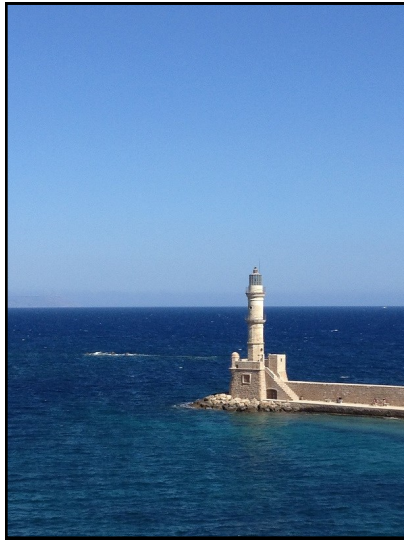


# CIMBA UNDERGRADUATE NEWSLETTER

## SUMMER 2013



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## Piccolo David's Adventures

By: Austin Burch, University of Kansas

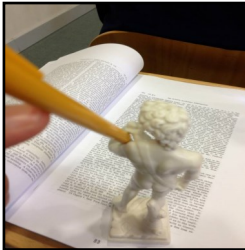
On a rainy Saturday in Florence, Italy - University of Kansas student, Austin Burch, discovered his traveling sidekick: David. David, a miniature version of Michelangelo's famed David sculpture, was located at the base of Giotto's Campanile tower near the infamous Duomo. Thus began the "Adventures of David" – a photo album Burch created featuring David during his ventures



*Gelato was a bit too cold for him— but he sure loves the Italian fashion!*



*A little vino bianco for good ol' Dave and his favorite hotspot in Bassano.*

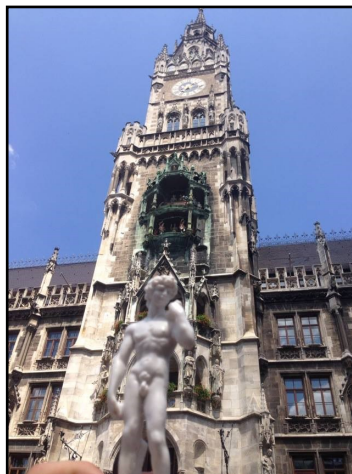


*David's pizza masterpiece — then right back to studying, he loves it.*



*Dave attended all of his Business Law classes @CIMBA and the Keyline Company Tour*

throughout Europe. David enjoyed several unique opportunities through CIMBA such as pizza making in Asolo, and visiting important companies of the Veneto region. During his time in the CIMBA program, David explored his hometown of Florence, the sandy beaches of the Greek islands, and the exciting German culture in Munich. David enjoys his own Italian culture the most, which includes fashion, gelato, and the occasional glass of wine. The CIMBA summer program has come to its end but David's adventures will continue on!



*Dave lived it up in Munich and found his favorite, quiet space near the crystal blue waters in Crete.*

## A Cyclist's Perspective

By: Austin Lear, University of Kansas

My experience in Italy has been quite different than all other CIMBA students. I am a competitive cyclist for the University of Kansas and brought my bicycle with me to Italy. Not knowing when or if I would ever get to experience this again, I had to jump at the opportunity. Riding in Italy is much different than in the US. The culture is much more adapted to seeing cyclists on a regular basis and drivers know how to safely pass a cyclist, even on a narrow road at high speeds.



In the first three weeks on campus, I rode 370 miles with 60,000 feet of elevation, including Mount Grappa (elevation: 1,700 meters).

The area around Paderno del Grappa is a huge center for both recreational and professional cyclists.

I had a couple of extraordinary experiences. Twice while climbing, once up Monte Grappa and another time up Monte Cesen, I rode into and above the clouds to reach the summit. It was a surreal experience to see clouds beneath me. I enjoyed lunch with a few local cyclists in a small town at the base of Monte Cesen. We did not share a common language but we enjoyed expressing our enjoyment for cycling no matter which country. During my climb up Mount Grappa, the weather was 70 and sunny at the base, but 14 of the 16 miles up the mountain, it started to sleet on me! I had to turn back because I was not dressed properly.

