



# AU in Tuscany: Art & Psychology

Aesthetics or Social Science Core  
Meets the CCI Requirement

May 3 - 18, 2026

**ASHLAND**  
UNIVERSITY  

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STUDY ABROAD

# Retreat to the Italian countryside!

## CONTACT

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## HOW TO APPLY

**Limited seats!** Complete the application using the QR code.



**March 1** - Application deadline for Art & Psych majors and minors

**March 15** - Application deadline for all other majors

**March 20** – Students notified of acceptance

**April 1** - \$500 deposit due

## ABOUT THE ARTIST & SCHOLAR RETREAT

Students studying art will use on site studios to work on pieces which reflect on art as it relates to modern philosophical thought. Students will have to the opportunity to study and interact with artifacts in Italy.

Students studying psychology will participate in readings and activities aimed at understanding the use of meditation and relaxation techniques for quieting the mind and body. Additional content will include work on the psychology of place, and how locations on our itinerary connect to aspects of mental well-being.

Students will stay in a dormitory space in a renovated monastery outside Siena, Italy. The monastery includes three-studio classrooms for artists, several discussion rooms, and presentation spaces.

## SPRING SEMESTER 2025 COURSE OPTIONS (CHOOSE ONE): COURSEWORK TAKEN SPRING SEMESTER PRIOR TO THE TOUR.

- PSYCH 102 General Psychology II – Social Science core class (#1 recommended SS class)
- PSYCH 101 General Psychology I – Social Science core class
- PSYCH 218 Psychology of Adolescence – Social Science core class
- ART 150 Art and Ideas – Aesthetics core class
- ART 160 (all concentrations) – Aesthetics core class
- Any Art major/minor in 200/300/400 level studio class – Art Elective

## ESTIMATED PROGRAM COST

**\$2,300** (Tentative until flights are booked)

**INCLUDED:** Round trip flight from Ohio to Rome, three nights' accommodation in Rome, day trip to Florence, public bus transportation to Siena, 3 meals a day while at the monastery, international health insurance.

**NOT INCLUDED:** Meals in Rome, Siena and Florence (\$150+), taxis & public transportation (\$60), expenses for passport (\$165), ETIAS travel visa (\$7-\$9), personal spending.

DATE	LOCATION	TENTATIVE ITINERARY
May 3	Travel	Depart from Cleveland.
May 4	Rome, Italy	Arrive in Rome.
May 5	Rome, Italy	Visit the Galleria Borghese, viewing some of the greatest artworks from the Baroque period, including several by Gian Lorenzo Bernini.
May 6	Travel	Explore the Papal Museums at the Vatican. Travel by private bus to Monasterino della Conoscenza, near Siena, Italy.
May 7 & 8	Monasterino della Conoscenza	Participate in art-making and topic discussions while experiencing the Tuscany countryside in and around an 11 <sup>th</sup> century monastery. Days may include visits to a local apiary, special food-tasting activities, and welcoming interactions with area residents.
May 9	TBA	Participate in a unique service project, focused on interaction with local populations and places.
May 10	Siena, Italy	Visit the Siena Cathedral and surrounding sites.
May 11	Monasterino della Conoscenza	Participate in art-making and topic discussions while experiencing the Tuscany countryside in and around an 11 <sup>th</sup> century monastery.
May 12	Florence, Italy	Visit sites of Florence, Italy, including Brunelleschi's Duomo, the Torre di Giotto, and the Basilica of Santa Croce.
May 13	Monasterino della Conoscenza	Participate in art-making and topic discussions while experiencing the Tuscany countryside in and around an 11 <sup>th</sup> century monastery.
May 14	TBA	Free day for students to explore the Tuscany region according to their small group itineraries.
May 15 & 16	Monasterino della Conoscenza	Participate in art-making and topic discussions, culminating in a final display and presentation of student achievements for the group and the monastery staff.
May 17	Rome, Italy	Return to Rome for a final day exploring the eternal city.
May 18	Travel	Return to the Cleveland.