

*Planning  
your arrival*  
A.Y 2016/2017

## International Student Guide

Piacenza



UNIVERSITÀ  
CATTOLICA  
del Sacro Cuore



Dear International Student,

Studying in Piacenza can be an exciting and challenging experience as well as an opening of your social and cultural horizons.

This guide has been carefully compiled to provide the essential information to prepare your experience at Cattolica. You will find critical information about courses, visas, residency permits, housing, student life and practical tips for your stay here in Piacenza.

Further information relevant to your day-to-day experience in Italy will be provided during the Orientation Events, however this guide should give you a good idea of what to expect upon arrival.

We hope you will make your stay a positive and enriching experience.

UCSC International Staff



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## Before you leave home

### Visa Requirements

**Non-EU residents** require a visa for a stay of longer than three months (90 days). Students need to request a student visa at the Italian embassy or consulate of their jurisdiction. Below you will find the basic application requirements. However, it is important that students verify their consulate's web site for any additional requirements:

- Original Bachelor Degree
- Admission letter issued by UCSC
- Passport and Driver's Licence/ID/Residency Card
- Student visa application to be submitted in person
- Evidence of financial support (of not less than 430€ for each month of the academic year)
- Proof of adequate health insurance coverage outside your country
- Flight itinerary
- Proof of accommodation in Italy

### Travel Registration

We strongly advise you to register your contact details online with the [Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade](#) of your jurisdiction. The registered information provided by you will be used in the unlikely case of an

emergency.

#### Useful links:

- › [travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui/](https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui/)
- › [www.orao.dfat.gov.au](https://www.orao.dfat.gov.au)