Cycling in the region around campus is one of the best places I've ever had the privilege of riding and is relatively unknown to non-locals. The views are breathtaking although well-earned due to their undulating nature! I encourage any student that is a cyclist coming to the CIMBA program to bring their bicycle; it is an experience that you will never forget!

*Biking up Monte Grappa and in Bassano del Grappa, Italy*







## *Discovering Old Town Greece*

*By: Evan Flynn, University of Iowa*

I traveled to the island of Crete and stayed in the Old Town of Chania. The town was started due to the easy shipping access on the harbor.

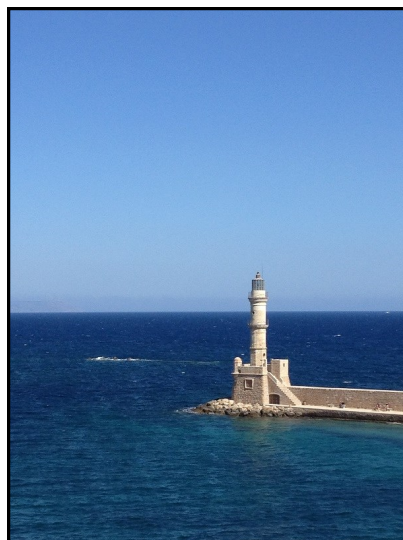
While in Chania, we enjoyed learning a lot with a local guide. This tour was such an amazing opportunity for me because I was able to learn much more about the culture and history of Chania than I ever would have known by just walking around the city on my own.

The city of Chania is especially unique due to the mixture of cultures that have taken over the city. In the past, Chania has been ruled by the Minoans, Ottoman Empire, Venetians, and many more. These three different rulers have contributed the most to the architecture that I saw around Chania. Minoan ruins are continually being dug up around Chania and historians are continuing to find out more about the oldest parts of the city. The more recent rulers like the Ottoman Empire and the Venetians left their mark on Chania through the buildings that are found around Old Town. The square buildings around the



harbor and the large lighthouse overlooking the harbor show the work of Venetians while many domes around Old Town and the mosque right on the harbor show the work of the Ottoman ruins

Seeing all of these cultures come together as one is so different from anything I have ever seen. In college, I'm used to being around a student population that is very culturally diverse but while in Chania, I experienced a place that is far more diverse due to its long history. My visit to Chania was truly a once in a life time opportunity that I would not have been able to experience without CIMBA.



## *The Veneto's Hidden Gems*

*By: Kelsey Youngblut, Iowa State University*

On one weekend, some friends and I decided to stay in Paderno and go to the open air markets in Bassano del Grappa on Saturday morning and Crespano on Sunday morning. Taking the public bus to Bassano was much easier than we expected as we simply purchased the tickets in advance from the Tabacchi! We boarded the bus right outside of the front gate of campus and enjoyed the 30 minute ride to Bassano.



Once we got to Bassano, most of the vendors were just beginning to set up so we found a cafe and enjoyed a pastry and cappuccino while watching the locals and vendors interact. By the time we finished, most of the vendors were ready to begin business. It was amazing how many different things were for sale at the market. You could get anything from kitchen utensils to scarves to blankets and jewelry. It was really interesting to see that many of the vendors carried many of the same clothing items, but each vendor had a completely different feel.



After purchasing a few things and wandering around admiring the pure beauty of a town just 30 minutes from campus, we ordered some pizza for lunch, stopped at a gelateria, and headed back to Paderno.

On Sunday morning, we took a 20 minute gorgeous walk to Crespano, another small town with an open air market. This market felt a lot

bigger, but that may just be because the vendors were more spread out. We noticed a lot of the same things as we had seen the day before, but there was one very unique vendor. I was not able to stop and actually look at it because I do not like the smell of fish! However, my friend said that this vendor's truck had every kind of fish you could think of, including squid!

My favorite thing that we saw in Crespano was two ladies with baby kittens. We are not sure if they were trying to sell them, but they let us hold the kittens for a long time before we moved on to a cafe for another delicious breakfast of pastry and cappuccino. I have yet to find a cappuccino that I don't like here!

Even though I didn't go anywhere off campus, it was an amazing weekend of exploring the little known parts of Italy just minutes from campus.







