



The John Felice Rome Center (JFRC)

Fall Orientation Schedule 2007

General Background Information:

The John Felice Rome Center (JFRC) Fall Orientation 2007 will offer incoming students a sampling of the best that Rome and the Lazio region have to offer. The Orientation will be launched with a visit to the 4th century BC town of Ostia Antica and the Catacombs (<http://www.ostia-antica.org/>). The remarkable ruins of this port city allow visitors to gain a clear image of how everyday life was lived in ancient Rome. In addition to Ostia Antica, the Orientation excursions will include

an afternoon at the Roman seaside,
a "Sagra" food festival in a Roman hill town, and
walking tours of historic Rome.

Orientation activities formally come to a close on Wednesday, September 12 as the community will gather at the Rome Church of *Sant'Ignazio* to be followed by a traditional three-course meal.

At the core of the JFRC Orientation program are a series of workshops which allow for students to set goals for the coming semester, informal gatherings to meet faculty, cultural adaptation workshops to learn about ways in which one can best acclimate to the Mediterranean way of life, and a handful of Italian meals to taste some of the best food in the world. After having participated in the John Felice Rome Center Orientation 2007, new students will have gained their bearings in the Eternal City and will have encountered nooks and crannies of the Lazio region that few American tourists see.

All Orientation activities, times and dates listed on this webpage are subject to change. A final agenda will be provided upon arrival on August 30 at the Orientation in Rome. *A reminder for those who will not be traveling with the group flight:* please refer to the Travel section for details as to how to secure an official taxi upon arrival in Rome (http://www.luc.edu/romecenter/travel_rome.shtml#airport).

No John Felice Rome Center students are allowed to move into the residence hall prior to 10:00 AM on Thursday, August 30. If you plan on arriving in Rome prior to August 30 you may consider some of the lower cost hotels listed at http://www.luc.edu/romecenter/studenthandbook_housing.shtml#lodging .

Please arrive in Italy with Euro currency in your pocket. Orientation week activities will be busy and you are likely to find yourself NOT able to easily access bank machines for Euro currency. Play it safe and arrive in Italy with a substantial amount of Euro in hand [at least 200] in order to save time during Orientation week.

A central component of the Rome Center Fall Orientation will be an overnight retreat near the Mediterranean seaside approximately twenty miles from the JFRC campus. All are required to participate in the overnight Orientation program, which will take you away from Rome for all of Friday, August 31, to return to campus late afternoon Saturday, September 1.

Thursday, August 30, 2007

10:00 AM – 1:30 PM Early Registration

Students not arriving on the group flight may register in the Study Hall.

Information packets will be available at the Registration Table.
Staff and Student Life Assistants (SLA) will be present to answer questions and provide instructions related to move-in procedures.

Student Life Assistant (SLA) Staff:

Ian Brennan, James Brophy, Colleen Calvey, Katie Jorgensen, Carla Mollica

Registration Fees:

Upon arrival at the Rome Center ALL students will be required to pay a **55 euro** key and room damage deposit fee. The key and room deposit will be returned at the close of the semester assuming no keys are lost and no damage has been done to your room.

In addition, Italian law requires students to pay specific fees in order to attain their Permit to Stay (*Permesso di Soggiorno*). These fees total **57.50 euro**. Payments for keys, room damage deposit and Permit to Stay fees (totaling 112.50 euro) are to be paid upon arrival at the Rome Center. Students may pay in cash or with a credit card.

There will be three optional Orientation meals which are partially paid for by the John Felice Rome Center. Students are asked to pay for approximately half the cost of each meal. Those who wish to partake in a Saturday, September 1, luncheon to be held at a restaurant on the beach will be asked to pay 15 euro. Students will also be asked to pay 15 euro for a Sunday, September 2, luncheon hosted in the mountain village of Alatri. Finally, the closing September 12 session of the Fall Orientation includes a meal in the historic district of Rome which will cost participants 15 euro. All meals are optional but students are strongly encouraged to join the JFRC community for a taste of Italian life. Each of the meals will be partially subsidized by the John Felice Rome Center. In all, the three meals will cost students a total of **45 euro**. Students will be given an opportunity, upon arrival, to register for each of the meals at the August 30 registration booth. Students will have the option of selecting, one, two or all three of the meals.

