



Spring 2013 CIMBA Undergraduate Newsletter

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*You may have the universe, if I may
have Italy. - Giuseppe Verdi*

Entrepreneurship in Italy

By Stephen Klinck (University of Connecticut)



After our Entrepreneurial Strategy professor had introduced the semester's main project: the reverse engineering of a local business's business plan - our immediate response was to ask if the business owners knew we were coming. And his immediate response was to answer with an emphatic "no." In the real world, it was explained to us, they never know you are coming.

Similar to life in the real world, we were nervous and we were scared. Similar to life in the real world, we entered places and situations almost entirely unfamiliar to us. And, similar to life in the real world, we have been forced to meet nervousness with perseverance, challenges with concerted effort, and language barriers with \$0.99 iOS apps and volunteer translators.

Swimmers are not taught to swim in the desert, they are taught in a pool. Writing is not taught by taking someone's pencil away, it is taught by giving him or her a pencil and some time to use it. To write with it and to erase with it. To fail and to stumble in order to eventually succeed and sail smoothly. If painting is not taught without a paint brush, why should entrepreneurship be taught any differently? Fortunately for those who chose to study abroad at CIMBA during the Spring of 2013, professors exist who understand this, and they are willing to allow us to teach ourselves everything we think we did not know.

For years we have relied upon a detailed framework of how

assignments are to be completed, how they will be assessed, and what to do and precisely how to do it. And in situations where that is not enough, we request a plethora of samples of previous work to "guide" us and are promptly given them.

What we have learned in this class is how to actually

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complete a task when that previously completed task is not sitting before us, how to turn the ambiguity and vague instructions so often faced in the real world into clarity and completeness. And how to do it well.

Over the past three months, we have discovered how (or if) local businesses make their profit. We have uncovered every possible risk, threat, or challenge that could possibly face these businesses in both the short and long term.

We have constructed financial statements and supplier lists though

targeted questioning and attention to detail. We have used what we have learned in our textbook to analyze the world this textbook proclaims to describe. We have uncovered truths and mechanisms the businesses' owners are often unaware of.

We have done more than we ever thought we were capable of when we were first presented the project and were warned we might be unable to even communicate with the owners of the businesses we were to analyze.

The beginning of the semester brought to us the fear of being presented a task we were incapable of doing. The end of the semester has now brought to us a desire to find out what other incapable tasks we actually are capable of accomplishing.





The Veneto Region: Then and Now

Interview with Stephan Davis (University of Delaware)



When did you live in Italy prior to CIMBA?

In August 1999, I moved to Asolo with my family. I was six years old. The Benetton family bought out the company where my father was working and he received the opportunity to work as an expatriate in Italy. We lived in Asolo for a year before moving to Crespano for two years. While living in Italy, the Italian currency switched to the Euro. At first, things were relatively cheap, but then became expensive when the Euro strengthened against the dollar.

Living in Italy was awesome, one of the best experiences of my life. I had the opportunity to learn a new language. Prior to coming here as a six year old, I did not even

know Italy was a country. It took a while to adapt to the Italian life and culture. For example, we learned stores are not open when you want them to be open. It took time to learn what days all the local places are open and closed. Getting to know the people was my favorite part of my time here as a kid. I moved back to the United States in 2002 when the company where my father was working was acquired by another company and my father no longer needed to be stationed in Italy.

“Getting to know the people was my favorite part of my time here both as a kid and while studying at CIMBA.”

How do you see Italy differently now, if at all?

Now that I am 21, I go out more and socialize with friends, especially in Bassano and the surrounding areas. Generally speaking, Italian people are friendly to Americans. Getting to know the people was my favorite part of my time here both as a kid and while studying at CIMBA. When I came here in 1999, I was dependent on my parents. Now, it is up to me to get everything done from my personal finances to transportation. My parents had a car when I was a kid. Now, when I want to go out, I either have a friend pick me up or take a taxi.