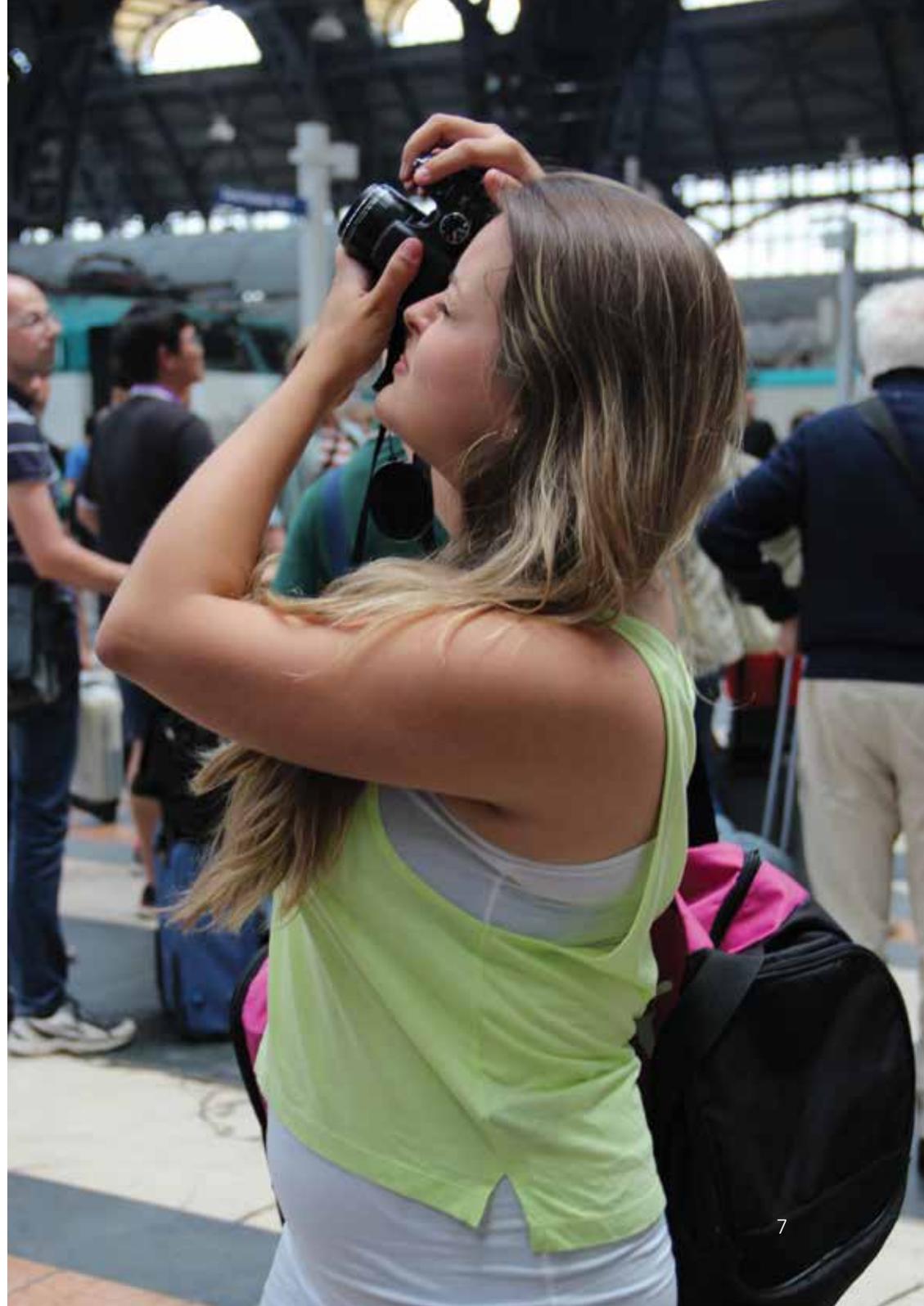
### Medical Insurance

If you are a national from either a [EU Member State](#) or an [EEA country](#) or you are of Swiss nationality, you should have a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) Italian acronym: TEAM, obtained in your home country from your national healthcare authority. The European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) allows to receive medical treatment in another member state for free, or at a reduced cost. A patient contribution is required for prescriptions, medical examinations, oral and dental care.

**Non-EU residents** must take out an International Health Insurance which covers costs related to medical treatment and admission to hospital. If allowed by the Embassy/Consulate, they can also buy an Italian National Health Insurance upon arrival to Piacenza. It is called "INA Assitalia" and costs 98 € for a period of 12 months, but only covers emergency treatments.

#### Note:

An insurance policy is compulsory if you apply for a residency permit





## What to bring to Piacenza

### Pre-departure documentations check-list

- A valid passport
- A valid student visa (if applicable)
- Travel itinerary/ticket
- Travel insurance
- Health insurance
- Credit cards & other cards
- Any medical certificates
- Admission letter issued by host institution
- At least four **colour and original** passport size photos (3 x 4 cm); they can **not** be scanned.

### Documentation guidelines

Make additional copies of all your documents, certificates, cards etc. Keep copies in a safe place in your home country, and bring the rest to Italy. When traveling remember to keep copies in both your hand luggage and check-in luggage. Upon arrival keep all documents in safe place in your apartment.

For further safety measures, scan all your documents, certificates, cards etc. and email them to yourself as attachments.

Bring receipts of any electrical goods that you bring such as laptops, cameras, iPods, etc. This ensures when and where the items were purchased.

### Packing

The weather in Piacenza varies considerably from one season to next. December to February are the coldest months, but April usually brings nice spring weather. July and August are the hottest months. Students on campus generally dress informally but you may want to bring with you something more formal for special events.

You can find everything in Piacenza so don't worry if you forget to pack something.

You will need to buy plug/power converters for your electrical devices. Electricity in Italy and Europe comes out of the wall socket at 220 volts. The Italian plug is a two or three round-prong socket.

## Medical Assistance

### Medication

You should verify the availability of certain drugs in Italy, but we suggest that you stock up from home on any specific medication you will need during the stay. Control the customs restrictions for importing medication from outside the E.U. especially anti-depressant drugs as you do not want to have your medication confiscated at customs. For safety measures, obtain a letter from your General Practitioner specifying the medication you will bring with you.