1:30 – 3:30 PM Lunch in the Mensa

1:30 – 4:30 PM Official Registration Begins

Students are required to attend the session at the times listed below. Information regarding your legal Permit to Stay (*Permesso di Soggiorno*) will be discussed. *Please be sure to bring both your passport and your lettera d'iscrizione to this session.*

1:30 – 3:00 PM

Group #1: Students with last names beginning **A to M**

Time will be available for these students to have lunch in the Mensa.

3:00 – 4:30 PM

Group #2: Students with last names beginning **N to Z**

4:00 and 4:30 PM Walking Tours of Monte Mario Neighborhood (Optional)

Each tour will originate from the Rome Center Porter's desk. The brief tour will help direct you to the bank machine, the bus stop, the local grocery and various other neighborhood conveniences. Tours depart at 4:00 PM and again at 4:30 PM.

5:15 PM Academic and Student Life at the Rome Center (Mandatory)

Location: *Mensa*

All JFRC students are required to attend this session

Christine Marciasini: Assistant Director and Registrar
Review of academic procedures

Dr. John Nicholson; Professor of Fine Arts
Bookstore information

Elise Aversa; Librarian
Library information

6:00 – 7:00 PM Floor Meeting (Mandatory)

All students must attend this mandatory informational floor meeting at which critical information will be communicated regarding life at the Rome Center and in the local community. Students living in:

- Rooms 101 - 117 – meet in the Mensa (SLA Jim)
- Rooms 218 - 234 – meet in the Mensa (SLA Jim)
- Rooms 235 - 251 – meet in classroom 118 (SLA Katie)
- Rooms 301 - 317 – meet in classroom 126 (SLA Carla)
- Rooms 318 - 334 – meet in classroom 117 (SLA Colleen)
- Rooms 401 - 415 – meet in classroom 119 (SLA Ian)

Topics to be covered:

- Community Standards, Rome Center Institutional Policies
- Campus facilities (laundry, cafeteria, chapel, etc), Administrative Matters, Medical Support, Safety, Student Mail, Computers, Phones
- Fire Exits

7:00 – 8:30 PM Mensa (Cafeteria)

Friday, August 31, 2007

All Rome Center students will participate in the Orientation retreat hosted at Hotel Residence L'Oasi (www.hotel-loasi.it). The excursion offers an opportunity for the Class of Fall 2007 to prepare for the busy semester to come, while getting to know one another.

What to bring and what not to bring: You will be away from the Rome Center for approximately 32 hours, so please pack simply. A small backpack that includes comfortable walking shoes, a swimsuit and a light evening jacket should suffice for this over night excursion away from Rome. While staying at the Hotel L'Oasi you will be assigned to a room with two or three other Rome Center students (men and women in separate rooms). The accommodations will be comparable to a three-star Italian hotel with meals and private bathrooms included.

9:30 AM Departure by bus to Ostia Antica and the Catacombs (<http://www.ostia-antica.org/>)
The three hour visit to the archeological site will include a sack lunch to be offered mid-tour. The bus ride from campus to the archeological site will take approximately 45 minutes.

3:00 PM Arrival at Hotel and Room check-in

Hotel Oasi (3 stars) is situated in the center of Lignano Pineta which is approximately thirty minutes by bus from the Rome Center's campus. The hotel is equipped with air conditioning, a restaurant, coffee bar and a swimming pool. Pack light and be sure to bring your swimsuit as the late August weather in Rome is likely to be hot and humid. A shuttle bus will be made available on Saturday for a trip to the beach which is approximately two miles from the Hotel.

3:00 - 6:00 PM Free Time

6:00 – 7:30 PM Rome Center: A window into our living and academic communities

Community Standards workshop in Auditorium
Conducted by the SLA Staff and **Todd Waller**, Associate Dean of Students

7:30 PM Community Dinner

9:00- 10:00 PM Convocation

JFRC Director and Dean

Convocation represents a rite of passage as we inaugurate the new academic semester at the Rome Center.