What has been your most memorable experience from CIMBA?

My two favorite parts of CIMBA were LIFE and traveling. During LIFE, I felt scared, but when it came full circle, I absolutely loved it. Prior to coming to CIMBA, I had not traveled much without my parents. It is different having the freedom to do what I want. I visited Portugal, the Netherlands, Ireland, and Spain.

While living in Asolo and Crespano, I only knew about the CIMBA graduate school and only learned about CIMBA undergrad through my home school. My family hosted CIMBA graduate students, but I never fully understood how intense and beneficial the program is until I went through it myself.

Where did you attend school in Asolo and Crespano?

I attended the English International School in Rosa. My family lived close to campus. Teachers spoke English, but the students were Italian for the most part. My sister and I took additional Italian classes at the request of my parents.





CIMBA: Optional Yet Integral

By Joe Viviano (University of Kansas)

A cousin of mine once told me, "Experience everything. Take advantage of every opportunity, both given and seized upon." This pearl of wisdom filtered into my consciousness when I submitted the CIMBA application and started to prepare for a semester abroad. Having already studied abroad twice in India and China, my expectations and set of experiences coming into CIMBA were immensely different than those of my peers.

Three months in Italy was a purely optional experience for me in every sense of the word as I had accrued sufficient credit hours to graduate early. In making the decision to study in Europe, I took several risks: I surrendered a part-time salary, a semester of graduate school, and precious time away from my friends and family. In the parlance of finance and economics, we call the sacrifice of the next best alternative an "opportunity cost", and mine was significant enough to carefully consider the consequences and ramifications of spending my last undergraduate semester across the proverbial pond. As I listened to University of Kansas classmates rave about their CIMBA experience, their ringing endorsements were a glaring indicator there was something acutely unique about this program from both philosophical and curriculum standpoints. Thus, the reputation of CIMBA was the sole determining factor that caused me to prolong my undergraduate career for an extra semester. During my time in Paderno, I gained an invaluable set of lessons that will not only be beneficial from a career perspective, but are also applicable in other aspects of life. In this sense, CIMBA has been an integral component to student's personal and professional development in the following ways.

Knowledge supplemented by mileage is more valuable than knowledge alone.

My travels through Europe speak to the power of direct experience as a learning tool. For example, I have, with a fine-tooth comb, studied monetary and fiscal policy along with financial markets and institutions with the intent of working for the federal government in a regulatory capacity after graduate school.

"As I listened to my classmates rave about their CIMBA experience, their ringing endorsements were a glaring indicator there was something acutely unique about this program from both philosophical and curriculum standpoints."

During the first travel break, I had the unparalleled opportunity to visit the EU Parliament in Brussels and then walk around the outside of the European Central Bank in Frankfurt. I asked Europeans firsthand about their expectations regarding the future of the Euro, the monetary union, and Greece. Walking around the financial and political hearts of Europe provides one with a sense of intuitive understanding that is difficult to grasp from textbooks, newspapers, and journal articles.

Our imagination is unbounded. Admittedly, I view myself as an analytical and practical individual. My mind is primarily concerned with the concrete "why" and "how" inquiries before I consider the abstract "what if" and "could we" questions. Yet it is undeniable that our futures depend on what we imagine right now. In business and life, innovative thinking is not only an asset, it is often times a fundamental element to success and prosperity. The unique leadership and personal development programs of LIFE and LEAP will serve as a potent springboard for imagination and creative problem solving as I parlay my life experiences into graduate school, leadership positions, a family, and a career.

These programs shed light on our personal strengths and require us to set specific, measurable goals for our futures.

Emotional intelligence matters... a great deal. Emotional awareness is the ability to understand, assess, and control the emotions of ourselves and other people. The exciting news is that emotional awareness can be developed and improved by anyone. Through self-regulation, we can form healthier relationships, manage our responses in a mature manner, and more clearly understand our own methods of thinking. The introspective activities throughout CIMBA lend insight into the importance of self-examination as it relates to our relationships, careers, community, and personal barriers.