### Pharmacies

Many medications that you purchase over-the-counter in other countries are available only by prescription in Italy.

### Health Centre @ Cattolica

There is a Health Centre on campus which provides all registered students with medical care, nursing care and psychological counselling.

#### Opening hours:

Mondays and Wednesdays:  
3.00pm - 4.00pm  
Friday:  
11.00am - 12.00pm

#### Contact:

Dr Giuseppe Miserotti  
Location: Collegio Sant'Isidoro  
Strada dell'Anselma, 7  
29122 Piacenza

### Hospitals

If you require more serious medical assistance you will need to visit the hospital. Remember to always bring a copy of your health insurance. Always inform the International Student Services and they can arrange an English speaking assistance if needed.

## Accommodation in Piacenza

Before your arrival to Cattolica Piacenza campus, UCSC International will send you updated information about available apartments around the town.

#### For more information please visit:

› [educatt.unicatt.it/educatt-residenza-gasparini-il-collegio](http://educatt.unicatt.it/educatt-residenza-gasparini-il-collegio)

### Collegio Sant'Isidoro (on campus)

The Residence was built in 1995. With 165 single bedrooms, the Residence provides many services, including heating, air conditioning, sports facilities, common study rooms, tv room, Wi-Fi connection, private bathroom, room cleaning, all included in the accommodation fee. Inside the Collegio you will find the University cafeteria, open to students, administrative and teaching staff and to external guests.

Collegio Sant'Isidoro will be closed from July 25 to August 25 for Summer Holidays.

Please note: a few bedrooms will be set aside for Exchange Students - for deadlines and application procedure please contact:

Mil Service (Stefano Zaffiro)  
› [info@milservice.com](mailto:info@milservice.com)

For more information please visit:  
› [collegi.unicatt.it/collegi-collegio-sant-isidoro-presentazione](http://collegi.unicatt.it/collegi-collegio-sant-isidoro-presentazione)

### Collegio Morigi (off campus) & Collegio Orsoline (off campus)

Alternatively, you can apply for a private room at one of the other residences for students. For information about application procedure and deadlines please refer to:

### Residence Halls

Università Cattolica offers two on campus residence halls and two in the city center. Moreover, the university collaborates with estate agencies that help students in finding the right place to stay, according to needs and expectations.

### Residenza Gasparini (on campus)

Located right behind the University's cafeteria lies the on campus Residenza Gasparini, with 52 single rooms, private bathrooms, and three common kitchens, this residence is a very comfortable place to stay. The price includes breakfast, bed linens, blankets, bath towels, weekly room cleaning and Wi-Fi connection. There are also several common rooms in which you can study and spend your time with other international students.

#### Contacts:

Segreteria Operativa Piacenza  
EDUCatt  
› [reception.piacenza@educatt.org](mailto:reception.piacenza@educatt.org)  
Tel. +39 0523 62 11 11  
Fax: +39 0523 579416

Contacts:  
Segreteria Operativa Piacenza EDU-  
Catt  
› [reception.piacenza@educatt.org](mailto:reception.piacenza@educatt.org)  
Tel. +39 0523 62 11 11  
Fax: +39 0523 579416

### Real Estate Agencies

If you prefer to choose your apartment directly in Piacenza, you can easily book a room at a hotel or hostel and take an appointment with one of the Real Estate Agencies that support our international students:

#### Casa IN

Emanuela Anglani (English speaking)  
Via Tansini 35/C - 29122 Piacenza  
Tel. +39 339 4297746  
› [info@casainpiacenza.it](mailto:info@casainpiacenza.it)  
› [www.casainpiacenza.it](http://www.casainpiacenza.it)