Closing Remarks by **Fr. John Chandler, S.J.**; Director of Campus Ministry

10:30 PM Orientation Activities completed for the day

L'Oasi Bar will offer entertainment for the evening following the day's activities

Saturday, September 1, 2007

8:30 – 10:00 AM Breakfast

10:15 AM Departure for a day at the beach.

12:30 PM Community Lunch at a beachside restaurant (TBA)

Summer life at the beach is a tradition for nearly all Italian families. The entire JFRC community is encouraged to join faculty and staff for a luncheon to be hosted at restaurant on the beach. Before and after lunch students will have ample time to swim in the Mediterranean sea and relax Italian style. For those who wish to return to campus immediately following lunch a bus will depart at 2:00 PM.

2:00 PM Early Departure for the Rome Center

4:00 PM Late Departure for the Rome Center

6:00 PM Dinner in Mensa

Sunday, September 2, 2006

9:30 AM – 7:30 PM Trip to Alatri's Mountain Village Sagra (Optional)

A "*Sagra*" is a local festival normally held to celebrate the season's harvest. The Alatri *Sagra* is unique in that citizen's of the walled village (1000 AC) gather for food and fun. The day's activities culminate with a late afternoon launching of a 50 pound wheel of *Parmigiano* Cheese from the village's highest point to the valley below. Tourists travel from across central and southern Italy to join in the day's food and laughter. The John Felice Rome Center community will gather for lunch mid-day to enjoy a traditional "*Cocari*", central Italian meal. Students are asked to pay a 15 Euro for the meal.

Please Note: The Town Council of Alatri will determine the exact date for the *Sagra* in early June 2007. The September 2 date is tentative and may be changed to the following Sunday, September 9.

7:30 PM Mensa

9:00 PM Mass
Mass will be celebrated in the Chapel

Monday, September 3, 2007 *Classes Begin*

9:00 PM Study Trip Informational Meeting (Optional)

Details will be explained pertaining to all Rome Center Study Trips. Trip itineraries, costs and travel tips will be provided.

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Survival Kit: Preparing to Interact with Italians and the Italian Culture (Mandatory)

Location: Mensa

7:30 PM – 8:45 PM Students whose last names beginning A to M

9:00 PM – 10:15 PM Students whose last names beginning N to Z

Most Americans who study abroad genuinely want to adapt to the new culture, yet true cultural adaptation is more elusive than one might imagine. This session will discuss ways in which effective cross cultural integration might occur.

The workshop will be led by the SLA staff and the Associate Dean of Students. A number of insights and strategies have been collected over the years about how John Felice Rome Center students can interact with Italy and Italians more successfully.

Sunday, September 9, 2007

2:00 PM Tour of Jesuit Rome (Optional)

Father John Chandler will lead a small group tour tracing the lives of Ignatius Loyola and his followers here in Rome. The two hour tour starts near Castle San Angelo and finishes at Piazza Venezia. The tour departs from the Porter's desk. Please be sure to wear comfortable shoes, clothing that covers one's shoulder and legs and bring two bus passes for travel to and from the historic center.

6:15 PM Reception and Meal in the Courtyard

The Rome Center community will gather in the courtyard for a light meal. Mensa will be closed; all are encouraged to attend the reception in the courtyard. Casual dress is discouraged.

Wednesday, September 11, 2007

7:30 PM Mass of the Holy Spirit

Fr. John Chandler S.J. will celebrate Mass of the Holy Spirit at *Sant'Ignazio* Church in the historic district of Rome.

The Mass of the Holy Spirit is an annual Rome Center community event which initiates the academic semester. This celebration is open to all members of the John Felice Rome Center community regardless of their religious affiliation. A grand Italian meal will immediately follow Mass, hosted at a neighboring famous Roman restaurant. Campus Ministry will subsidize the cost of the meal. Students will be asked to pay 15 euro for their meal.

Important Reminders:

Registration Table: Upon arrival at the Rome Center all students will be provided informational materials to include your room key. It is also important that you complete the room assessment sheet enclosed in your Orientation information packet. We ask that you identify any existing damage to your room (i.e. minor cracks in the sink, broken hinges on closet doors, etc) this will help to avoid any potential charges for room damage at the close of the academic semester.