Learning to Be Mindful Even When your Mind is Full!

By: Professor Chris Ancona (University of Iowa & CIMBA, CIMBA MBA 2011 Alum)

“Our program would not be complete without considering the latest science around mindfulness and its practice.”

At CIMBA, we are always looking to the latest scientific research to improve the lives of our students both at school and beyond. Our program would not be complete without considering the latest science around mindfulness and its practice. Furthermore, the concept of mindfulness has made its way to the business world, and companies from Google to General Mills are adopting the practice for their employees. Therefore, at CIMBA, we have decided to build mindfulness practice into our culture where the students have an opportunity to participate in and create their own practice around mindfulness. You can see on the calendar below how students set up their own ‘mindfulness’ activities and participants signed up on a weekly basis.

So, what is mindfulness? At CIMBA, we believe that **mindfulness** means knowing what you are experiencing, while you are experiencing it, without judgment. We place considerable importance on looking at the experience with an outsider’s or observer’s perspective. Almost anything can be turned into a mindfulness activity; however, we focus on some of the traditional practices including attention to breathing, body scans, mindful yoga and the always fun, “mindful eating”. The activities are designed to teach students the proper way to create their own daily mindfulness practice with only 5 min-1 hour per day, while reaping the numerous benefits in the process.

The business community has embraced mindfulness for a myriad of reasons. Mirabai Bush, who initiated the practice at Google said it best: *"Introducing mindfulness into the workplace does not prevent conflict from arising or difficult issues from coming up. But when difficult issues do arise... they are more likely to be skillfully acknowledged, held, and responded to by the group. Over time with mindfulness, we learn to develop the inner resources that will help us navigate through difficult, trying, and stressful situations with more ease, comfort, and grace."*

The science is very clear, going back to the 1970’s; mindfulness practice improves well-being. These improvements are definitive in aspects of one’s life including stress reduction, health, reduced errors at work, improved relationships, ability to manage emotions, and increased optimism. With the latest FMRI equipment, neuroscientists have found that mindfulness practitioners are exercising and strengthening areas of the brain associated with executive decision making, attention, gut feelings, and well-being. The great news is that the data shows significant changes in the brain in as little as 9 weeks of mindfulness training, meaning novices can benefit greatly in a short time.





Maximizing the CIMBA Experience

By Anonymous

When I finally completed my last form for CIMBA and was all set for my three-month adventure in Europe, I pictured myself casually attending classes but having lots of free time to hang out with my friends.

When I arrived on campus jetlagged, I was easily overwhelmed with room assignments, course schedules, and collecting textbooks before our Welcome Orientation. At this orientation, I learned about various campus opportunities including the various acronyms of LIFE, LEAP, CAP, EWAP, etc. and the of course, infamous gourmet dinners. I could not conceive how I was going to make it through this semester without a weekly panic attack.

The first big step I took at CIMBA was to sign up for the LIFE program. Then, I am not afraid to say, I dropped it before even starting, having determined the program would create stress and too many responsibilities....After a good twenty minutes, however, I realized I had wussed out, so I made my way back to the office to withdraw my withdrawal form. This decision is one that I will be happy with for the rest of my life. The program definitely helped me learn to cope with problems that I faced later. If one thinks they are too cool, or even better than the program, they are not. (Trust me. I am really, really cool and still gained a lot from the experience.)

Once I was in the groove of the CIMBA program, it became easier and easier for me to deal with all of my obligations

and commitments. I just adopted the mentality of "work hard, play hard." All this studying and working hard can leave a person tired, myself included. This tiredness is something that I have been able to combat in a few ways. First, the espresso machines conveniently located around campus. I never drank coffee back in the

"This 'work hard, play hard' mentality is something I'm very happy to have fully embraced while at CIMBA."