#### Invest S.R.L

Roberta Sarti  
Via Mazzini 31-33 - 29121 Piacenza  
Tel +39 0523 384842  
› [roberta@investimmobiliare.eu](mailto:roberta@investimmobiliare.eu)  
› [aginest@tin.it](mailto:aginest@tin.it)  
› [www.investimmobiliare.eu](http://www.investimmobiliare.eu)

#### Piacenza Affitti

Tel. +39 347 6990669  
› [info@piacenzaffitti.it](mailto:info@piacenzaffitti.it)

#### Riabita

Mrs Giuliana Lusardi  
Tel. +39 0523 758214  
› [immobiliariabita@alice.it](mailto:immobiliariabita@alice.it)  
› [www.riabita.it](http://www.riabita.it)

#### Soluzione Casa

Mr Massimo Corbellini (English and Spanish Speaking)

Tel. + 39 0523 490818  
› [info@soluzionecasapc.it](mailto:info@soluzionecasapc.it)  
› [www.soluzionecasapc.it](http://www.soluzionecasapc.it)

#### Tecnocasa

Ms. Umbra Carini (English speaking)  
Tel. +39 366-2535166  
› [pccc1@tecnocasa.it](mailto:pccc1@tecnocasa.it)  
› [www.tecnocasa.it](http://www.tecnocasa.it)

Once in Piacenza, you will also find various offers on the notice boards located inside the campus.

### Temporary lodgings

#### Bed and Breakfast L'Antica Torre

Str. La Motta Vecchia, 31 - 29122 Montale (PC)  
Tel/Fax: +39 0523 615267  
Mobile: +39 392 3958926 - +39 348 4590725

#### Ostello Don Zermani

Mrs Daniela Ponzini  
Via Zoni, 38/40 - 29121 Piacenza - Italy  
› Tel. and Fax: +39 0523 712319  
› [www.ostellodipiacenza.it](http://www.ostellodipiacenza.it)

#### Ostello Papa Giovanni XXIII

Mrs Daniela Ponzini  
Cantone San Nazzaro 2/A - 29122 Piacenza (PC)  
› Tel. +39 (0)523 337989  
› [info@ostellodipiacenza.it](mailto:info@ostellodipiacenza.it)

#### Hotel Petit

Via Pennazzi, 5 - 29122 Piacenza (PC)  
Tel. +39 0523 590405  
› [petithotelpiacenza@gmail.com](mailto:petithotelpiacenza@gmail.com)  
› [www.hotelpetit.it](http://www.hotelpetit.it)

#### Euro Hotel



Via Cristoforo Colombo, 29/F  
29100 Piacenza  
Tel. +39 0523 606 011  
› [info@hoteleuropiacenza.it](mailto:info@hoteleuropiacenza.it)

**Hotel City**  
Via Emilia Parmense, 54  
29100 Piacenza  
Tel. +39 0523 579752  
› [www.hotelcitypc.it](http://www.hotelcitypc.it)

**Bed and Breakfast Giò**  
Via Croce 10  
29121 Piacenza (PC)  
Tel. +39 327 2892814 - +39 340  
5252402  
› [bedandbreakfastgio@gmail.com](mailto:bedandbreakfastgio@gmail.com)  
› [www.bedandbreakfastgio.com](http://www.bedandbreakfastgio.com)

**Casa del Viaggiatore**  
Mr Leo Balestrazzi  
Stradone Farnese 63/a  
29121 Piacenza (PC)  
Tel. +39 (0)523 1996230  
Mobile +39 348 6376766  
› [casadelviaggiatorepiacenza@gmail.com](mailto:casadelviaggiatorepiacenza@gmail.com)

**Casa Scalabrini - Collegio di Piacenza**  
Mrs Stefania  
Via Francesco Torta, 14  
29122 Piacenza (PC)  
Tel. +39 (0)523 348621  
› [casamadre@scalabrini.net](mailto:casamadre@scalabrini.net)

### Other Bed & Breakfast

› [www.ostellipiacenza.it/](http://www.ostellipiacenza.it/)

## Studying at Cattolica

### The Italian Grading System

The Italian Grading System ranges from 18/30 to 30/30.

