. Eurail passes are the most popular rail passes. However, you must purchase a *Student Eurail Pass* in the United States before you leave. Contact a travel agency or STA Travel for information on the Eurorail and other rail system passes. Reservations are often required for certain trains, so planning may be necessary before a weekend trip. Inquire at the train station for more information on Eurorail routes and information. There is an information office to the right side of the station when you first enter.

C. **Travel by air**

Air travel within Europe can be inexpensive with budget carriers. Ask STA Travel about this before you leave the U.S. or check their website. Also check www.ryanair.com and www.easyjet.com for budget fares. Watch, however, for extra charges for luggage, check-in, pre-boarding, etc. for which Ryanair and easyJet are well-known.

D. **Travel by car.**

Car rentals are expensive in Italy and so is the insurance you will need for any car rental in Italy. Car rentals are significantly less expensive in some other countries. You may wish to check with a travel agent in the United States to determine whether you can get a better deal by taking the train to France, Germany, or another part of Italy, before using a car for the weekend. You also may want to check with classmates, to see if several students might want to join in renting a car. Weekend rates are the best deal, because of unlimited mileage and the use of a car from noon on Friday until nine o'clock on Monday morning. The major auto rental companies operate offices at *Piazzale Roma*, the entry point by road to Venice. If you are planning to drive in Europe, you should probably get an International Driver's License, available at your local AAA.
E. Lodging Outside of Venice

As in Venice, other European destinations have a variety of accommodations to suit a range of budgets. There are many low-cost **hotels** and **pensiones** where breakfast might be included in the price. Find out ahead of time what is included. **Youth hostels** are an ideal way for students to travel throughout Europe, with 5,000 hostels located in 68 countries throughout the world. The cost is minimal, sometimes less than $20 per night, and may include breakfast. A hostel will provide you at the minimum with a bed and bath; you may have to bring your own sheets. Hostels are located in nearly all major European cities, conveniently near the best attractions. Guidebooks, such as *Let's Go Europe!*, explain where hostels are located. You can also inquire at the information center or tourist office located in most airports and train stations. In addition to low cost, youth hostels are a fabulous way to meet other students and young travelers from around the world. The disadvantages of hostels include early curfews (usually 11 pm. or midnight), and the fact that you will be locked out between morning and mid-afternoon. Be careful to protect your valuables while staying at a hostel. Keep all of your valuables on your person while you are sleeping. Many hostels offer lockers to store your bags. You may want to bring a padlock to put your bags in a locker while you are away from the hostel during the day.

VII. Directions

A. Classroom Directions

If you are not staying at the San Servolo Residence, take the Line 20 Vaporetto from San Marco-S. Zaccaria (or Lido if you are staying on the Lido) to San Servolo. It is a 10 minute ride from San Marco. The vaporettos run about every 15-20 minutes during the morning and evening hours and every 30 minutes during the middle of the day and late at night. Venice International University’s classroom building is right off the vaporetto stop. A classroom number will be sent via e-mail before the program begins with the first class on Monday, June 22 at 9:00 a.m.
NOTE: THE VAPORETTO TO AND FROM SAN SERVOLO DOES NOT RUN AFTER 2 a.m. CHECK TIMETABLES IF YOU ARE GOING TO BE OUT LATE.

B. Locations of Interest Recommended by Past Students

*Campo Santa Margherita*— This campo, in the heart of the Dorsoduro, has a number of bars and inexpensive restaurants that are frequented by students. It is a well-known location and designated on virtually all maps of Venice.

*Zattere Al Ponte Longo* — This walkway is on the lagoon, on the southern side of the Dorsoduro— It has a large supermarket (Billa) and the 1€ store (Italy’s version of the Dollar Store). Past students report it is a “great place for a run.”

*Take away stands*—Small sandwich and pizza shops are located along side streets and in small campos throughout Venice. These shops offer sandwiches and pizza slices to take away for very reasonable prices, frequently in combination with a soda or gelato.

Past students have very much appreciated their time in Venice and our educational program there. We expect you will as well.
## VIII. Calendar

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