States, but over here it is a twice and sometimes thrice a day indulgence. Also, an advantage to being tired a lot is that I do get to sleep, I sleep like a rock. The final piece of advice I give on being tired can be summed up with the simple phrase, "you can sleep when you are dead." This is a fact. End of discussion.

The upside to all this hard work and lack of sleep is the time you get to spend traveling. It is beyond worth it. I have made memories that will last me a lifetime, perhaps one of the cheesiest and over-used lines ever that nevertheless

sums up my feelings really well. The places that I have visited have given me insight into cultures I would never be able to begin to understand in a million years in the classroom. I also gained incredible confidence in myself by navigating cities I have never been to, and interacting with locals to discover the cities' hidden hangouts and attractions.

This "work hard, play hard" mentality is something I very happy to have fully embraced while at CIMBA. I will most definitely be applying it State-side to my schoolwork and someday my career. I still sometimes feel overwhelmed, but when I recognize this I take a deep breath and step back to assess the situation. I tell myself I am going to be all right and move on, taking life's challenges one at a time.

I have grown a lot as a person through all of the both challenging and enjoyable experiences.



By Jake Thomas (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)



Dare Dare devils seek a little excitement in their lives, be it jumping out of planes or catapulting off a ski jump. But for the ultimate rush of falling through air for a mere 7 seconds that seem like a lifetime, I recommend canyon jumping. The idea took my breath away the second I heard about it. It took my breath away again – when I did it! Now, imagine yourself...

So you have decided to be a dare devil and experience canyon jumping. You wait, in extreme anticipation, for the bus to pick you up for the ultimate thrill. You look at your friends around you who no doubt have the same feeling in their guts as you do and the same thoughts: “Why did we decide to do such a crazy thing?” Then you think about all the crazy things you have done in your life, like when you did a cannon ball into the 6 foot deep end of the pool, or that time you rode your bike with no hands down the street. Stupid and crazy, right? Sure, when you were 12.

But now you are a college student, and you have raised the excitement stakes to canyon jumping. Not everyone has done this. As the bus pulls up, your nervous stomach reminds you that yeah this is pretty crazy and stupid and maybe too high a stake. The bus door opens, and you sit in the back, silent like everyone who ponders their thoughts and feelings. To reduce the tension, you talk about other things, but your awareness of this strategy makes you even more nervous.

The bus arrives, and there it is, the canyon—right in front of you. Hey, not too bad; it looks pretty small from where you are standing, and you think to yourself, “I’m swinging through that? Well, uh yeah, you are, and you signed up for it genius, so get going!” With determination, you walk up what seems like endless hill for an endless time, thinking “can I just jump already?” Eventually, the path ends, and the instructors have you grab onto some ropes to slide down manmade snow paths leading to the canyon. All you can think about is, “how is it going to feel? Will I be scared? How excited am I going to be after I finish the jump?”

There it is, right in front of you, the canyon, so narrow from the edge, as you peek down into the narrowness, down and down to the jagged rocks and small rushing river the flows with glacier water from the snowy mountain above. You swallow.

The instructor and your friends call to you and you gain focus at the task at hand. The instructors explain that yes, you are crazy and that they are crazy for helping you do this crazy thing. They hand you a paper, and you sign a release for them and perhaps your life away. A friend yells at you telling you to smile for a picture; your smile says you are enjoying this as it masks your growing nerves.

“You glance around in amazement at the mountain side, with the snow-covered trees, glistening and standing in complete silence. The natural beauty is incredible.”

You glance around in amazement at the mountain side, with the snow-covered trees, glistening and standing in complete silence. The natural beauty is incredible. For a moment, your pulse returns to normal. Then the instructor yells at you and asks if you want to go first. That brief calm and happy state of mind diminishes. Excitement and nerves build; you respond with a “Yes!” The thought of going first rolls through your mind and body, triggering thoughts and emotions like those with your first cannonball jump or bike ride down a hill with no hands. The instructor puts on your harness and straps you up; you are ready to go. It is time, the anticipated moment you thought would not come finally has.