## *Experiencing the real Italian Pizza*

*By: Susanna Taylor, Purdue University*

Pizza making, it can be done anywhere, right? Well, that's what I thought until I met Saverio at his pizzeria in Asolo, Italy. There is only one place that pizza making can be done the Italian way, and that is in Italy!

### **The Host**

Saverio's pizzeria is closed on Mondays but he opened it just for our group of 15 people. He gave us an incredibly warm greeting with a glass of Prosecco. Saverio does not speak much English, but it is not hard to communicate with him because of his animated personality. He is always moving and showing his emotion. As the Italian was translated, we quickly learned that we would be quizzed throughout the evening to earn our pizza! Saverio is a natural teacher and enthusiastically explained all of the intricacies of making a real pizza.

**Ingredients:** Flour, Yeast, Water, Salt, Extra Virgin Olive Oil.

We were quizzed on what the most important ingredients are. His reactions to our answers would sometimes give us a good clue as to whether we were on the right track or not. We then learned about the required oven temperature (850F), how much time each pizza takes (4-6 minutes), and Saverio's productivity (60/hour!).

As I was rolling my dough, Saverio reminded me that a good crust is thin

and without air pockets. The process is certainly harder than it looks!

**Toppings I chose:** Cheese, Salami, Ham, Zucchini and Tomatoes.

### **Cooking and Eating**

Saverio put the pizzas in the oven, but not before making the crust into a heart shape! He knew just when to take it out for the best taste too. It is important for a good pizza to have the right crust color and not be burnt underneath. I took one bite of my pizza and knew that I probably wouldn't taste anything so delicious for a long time.

Homemade tiramisu topped the meal off. As we were walking out, I got my picture with Saverio and told him thank you and that the pizza was good with the very little Italian that I know. He answered animatedly and excitedly. He made me appreciate the value of the personality in the food and not just the food itself. Saverio's excitement and passion for his work and hosting us with superb Italian hospitality made the night extremely special, and the food that much more memorable. Italy has taught me a lot of things, but Saverio taught me the importance of loving what you do and the importance of sharing it with those around you.

*Experiences like this can easily make a person fall in love with Italy.*

## CIMBA's First Engineering Course

By: Professor Wilf Nixon, University of Iowa

Given that CIMBA stands for the Consortium Institute of Management and Business Analysis it perhaps seems a little strange that an engineering class has snuck into the CIMBA Undergraduate Summer Program this year. What on earth is going on?

Well, today more than ever before business and engineering need to be breaking down the barriers between our disciplines, and what better way to break down those barriers than for engineering and business students to study abroad together? And the need for ongoing collaboration between these two disciplines is only going to grow as the pace of technological innovation continues to grow exponentially (think Moore's Law – a doubling every two years in capability per unit cost is a classic exponential growth function).

But the reason to start bringing engineering into the CIMBA summer undergraduate program is not simply to mix a few engineering students into the brew! Because most engineering degrees are very highly programmed, it is difficult for engineering students to study abroad without finding themselves a year behind in their degrees. That sounds unlikely, but consider that some of the final

year courses in an engineering degree have four or five layers of prerequisites in front of them, and you will understand that missing a semester means you have missed a lot. Many required classes are offered only once



a year, so it is not easy to get back on track.

However, the CIMBA summer program offers a unique way for students to get a couple of needed classes under their belts and do it in a setting that provides them with that unique study abroad experience. I have been delighted to see some of my students return from Paris talking about the Pont Neuf over the Seine which we discussed in class and which they have now seen for themselves.

Just as business students need to be able to operate in a global market place, so too do engineering students, and so the need for study abroad opportunities is a growing one in the engineering disciplines. The challenges I mentioned above make study abroad

difficult for engineers, but as this summer is showing, it is far from impossible.

It may not be impossible, but is it fun – that is really a key question! I have to say that it is great fun for me (you will have to ask my students how they feel about it!). First, I have been teaching Engineering Statics for many years (the exact number is classified, and if any journalist publishes it they will have their phone records searched by the FBI) and enjoy teaching it immensely. The course is fundamentally all about problem solving and teaching that

process is very rewarding. Second the fast pace of the course that a four week session requires moves things along very rapidly. There are drawbacks to that fast pace, of course – a lot of material comes at you very quickly, but the benefit is that the course does not drag at all – there simply isn't time for that.

