



**UMBC Music Student
Study at the Conservatorio "G. Nicolini"
Piacenza, Italy**

The UMBC Department of Music has an exchange agreement with the Conservatorio "G. Nicolini" in Piacenza, Italy that enables accepted Italian students to study at UMBC from August through December, and for accepted UMBC students to study there from January through June. Each student's program of study is devised in consultation with music academic advisors based on their talents and curricular needs.

As the Italian system runs on an academic year rather than a semester system, Italian students miss the start of the Italian academic year, which begins Nov. 1, and make up the work when they return in December. UMBC students arrive in January and are folded into ensembles and classes with the Conservatorio.

UMBC students interested in applying to attend the Piacenza Conservatory should follow this timeline:

WHEN	UMBC Music Department	UMBC Center for Global Engagement	Piacenza Conservatory
One year before going to Italy	Studying Italian beginning one year before planning to attend is highly recommended. CCBC Catonsville offers Italian language classes.		
February of the year before going to Italy		Students must inform the UMBC Center for Global Engagement by attending their informational programs: Study Abroad 101 After taking this online course, sign up for a Study Abroad Advisor: Get an advisor NOTE: There is a deadline of October 10 for advising for the spring semester.	
February of the year before	Contact the UMBC Music Department liaison (currently Dr. Linda Dusman, dusman@umbc.edu) to		

	determine your musical readiness for the program. Currently this program is best suited for second semester junior performance or composition majors.		
Before spring break of the year before	Prepare an audition video for the Music Department to send to the Piacenza Conservatory. All music majors are eligible for 1 hour of free recording services for this purpose.		
By April 15 of the year before	Submit your recording (or a link) to the music department liaison, along with a recommendation from your private instructor (this can be emailed). Your recording will be sent to the faculty in Piacenza for their consideration.	Students can meet with an Education Abroad Advisor starting in April for advising.	Director of ERASMUS receives audition materials from UMBC liaison
By May 15 of the year before			You will know if you have been accepted to the Conservatorio for study the following spring
Summer of the year before			Apply for a passport, apply for a visa to study in Italy, study Italian language.
Fall of the year before	Advising for classes to be taken in Piacenza, coordinating with ERASMUS coordinator. Begin searching for housing in Piacenza.	The UMBC Study Abroad Application is due October 10 at 11:59 PM. Students must attend pre-departure orientation (typically the first week of December) and complete the required pre-decision and post-decision UMBC Study Abroad application materials prior to departure.	Advising for classes to be taken in Piacenza, coordinating with UMBC liaison
First week of January			Arrive in Piacenza. Complete residency permit with the Commune di Piacenza.