Grabbing more ropes, you slide down another manmade snow path to a small platform. Time to fly like an eagle. The instructor sets up the platform and sends down a bag for weight support on the other end. He looks at you and waves you into the platform and straps you up ready for take-off. Your friend has your camera and starts to video-tape you. You have it all planned out of course. Give a shout out to the parents, family, friends, and the people back at school, crack a few laughs for the camera, and boom. You think for the slightest second that it won’t happen; for a second life stops.

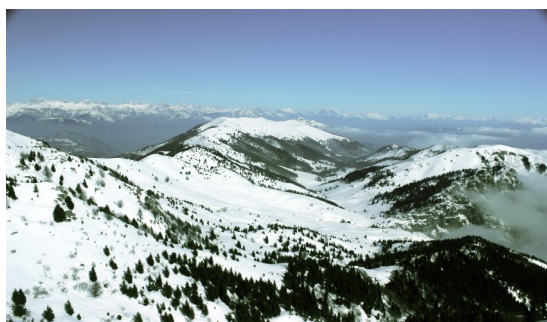
Four steps, the instructor has said. Step one; you know that the camera woman is hanging out 300 feet above the ground waiting to take your picture but you don’t even look because you’re so focused on the second step. Step two: you hit the edge, and there is no turning back now. You shut your eyes, and the camera woman can’t catch your focus now. Step three: it is weightless, and there is nothing below it besides the jagged rocks, rushing river, snow, and the lightest air you will probably ever be in. Step 4: it is flight time. You are dropping for 7 seconds as fast as gravity can pull you down. For those 7 seconds, you had no worries, no emotions, no feelings, no homework. Life stopped for 7 seconds.

You “awake” and find yourself swinging 300 feet below where you were standing 7 seconds earlier. You cannot even believe you did it. “Best 7 seconds of my life” you say to yourself, swinging there with the biggest smile on your face, knowing you just did it -- the thrill of all thrills, and man was it worth it. The ultimate rush!

Intercultural Communication Class Quotations



It's about letting the experience come to you and not forcing it the other way. - Julia Dumaine



Studying abroad has not changed me into a new person, but it has opened my eyes to recognize that you cannot understand someone else until you have walked in their shoes. - Kristen Shanley

I am amazed at how comfortable I have become in Italy; it is my new home, and what made me initially uncomfortable is what I will miss most when I leave. - Taylor Colby



Each small experience in travel, every person you meet adds something to your journey; every new word you learn, every cultural experience you gain creates the new evolving you. - Lauren Zickert

I am no longer afraid of the world and what it has to offer. - Kristana Piechocki



The places and memories that you take back home are not the ones you planned but the ones that you stumbled upon. - Matt Hobson



Spring 2013 Twitter Tweets @CIMBAItaly



Julia Dumaine @ciaoJ_Dums

I don't know what this dessert was but it was LIFE CHANGING
#formaldinner2 @CIMBAItaly pic.twitter.com/iEpdtDiKOB

Retweeted by CIMBA Study Abroad

Hide photo Reply Retweeted Favorite More



Julia Dumaine @ciaoJ_Dums

Woke up at 6:30am to ski THIS #interlaken #SwissAlps
@CIMBAItaly pic.twitter.com/urW7KWfCy

Retweeted by CIMBA Study Abroad

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Kaitlin Hermes @kaitlin16

Venice was such an amazing city. So happy to have visited with these girls. Loving being in Europe with @CIMBAItaly
pic.twitter.com/zOGise3G

Retweeted by CIMBA Study Abroad

Hide photo Reply Retweeted Favorite More



Jake Thomas @Thomas_TidBits

Pizza making was so good I did it a second time! @CIMBAItaly
pic.twitter.com/Sml51ckFsJ

