
Studying Abroad in Rome: Routine, Creativity and Identity

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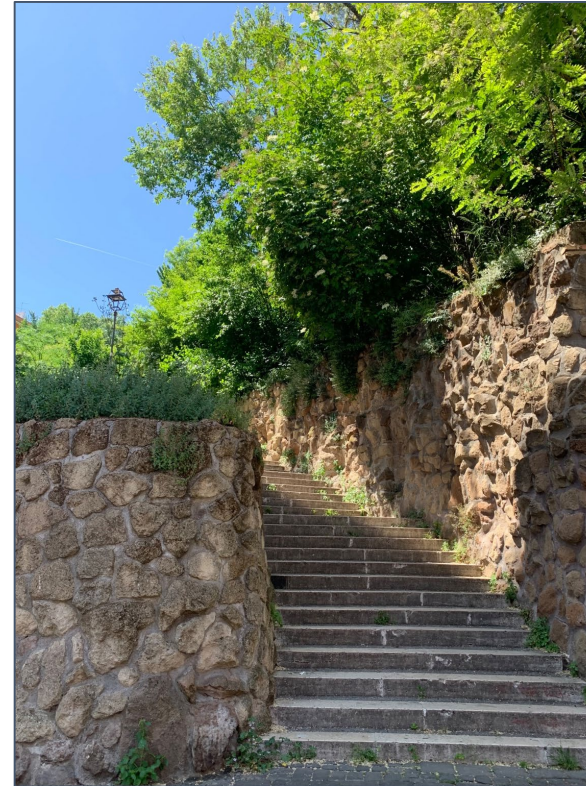
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From Tacoma to Rome

Methodology: travel writing analysis

- Radical change in my environment = breaking routine
 - Tacoma – rigid routine, school-centered
 - Rome – embracing creativity and trying new things



Why Students Should Study Abroad



Globalization

Appreciating diversity, cross-cultural communication skills

Problem solving & creativity

Novel ideas, link between living abroad and creativity

Personal growth

Students are less motivated by future career benefit

My Motivations



Challenging myself

Problem solving and a new language



Boosting Creativity

Taking art & writing courses



Adapting

New cultural & business norms



'Roots' Tourism in Italy

Tourist Gaze



Commercialized images, touch & objects
Eurocentric tourism = the center or origin



Protecting national identity and population
Inviting emigrants back to homelands

Embracing
culture

Solutions and Outcomes

- Integrate study abroad into curriculum; remove financial barriers
- Personal outcomes: embracing identity
 - Spontaneity and being observant