The third aspect of the class that is great fun for me is the low enrollment. I recognize that having low numbers every year is not a sustainable model, but I thoroughly enjoy having fewer than ten students in class rather than having more than 100! I get to know the students so much better, and can provide them with the help they need to become truly expert problem solvers by the end of the course. All in all, it is great fun. Plus, we are in Italy...!



## *Back to my Heritage*

*By: Nicole Rae, University of Iowa*

Growing up with almost 40 relatives on my mom's side of my family may seem like a lot, but in Italian culture, it's almost unheard of to have that small of a family! My mom has 5 siblings, which means I have a whole lot of cousins. I've always considered myself Italian even though I'm only 50%, so coming to Italy and experiencing the true Italian culture has always been a dream of mine. When I heard about the opportunity to study abroad with CIMBA, I knew it was meant to be. I couldn't have been more excited to see the world and see where my ancestors came from.

During my travels through Italy, I got to see all the big places: Rome, Florence, Milan, Venice, Capri, Pompei, Positano, and Cinque Terre. By far out of all of those places, my favorite was Florence. I didn't really know what to expect, and all I knew was that it was a bigger city that had The Duomo. What I didn't know is how unbelievably beautiful it is. The drive to get there was on a winding highway that lined the hills of Tuscany where quaint towns nestled in the valleys. I stared out the window in awe at the emerald grasslands and picture perfect views. Immediately, I knew Florence would be a much different change of scenery than the mountainous town of Paderno del Grappa where CIMBA resides.

As soon as I stepped off the bus in Florence, I completely fell in love. The streets and sidewalks were all made of cobblestone, and everywhere you look you are surrounded by Italian history. Our big tourist venture of the entire trip was to The Duomo. All I can say is WOW. What an incredibly beautiful piece of history and architecture. The detailing on the entire outside of the building is so ornate and precise; I can't believe someone did all of that without modern-day tools! It's massive and breathtaking, it will definitely cause a few minutes of staring with your mouth hanging wide open. The inside, of course, is just as beautiful and detailed. The mural ceiling is absolutely amazing and it just shows how much hard work and love went in to creating that entire building. We also went up the bell tower to the very top (414 steps to be exact) for a gorgeous view of all of Florence and it's Tuscan scenery.

The best part about my entire experience in Ita-

ly? I've actually been mistaken as a **real** Italian! A vendor at the market asked me if I was Italian and even pinpointed that I was Sicilian! It made me proud

to be able to say yes. Even though true Italian culture is much different than Italian-American culture, we all share the same history and love for where we come from. I'm happy to say that I've finally been there! I've had such an incredible experience and have grown so much as an individual. Having to navigate your way through a foreign country definitely helps you learn new ways to communicate and interact with people.





## Music and Experiential Learning

By: *Concepts and Contexts of Music Class*

What is music? According to twentieth-century composer John Cage, music is sound organized in a period of time. Throughout this class, we have experienced mind-opening examples of European and American music. We developed our musical knowledge through listening to famous pieces from the sixteenth to twentieth centuries. In addition to listening to recordings, we attended three live performances and also toured the famous opera house: La Fenice in Venice. After attending these events, we demonstrated our knowledge by writing descriptions with the use of musical terms from class.

The first performance we attended was a concert at the Chiesa Santa Croce auditorium in Treviso. This auditorium was previously a beautiful church with ornate paintings and sculptures on the walls, much different from churches or concert venues we might typically see in the US. At the concert, Rolf Lislevand was featured playing the lute and the theorbo. The lute and theorbo were popular Spanish “guitars” of the 17th century that were often found in people’s homes. It was a great experience to see what we were learning in our class come to life in an authentic Italian concert hall. The best part was seeing not only the joy that the music brought to the musician, but also the happiness it brought to the crowd. After every piece, applause filled the room and at the end, the crowd continued to clap and cheer until Rolf Lislevand returned for an encore performance.