Retweeted by CIMBA Study Abroad

Hide photo Reply Retweeted Favorite More



Anthony Pecoraro @AnthonyPecoraro

Just had a true Italian dinner at an Italian families house! One of the coolest experiences since I've been here @CIMBAItaly

Retweeted by CIMBA Study Abroad

Expand



Reed Woodworth @woods620

Just got my suit back from being altered, ready for Formal Dinner #2 tonight!!! @CIMBAItaly

Retweeted by CIMBA Study Abroad

Expand



LIFE: A Beautiful View from the Top

By Jordan Urso (University of Connecticut)

Prior to coming to CIMBA, I heard about LIFE and LEAP, but it was not until I arrived in Italy that I understood what these two acronyms really stand for. LIFE was the start to an entire semester of introspection and growth facilitated by LEAP.

Along with 38 apprehensive teammates, I participated in LIFE (Leadership Initiative for Excellence) during our second week at CIMBA. During the intensive 2.5 day personal development program, I learned how not to hold back, how to make a difference through defined goals and beliefs, and how small gestures (i.e. feedback and hugs) can make the most significant difference.

Throughout the training, we were told to trust the process countless times. This concept encouraged us to accept that each moment of the program was designed for a specific reason. Although it was not always clear in the moment what it was about, when the pieces came together in the end, the result was incredibly satisfying. The activities during the program represented microcosms of real-world lessons. For me, these lessons were trusting the process, going with the flow, and dealing with change. The lessons led to my awareness of ways that I previously might have held back in my life. I applied this lesson directly throughout my travels here. Each new place I went to, each new food I tasted, and each new person I met showed me how to live my life without regrets. Experiencing LIFE in the beginning of my study abroad program helped me focus on enjoying my time

here, helped me get to know other students on a deeper level than I ever could have imagined possible happening in 10 days, let alone 3 months, and it taught me that in life, if you hold back, you lose out on opportunities to be great.

I now know that I want to focus on leading by example and influence

“By defining my basic beliefs, I have defined my leadership style and the way I want to affect others not only tomorrow but today.”

others by random acts of kindness. Through LIFE and LEAP, I know how important it is to define who we are as people and how others perceive that. Spirituality, creativity, and laughter are, for me, the three most important tools for a leader. Spirituality is a constant guide for me as a leader to make a difference by using both my faith and my gut to make the right decision. Using creativity allows me as a leader to come up with new ideas and activities to do on campus. This semester, I created a Random Acts of Kindness event where CIMBA students wrote a

Kindness Gram: a message to a friend or professor, to tell them how much they appreciate them. This is a way that I facilitated a tangible difference. Thomas Jefferson once said, “Never put off tomorrow what you can do today.” LIFE gave me the courage and structure to think about how I want to make a difference in the world and doing that event on campus is just the start. I believe that another tool for being a leader is laughter because it is not only the best medicine, but it also shows true personality and how relatable you are to others around you. By defining my basic beliefs, I have defined my leadership style and the way I want to affect others not only tomorrow but today.

LIFE is like a mountain, hard to climb, but once you get to the top, the view is beautiful. I have been through several of other leadership-based programs and these two programs significantly surpass those programs because they focus on self-awareness as the first step to becoming a leader. LIFE is a *life*-altering experience and completely worth the time and tremendous energy needed for it!





A Diamond In The Rough

By Professor Selina Neri (HEC Paris & CIMBA, CIMBA MBA Alumna 1995)

I have lived the last 20 years of my life permanently abroad but I still carry an Italian passport, display some form of Italian accent and infinite love for Pizza (a capital “P” is needed in this case). Those around me always wonder how a picky vegetarian with delicate health manages to finish a whole Pizza! Then, there’s my love for a pint or two of good beer (one of the gifts that the German nation gave me after hosting me for 11 years!). My response is simply to admit that I wonder myself!

