

ALO Student Mobility Blog

Erasmus+ Accreditation

▶ **Modena, Italy**

▶ **23.03 – 28.03.2025**

▶ Host school:

IIS Alfredo Venturi Liceo Artistico

▶ Participants: 10 students (grades 3a i 4a)

▶ Teachers: dr Małgorzata Borysławska
mgr Justyna Sieradzka-Bizoń



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Sunday 23.03.25

Welcome to spring in Venice!

Venice welcomed us with a pleasant breeze on the Grand Canal, where Santiago Calatrava's Constitution Bridge, glistening in the sun, invites tourists to encounter masterpieces of world architecture. Our guide told us many interesting stories about the Rialto Bridge, the Doge's Palace, the Bridge of Sighs, and the architecture of Andrea Palladio. She discussed the facade, architectural details, and decorations of St. Mark's Basilica with us. We had the opportunity to ride a real gondola to the other side of the Grand Canal, where we admired the beautiful panorama of the city. The sky was like something out of a Canaletto painting! Soon we arrived at the Peggy Guggenheim Foundation museum to feast our eyes on the works of J. Pollock, P. Picasso, and S. Dali. Tired but satisfied, we set off in the evening for Modena, where we will spend the next five days. PS. Special greetings to Ms. M. Karwowska — we remembered her often that day while viewing the works and buildings she talks about in her art history classes.



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Monday 24.03.25

The Artistic High School in Modena welcomed us with open arms. We met our “Italian buddies,” students who, like us, are participating in the project, and whose task was to show us around their school and city. The Artistic High School consists of three branches scattered around the old town of Modena. They are located in old palazzos, and the students have spacious sculpture, ceramics, and painting studios at their disposal. Then our Italian friends took us on an exciting walk through the historic and breathtaking old town of Modena. We explored the Diocesan Archives of original old prints and manuscripts and visited the interior of the 11th-century Romanesque cathedral of San Geminiano.



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Tuesday 25.03.25

The next day, classes were scheduled in two buildings of the Art School campus, which has been operating continuously in Modena since the 19th century. On Tuesday, we had the opportunity to experience being students at Liceo Artistico. We were divided into two groups, one of which joined language classes, while the other participated in art classes focused on industrial design. After interesting and skill-developing classes, we went to the local Art Gallery, whose collections were gathered by the d'Este family of princes. There, we learned the secrets of Byzantine artists, looking at icons through the magnifying glasses of conservators. We also explored Italian Baroque, admiring the works of Velasquez and Tintoretto. It was a very intense two days!



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Wednesday 26.03.25

Wednesday was a break from school. Instead of lessons, we planned a trip to nearby Bologna. We took a comfortable double-decker train to Bologna, where our guide Edyta was waiting for us and showed us around the historic center. We started our tour at Piazza Maggiore, the heart of the historic medieval city, where, just like in Gliwice, the majestic Neptune looks down on the residents, surrounded by monumental buildings such as the Papal Palace, the City Council Building, and the Basilica of San Petronio, the fourth largest church in Italy. Adjacent to the very center of Bologna is a historic complex of academic buildings belonging to the oldest university in Europe. Copernicus, Petrarch, Umberto Eco, and many, many others distinguished in culture, art, and science obtained their degrees here. We were very lucky to visit Bologna at the end of the semester, when the city is teeming with young dottori and dottoresse wearing laurel wreaths on their heads. We also visited the Basilica of San Domenico, where the tomb of St. Dominic and sculptures by the young Michelangelo are located. The next stop on our tour was the Basilica of Santo Stefano, known as the "Seven Churches." This extraordinary place, with its Romanesque architecture and atmosphere of centuries past, allows you to travel back in time to the era described in the novel "The Name of the Rose." Walking around the old town, we admired the characteristic red buildings and numerous arcades for which Bologna is famous. Their total length throughout the city is 62 km (sic!). Passing numerous cafes, shops, and markets, we enjoyed the aroma of traditional Emilia-Romagna espresso, parmigiano, and spaghetti bolognese.



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Thursday 27.03.25

Thursday, brought us another exciting day as part of the Erasmus+ exchange with Liceo Artistico in Modena. We started with a visit to the school building, where we explored the secrets of graphic design. We had the opportunity to see multimedia classrooms and learn more about the process of creating film and photography projects and their digital processing. Then a surprise awaited us – dance workshops! Together with our Italian and Spanish peers from Seville, who came on their “Erasmus,” we learned traditional Italian and Spanish dances. It was a great opportunity to integrate and learn about the cultures of both countries. The rhythms and steps turned out to be not only good fun, but also a great way to break down language barriers. We spent the second part of the school day at Europa Direct, an information center about the European Union. It turned out that there is a twin center in Katowice. After the workshops at the Center, an amazing experience awaited us – a visit to the Ferrari Museum in Modena. We could admire legendary cars, learn about the history of the brand, and feel the spirit of racing. It was an unforgettable experience for every car enthusiast. After these intense impressions, it was time to relax. In the afternoon, we spent time in the city in the company of our Italian colleagues. We had the opportunity to chat freely, get to know Modena from the perspective of local residents, and exchange experiences.



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Friday 28.03.25

And this is the last day of mobility. Our Italian week has come to an end. After so many impressions, we thought that Liceo Artistico would not surprise us anymore. But we were wrong! We spent the morning in the sculpture studio with Italian students. It turned out that our lack of experience with this material did not prevent us from successfully completing the task of reproducing models of parts of David's face sculpted by Michelangelo. We would have liked to stay in this studio longer, but our return was scheduled for the evening. So we said goodbye to Liceo Artistico and Modena, and flew from Bologna to Krakow. It was an unforgettable week with a thousand impressions and new experiences!



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