*Classical Guitarist Rolf Lislevand*

The second concert we attended was called “Music without Borders: Carlos de Costa Coelho Trio.” This concert took place in the beautiful Villa Rubelli, which opens on a small courtyard with sculptures of women. The directors of the concert kindly allowed us to tour the villa. The concert featured a main guitarist (Carlos de Costa Coelho), a cello and a flute, and the music they played was of a crossover genre incorporating styles from western and nonwestern music. The concert hall was completely filled. Carlos gave us class a “shout out” in English and programs in English that helped us better understand the background of the music. Our favorite piece was “The Boy and the Tiger” because we had studied the piece in class beforehand. When we heard it, we were able to apply the concepts we learned previously in class.

During the final week of the class, we traveled to Venice to tour the Teatro La Fenice. La Fenice translates as “the phoenix” which reflects its role in permitting an opera company “to rise from the ashes.” This is ironic because La Fenice has burned down twice. The historical opera house was originally constructed in 1792; however 44 years later it experienced its first detrimental fire. A year later in 1837, after rapid reconstruction, the opera house rose from the ashes and was up and running. Yet in 1996, a little over a century later, another fatal fire occurred to the opera house, due to a financial debt that led to arson. After a ninety- million Euro complete reconstruction in 2001, La Fenice still holds its impeccable form to the present day. This visit is applicable to our Enjoyment of Music class in which we learned about music in the seventeenth through nineteenth centuries, when operas became most prevalent. Having the opportunity to tour La Fenice provided our class with better insight and understanding of this historical music genre.



## Summer Tweets @CIMBAItaly



**Sarah M.** @MsJamaicaQueens

Checked in, registered, and welcomed 253 students from 20 different universities... No biggie, I enjoyed it all! #RALife @CIMBAItaly

Retweeted by CIMBA Study Abroad



**Maggie** @Maggie\_CIMBA

Still full from delicious pasta making, if there only was a way to capture the aroma of fresh Italian cooking in a tweet @CIMBAItaly

Retweeted by CIMBA Study Abroad

from Paderno del Grappa, Treviso



**Maggie** @Maggie\_CIMBA

A morning in Roma and an evening in Florence... #whatalife #italy @CIMBAItaly



**Evan Flynn** @evanaflynn

Flight delays in Italy are so much more confusing when you don't understand Italian.. @CIMBAItaly



**Maggie** @Maggie\_CIMBA

Headed up to Mount Grappa this afternoon on the most gorgeous day since I have been in Italy @CIMBAItaly



**Evan Flynn** @evanaflynn

Finding little pieces of home in Italy is so amazing. @CIMBAItaly instagram.com/p/Z6P8R-n-CM/



**molly rapert** @mrapert

Woke up to snow on Mount Grappa! Beautiful (but cold) sight @CIMBAItaly this May! pic.twitter.com/AScUDKckkr

Hide photo Reply Retweet Favorite More



**Evan Flynn** @evanaflynn

Asolo by Night trip! #beautifulnight @CIMBAItaly

instagram.com/p/Z6QT8wH-C9/

Retweeted by CIMBA Study Abroad

Collapse Reply Delete Favorite More

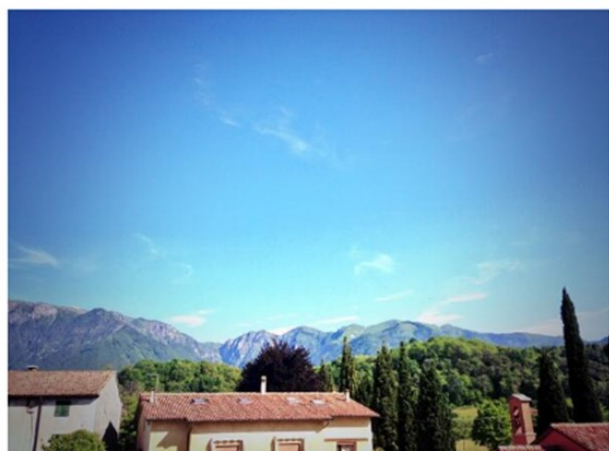


**Nina** @ninavescio

#riseandshine @CIMBAItaly pic.twitter.com/QEwi9MahNp

Retweeted by CIMBA Study Abroad

Hide photo Reply Retweet Favorite More



**Maggie** @Maggie\_CIMBA

Campus from day to night! @CIMBAItaly





## Term Statistics

**247 students**

**132 females, 115 males**

**19 universities**

**16 professors and  
courses**

**28 days in program**



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