Arriving in Paderno del Grappa brought back memories of the many challenging times in my life that I experienced when I arrived in a country alone, without knowing anybody. However, this time I did not have the language challenge and I actually did already have some friends (Dr Al, Cristina and Anna.) So after reflection, I realized *challenge* was not an appropriate word to use in describing this semester’s experience. Challenge is a word I use for very different circumstances in my life. I was challenged at the age of 2 when it was discovered that my right eye was almost blind and major interventions were needed; I was challenged at the age of 6 when my family and I survived (unlike hundreds of others) a major earthquake in the region of Friuli and as a consequence I had to be taught again how to speak (1 year of speech therapy made the miracle); I was challenged at the age of 18 when I lost my father due to illness (no miracle here unfortunately); I was challenged when I landed in the USA for the first time for an intensive 6 months to prepare for graduate studies in English language, on a scholarship and with very little cash available (no credit card!); I was challenged when my personal and professional aspirations were deemed unacceptable by my close and wider family and as a result, many doors were shut on me. I was challenged at the age of 39 when corporate rules kindly offered me to choose between the love of my life (Carl) and my career in Deutsche Telekom (evidently I choose the man, as there are many jobs & companies in this orld, but only one Carl (now my husband!). These have been challenges.

CIMBA, on the contrary, is what I describe as a *diamond*. Rare, rough, unique, symbolic and prestigious, as diamonds are.

Rare, because it is a one-of-a-kind program for students as well as professors.

Rough, because it tests our boundaries not just in LIFE, but also in many small little daily things (workload, intensity, 24/7 engagement, eye on the ball all the time and, for professors, the full responsibility of delivering top quality academic rigor while our students have several other competing and simultaneous activities).

“CIMBA is like a diamond...rare, rough, unique, symbolic, and prestigious...as diamonds are.”



Unique, because there is no other study abroad program that develops students on the 3 dimensions of knowledge, behavior and process.

Symbolic, because CIMBA is a major personal, academic and professional turning point (in my calendar 1995 was the year of my CIMBA MBA, with a BC and AC - before and after CIMBA).

Prestigious, because it inspires respect and admiration: from within (as we all know hard work and commitment are required) and from the outside (as recruiters and companies do look at such an experience as an indicator of commitment, resilience, ambition and courage).

Thankfully, CIMBA is not a contributor to the already saturated market of knowledgeable graduates and managers who do not spend time being introspective or have a clue about how to behave in the business environment, in teams and let alone with themselves.

I graduated with a CIMBA MBA and can attest to the fact that it made a huge difference in my life. However, I chose to make something great out of it, on the world stage, with many sacrifices, much fun and never ending ambition. As a professor, I felt deeply honored to have been given the opportunity to leave a positive mark in the education and lives of so many students and, of course, friends. This includes my fellow professors, whose secrets I discover everyday in the faculty office, where we have a weekly celebration of Professor George’s birthday and allow ourselves to be human...and not just professors!



La Dolce Vita: Basil Gelato Making

By Alexa Barach (Clemson University)

During one of this semester's *Evenings with a Professor*, our group went to learn about gelato making. We had heard that we would be making *basil gelato*. We were unsure of how exactly we would go about doing this or whether the seemingly odd flavor would even taste good! The evening began when we entered a tiny gelateria where the owner immediately got down to business!

The process began by picking and place basil leaves into a large bucket. The owner added sugar, powdered sugar, powdered milk, powdered eggs, and pasteurized milk into the large bucket. Powdered eggs are used due to the bacteria that comes with raw eggs. Next, the owner mixed all of the ingredients with an electric mixer. He then poured the mixture into an industrial ice cream machine, which we learned costs about 25,000 £uro! We waited no more than ten minutes until we watched him scoop out a beautiful, light green gelato into a clean metal container.

