SAIS Europe is one of three campuses (together with Washington, DC and Nanjing, China) that comprise Hopkins’ world renowned School of Advanced International Studies. The vision for SAIS Europe dates back to 1955 when Professor C. Grove Haines, a diplomatic historian at Johns Hopkins, together with a small group of scholars, decided to launch a pioneering experiment in international education. Haines’ goal was to offer a select group of talented students the experience of living and studying together under a multinational faculty in a global environment, thereby encouraging cross-cultural communication and fostering collaboration among future world leaders. The academic offerings at SAIS are interdisciplinary, equipping students with the analytical skills required to solve problems of real-world significance. Degree programs at SAIS emphasize international economics and international relations with options to specialize in a broad range of policy areas and geographic regions. Foreign language training at SAIS Europe is offered in seven languages: Arabic, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish.

Junior Year/Semester Abroad at SAIS Europe

Bologna

Bologna is a university town steeped in history and culture. The city has one of the highest per-capita incomes and lowest unemployment rates in Italy and consistently ranks among the top 10 European cities for quality of life. It is the seventh most populous city in the country, with a metropolitan area of one million. Florence is only 30 minutes by high speed rail, while Milan is one hour and Rome is two hours.

SAIS Europe organizes seminars and special events throughout the academic year. Distinguished guests including ambassadors, central bank governors, and business leaders travel to Bologna from across Europe and beyond to engage the SAIS Europe community.

The campus shares the neighborhood with UNIBO, the oldest university in Europe, founded in 1088. With 80,000 students, UNIBO provides countless opportunities for SAIS Europe students to interact with their Italian counterparts in sports teams, musical ensembles, language exchanges and more.

SAIS Europe students usually choose to live together in apartments within the medieval city walls, commuting by foot or by bike around town.

About SAIS
Application Process

Participation in the junior year/semester abroad program at SAIS Europe is selective. Students must demonstrate a high level of academic performance as well as the completion of significant coursework in their major. A complete application includes the application form, a statement of purpose, transcript, resume, passport copy, and one letter of recommendation from a member of the Johns Hopkins community. The admissions competition is administered jointly by the International Studies Program and the Office of Study Abroad.

Eligibility
- Sophomore international studies or political science majors currently enrolled at JHU.
- GPA 3.5 or higher.
- No language requirement other than English

Students who spend all or part of their junior year in Bologna and subsequently apply for graduate studies at SAIS will receive advanced credit at SAIS for part of their work. For application deadlines for the semester abroad program, contact the Office of Study Abroad.

Year abroad application deadline: March 1

Scholarships

Hull Family Study Abroad Fund
The Hull Family Study Abroad Fund was created with the purpose of enabling Johns Hopkins undergraduate students to study abroad in Bologna, Italy. Applications are reviewed and evaluated on a rolling basis. To be considered for the Hull Family Study Abroad Fund students must demonstrate financial need and be studying abroad on a formalized program in Bologna such as the SAIS junior year/semester abroad or the B.A./M.A. program.

This funding has been made available through the generosity of Carl and Nanci Hull, and provides up to $8,000 per semester to cover travel, housing costs and related expenses.

Contact Us

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Elliot Seckler, ’20, Semester Abroad Spring 2019

SAIS Junior Year/Semester Abroad Program

International studies and political science majors at Johns Hopkins with a high level of maturity and a desire to study abroad at the graduate level can apply to spend all or part of their junior year at the European campus of the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) in Bologna. For over 60 years, SAIS Europe has used its strategic position in the heart of the continent to train leaders in international affairs worldwide. Today, more than 200 students train under a core of resident faculty, together with 40 adjunct professors who come from Europe’s leading institutions to teach. Students form lifelong friendships and make professional connections in all sectors of global affairs.

Erik Jones, SAIS Professor of European Studies and International Political Economy