

**The Association of Italian American Educators, the Istituto Superiore per la Comunicazione e l'Opinione Pubblica, and the Collegio Universitario Lamaro Pozzani announce the**



**Programma Ponte Scholarship Program 2015**

*Mission Statement*

*Programma Ponte is a program of study designed to give students of Italian American heritage first-hand experience with Italy today through course work, visits to important Italian and European institutions and direct contact with the Italian culture. Participants are expected to establish lasting connections and develop their respective roles as multi-cultural ambassadors.*

**A four-week study abroad program in Rome, Italy that offers a unique academic, cultural, and linguistic opportunity through the following courses:**

**1) Contemporary Italy, European Institutions and USA Relations 3 credits (*in Italian*)**

This course offers an in-depth and truly unique analysis of Italian political, economic, and social realities that resulted in the formation of the Republic in 1948 and established the foundation for European integration. Italy's role in the European Union and its trans-European policies and relationships are examined. Differences in present-day political and economic systems are studied for comparative purposes to enable students to better understand the relations with the EU, the USA, Argentina, Brazil, and Canada. Classroom lectures are supplemented with visits to related institutions, museums, and important historical sites. Past visits have included: a tour of the Chamber of Deputies and its Library and the opportunity to discuss current issues with Italian congressmen, a presentation at the European Commission, attending an international conference on conflicts in the Sahel region and meeting former Prime Minister Romano Prodi and current Minister of Defense Mario Mauro, and a discussion of immigration in Italy with the Director of the Caritas Migrantes and the Vice Director of legislative affairs at the Ministry of the Interior.

## 2) Italy: Past Foundations, Present Realities 3 credits (*in Italian*)

This course traces the development of Italian civilization from the founding of Rome in 753 BC to the establishment of the Republic in 1948. Students analyze the social, political, and economic structures of Ancient Rome and consider their influence on contemporary Italian society. Classroom lectures are supplemented with guided visits to the archeological sites that best show the various layers of Roman history, from the Empire through Fascism. Past visits have included: the Appian Way, the Baths of Diocletian, the Church of San Clemente, the Palatine Hill, Santa Maria Maggiore and Hadrian's villa.

**NOTA BENE:** Each course consists of 45 hours of instruction.

Further information can be obtained at <http://aiae.net/> or by making inquiries to [cleonardiAIAE@gmail.com](mailto:cleonardiAIAE@gmail.com).

### SPONSORS

The Programma Ponte is a collaborative initiative, sponsored by the **Association of Italian American Educators (AIAE)**, the **Federazione Nazionale dei Cavalieri del Lavoro (FNCL)** and the **Istituto Superiore per la Comunicazione e l'Opinione Pubblica (ISCOP)**, associated with the Department of Social Sciences of the **Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas**, Rome, Italy.

**RELATED EXPENSES:** The Programma Ponte scholarship covers room and board, including two daily meals, at the *Collegio Universitario "Lamaro Pozzani"* in Cinecittà, metro and bus travel for the month of July, and escorted chaperone. It does not include university fees, airfare, or personal expenses. Each student must pay registration fee in the amount of **300 Euro** in order to receive the 6 transferable credit hours from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas. The scholarship begins in Rome on the first day of class and ends after exam day.

**NOTA BENE:** Each scholarship recipient must complete the two above-mentioned courses whether or not his/her college or university will accept a transfer of credit. It is imperative that students inquire their universities' Office of the Registrar at the beginning of their application process.

**ELIGIBILITY:** The applicant must be an undergraduate student in their Sophomore or Junior year. They must be in good standing at an accredited four-year college or university, of any major discipline, with a GPA of 3.5 or above. He or she should have one parent or grandparent of Italian ancestry and *must possess substantial understanding of and proficiency in the Italian language*, as evidenced by having completed intermediate courses in Italian or by demonstrating proficiency during the interview process. *All lectures and visits are conducted in Italian.* It is therefore of *paramount importance* that each student be willing and able

to immerse themselves and best utilize their time in Rome by conversing *in Italian* with their peers, professors, and with Italians in general.

**DEADLINE:** The complete application with required documents must be submitted no later than **February 15<sup>th</sup>** to be considered for the same year. *Any submission received AFTER February 15<sup>th</sup> will be considered valid for the following year.*

The application must be sent to both:

[cleonardiAIAE@gmail.com](mailto:cleonardiAIAE@gmail.com) and  
AIAE - Programma Ponte  
Hofstra University  
New Academic Building, Suite 321  
Hempstead, NY 11549

**INTERVIEW:** Applicants will be interviewed after the submission of their full application. The interview will take place in New York City (date and place TBA). In the extreme case that an applicant is unable to attend, a Skype interview with the On-site Director will be held. *The interview will be conducted in Italian.* Each student's language ability and intellectual interest is assessed in order to ensure that participants are adequately prepared to meet the academic and linguistic demands of the program. ***Applicants will be notified of their acceptance to the program by early March.***

**GALA:** The scholarship recipients are invited as *special guests* to attend the AIAE Awards and Scholarship Gala on **April 19, 2015** to receive the *Programma Ponte* Scholarship 2015.

**ORIENTATION:** The online orientation will take place in March (date and place TBA).

**STUDENT HEALTH DISCLOSURE:** Selected participants will be asked to disclose any pre-existing medical condition as well as any medications that are prescribed.

# AIAE, ISCOP, and FNCL Programma Ponte

## Italian American Scholarship Program

### Application

Application materials must be sent physically and electronically, to the following addresses, postmarked no later than February 15, 2015:

[cleonardiAIAE@gmail.com](mailto:cleonardiAIAE@gmail.com) (preferably PDFs scanned from printed copies)

*AIAE - Programma Ponte  
Hofstra University  
New Academic Building, Suite 321  
Hempstead, NY 11549*

- 1) The application found below (edited electronically or completed in legible print)
- 2) One–page curriculum vitae
- 3) An essay of no more than 500 words in Italian that explains why you are suited for this particular program and how this study abroad experience in Rome, Italy will enhance your personal, academic, and professional life
- 4) An academic writing sample of no more than 2 pages in English with a copy translated into Italian, completed at the college level demonstrating analytical writing abilities. Samples may come from research papers, term papers, reaction papers, etc.
- 5) All official and current university transcripts
- 6) A photocopy of your current passport.
- 7) Two letters of recommendation (sent directly by the instructors to the mailing address above) from college or university professors.
- 8) Two passport-sized photos (40x50mm; at least one displaying formal attire)

# Programma Ponte Scholarship Application 2015

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Italian Ancestry (relative(s) and origin) \_\_\_\_\_

Academic Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address

City, State

Zip Code

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address

City, State

Zip Code

Telephone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ School E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Number of credits completed to date \_\_\_\_\_

GPA \_\_\_\_\_ Expected date of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Major(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Minor(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Most recent Italian courses completed \_\_\_\_\_

Letters of recommendation

1) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation to applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

2) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation to applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about Programma Ponte? \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide the following information for the **Office of the Registrar** at your college/university responsible for receiving the official transcript. *Be aware that some institutions require prior paperwork for approval of outside courses.*

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address

City, State

Zip Code

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Application \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_