As I excitedly discovered the wonderfully complex and refreshing flavor of the gelato, I realized it was the best gelato I had ever had!

We felt so fortunate as we learned that this gelateria is the only one in the world to make basil gelato and the owner only makes it upon request!



Basil Gelato Ingredients

- 1 whole Basil Plant
- 440 grams Sugar
(Exact type not disclosed!)
- 40 grams Powdered Sugar
- 80 grams Powdered Milk
- 100 grams Powdered Eggs
- 2000 ml Pasteurized Milk



Work is Freedom: An Experience at Dachau Concentration Camp

By Anthony Pecoraro (West Virginia University)

It is a cold, windy, February morning as the gates lead you inside one of the darkest scenes of your life. Everything you learned about the Holocaust started to flash through your mind; all the horrific events that you heard about were now everywhere you looked. The main gates to the camp opened and the words in scripted onto the black bar fence read, "Arbeit macht frei" or "Works makes freedom"; a saying that was repeated over and over for twelve years to the innocent humans who were brutally beaten to their deaths.

You have heard so many cruel things about this place, but now you are here, on the grounds of a place that made men look like dying kids left only with their skin and bones. To know thousands of victims died right where



"A glimpse into an experience like none other in your entire life, none that could be so moving to the point that every step you took gave you the sudden fear from visualizing the crime and evil that was conducted day in and day out."

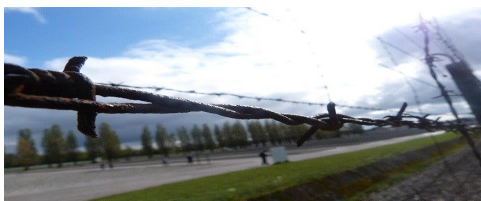
your feet gives you chills throughout your entire freezing body. The experience is moving to the point that every step you take instills a feeling of fear from thinking about the crime and evil that was conducted right where you stand.

The camp is located on the outskirts of Munich, on the lands of an abandoned munitions factory near the medieval town of Dachau. This historical site opened just 51 days after Hitler took power in 1933. It was the first concentration camp during the Holocaust and set an example for many more to follow. Dachau also acted as a training center for the SS concentration camp guards. A place with so much known, and so much unknown; although an estimated 229,000 lives were taken according to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, but they are not exactly sure on the actual number of deaths with many more lives not recorded.

Going on the full 2.5 hour tour is one of the best activities to do in all of Europe. This was not an enjoyable activity but a necessary one. Whether you are a history scholar or know nearly nothing about Dachau, you leave having a far better understanding of what these grounds and the rest of the concentration camps stood for and the atrocities carried out in them. Anyone can walk around the entire grounds of Dachau and for a small fee can get an audio guide. No matter how you visit, you will see that Dachau is strictly a memorial in honor of the victims of the Holocaust, not a history Museum that tells the whole story. Everything is presented from the prisoner's point of view. The perpetrators do not get equal time. No Nazi artifacts are displayed.

The camp area consisted of 32 barracks, including one for clergy imprisoned for those opposing the Nazi regime and one reserved for medical experiments. The other half of the camp was where the Barrack X site was located. This was where the crematoriums were. Although there is immense internal resistance to not even enter the dark, gloomy rooms, filled at one time with hundreds of dead bodies, you have to. This is the most significant aspect of Dachau. While looking up to where the gas faucets, you cannot help but freeze.

Dachau is not a place to be taken lightly and not a place you leave feeling happy. You get a deep, somber feeling of sadness, but a feeling of accomplishment at the same time. This will be far greater than any holocaust museum you can visit and documentaries you can watch. You walk out the same gates that you entered in with a much better understanding of life and the ruthlessness that millions were put through. It is a quest that must be completed to know a significant part in world history. Go and you will not regret it.





Semester Statistics

125 students

55 females, 70 males

17 universities

14 professors

83 days in program

109 completed LIFE

72 completed LEAP



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