The highest mark is 30/30eLode (with distinction).

All the exams under 18/30 are considered as "not passed" and thus are not registered on the final Transcript of Records.

1 ECTS corresponds to 1 CFU (Credito Formativo Universitario).

### Orientation Events

Each Master program will have organized its own Welcoming activities. You will be contacted directly with details.

### Italian Language course

Your program may already include a compulsory Italian Language Course. If this is not your case, or should you be particularly interested in developing your language skills, UCSC International organises an Italian Language and Culture Course

To find out more about the course and the procedure to register visit the website:

› [www.ucscinternational.it/student-services-at-cattolica/students-services-piacenza-cremona/italian-language-culture-course-in-piacenza-cremona](http://www.ucscinternational.it/student-services-at-cattolica/students-services-piacenza-cremona/italian-language-culture-course-in-piacenza-cremona)





## Public transportation in Piacenza

### Bus

Bus number 2 or 3 stop at the main university entrance.

Tickets cost as follows (subject to change):

- Single - €1,20
- One-day pass - €3,50

Different kinds of seasonal tickets are also available:

- Multiple- user pass (you must write on the ticket the number of your ID card, passport or driving licence):  
9 tickets - €10
- Single - use pass (You must hold a Tempi Agenzia S.p.A. ID card: €3
- Student one-month pass: €27
- Student 10-month pass: €200
- Student 12-month pass: €260

To purchase a Tempi Agenzia S.p.A. ID card you should go to the Tempi Office in Piazza Cittadella with the following:

- passport-size photograph
- tax code
- passport or ID card

For information on timetables and routes:

› [www.setaweb.it/azienda/index.php?azienda=pc](http://www.setaweb.it/azienda/index.php?azienda=pc)

### Bike

#### Sharing "Mi Muovo in Bici!"

Piacenza bike sharing service involves the main cities of the region Emilia-Romagna. To benefit from the service, you will have to register online. You will receive your personal electronic card directly at your Italian address in Piacenza.

You can choose between:

- Daily pass: €5
- Annual pass: €25 (+ daily costs)

#### Daily costs:

- First 30 minutes: free of charge
- every 30 minutes: €0.80
- more than 3 hours: €2/hour

› [www.mimuovoinbici.it/](http://www.mimuovoinbici.it/)

#### Rent or buy a bike

Alternatively, you can rent a bike at the Railway Station, or buy a bike at a bike shop.

Rent fees:

- €1,20/hour
- €3,50/day
- €30 /month

› [www.comune.piacenza.it/temi/muoversi/in-bici/noleggio-biciclette](http://www.comune.piacenza.it/temi/muoversi/in-bici/noleggio-biciclette)

### Bike shop near the University campus:

Ciclo Point Piacenza  
Via Caduti sulla strada, 37/A -  
Piacenza

## Taxi

- Radiotaxi Piacenza:  
+39 0523 591919
- Radiotaxi Night:  
+39 348.448.5155

For more information please visit  
> [radiotaxipiacenza.blogspot.it/](http://radiotaxipiacenza.blogspot.it/)



## How to reach us upon arrival

### By plane

Once arrived at the Airport (any of them in the following list) you can take a bus to Milan Central Railway Station (please check out on Airport website for timetable, tickets and prices).

Aeroporto Orio al Serio (BG)  
210 km from Piacenza  
> [www.sacbo.it](http://www.sacbo.it)

Aeroporto di Linate (MI)  
65 km from Piacenza  
> [www.sea-aeroportimilano.it/linate](http://www.sea-aeroportimilano.it/linate)

Aeroporto di Malpensa (MI)  
100 km from Piacenza  
> [www.sea-aeroportimilano.it/](http://www.sea-aeroportimilano.it/)

### By car

Motorway A1 (Milano-Bologna): Exit "Piacenza Sud".

Motorway A21 (Torino-Brescia): Exit "Piacenza Sud".

From both exits, follow for Piacenza center. Turn left at round-about, after the overpass go straight ahead for 500 meters, the University is on the right.

### By train

From Milan Central Railway Station take a train to Piacenza. Please check out time table at:  
> [www.trenitalia.com/trenitalia.html](http://www.trenitalia.com/trenitalia.html)

From Piacenza Railway Station take bus 2 or 3 to get to UCSC. Please check out timetable at:  
> [www.setaweb.it/azienda/index.php?azienda=pc](http://www.setaweb.it/azienda/index.php?azienda=pc)

If you prefer to take a taxi you can call the following numbers:  
Radio Taxi: 0253.591919  
Night hours - Taxi service:  
348.4485155

Cost from Piacenza Railway Station to UCSC, Piacenza during day time is about 7.50 €



## Residency permit requirements

**Non-EU residents** require a visa for a stay longer than three months (90 days). Within eight (8) days from your arrival in Italy you are required to submit the application for a **Permesso di Soggiorno (Residency Permit)** which will be issued by the local police (Questura).

You will require the following documents:

- An Application Form which you will be given by UCSC International upon arrival
- Passport
- Photocopy of all the pages of your Passport
- Four recent and identical passport size photographs

- VISA documentation and any letter issued and stamped by the Consulate (make additional photocopies)
- Admission letter issued by UCSC
- Photocopy of health insurance coverage
- A **Marca da Bollo (revenue stamp)** of 16€ to purchase upon arrival
- Address of your apartment in Piacenza including the zip code.

After submitting the form, obtain your receipt. The administrative costs will be a total of **160€** approximately.

A special orientation session will be organized to assist you.



## Student life

As you may have already heard, being an Exchange student is not only an academic but at the same time an enjoyable, social and fun experience.

Adapting to a different culture can be exciting yet challenging. Student association SMINT is also going to welcome you to Piacenza upon arrival and during the welcome days and assist you throughout the semester. They will help make your stay in Piacenza.

Some of the activities organized throughout the semester include:

- Language sharing
- Organising dinners
- Trips
- Aperitivo
- Cultural events
- Sports activities
- City tours
- Nights out

### Useful links:

UCSC International

› [www.facebook.com/Study-in-Piacenza-at-Universit%C3%A0-Cattolica-del-Sacro-Cuore-242177345824590/](https://www.facebook.com/Study-in-Piacenza-at-Universit%C3%A0-Cattolica-del-Sacro-Cuore-242177345824590/)

SMINT

› [www.facebook.com/smintunicatt/](https://www.facebook.com/smintunicatt/)



## *Living in Piacenza*

Piacenza is a quite but dynamic city. People bike everywhere. The essence of Piacenza is as true today as in centuries past.

Piacenza is a beautiful city, a city which offers a multitude of cultural features that tourists rarely discover. Piacenza is the real Italian city, where theaters and concerts pervade the atmosphere, where rivers, castles and hills are perfect locations for picnics and discoveries of real Italian food & wine.

Piacenza is a city to explore and a place to reflect. Piacenza is a city of people. A city full of life. The menus of Piacentini restaurants have influenced the world's finest cuisines. Piacenza is a living, breathing, exciting city, friendly and welcoming.

### Useful links:

- > [www.ucscinternational.it](http://www.ucscinternational.it)
- > [www.setaweb.it/azienda/index.php?azienda=pc](http://www.setaweb.it/azienda/index.php?azienda=pc)
- > [www.trenitalia.com](http://www.trenitalia.com)
- > [www.comune.piacenza.it](http://www.comune.piacenza.it)
- > [www.visitpiacenza.it/](http://www.visitpiacenza.it/)
- > [www.castellidelducato.it/castellidelducato/](http://www.castellidelducato.it/castellidelducato/)

## Money matters

When withdrawing money from a Bancomat be attentive to the people around you. We advise you use Bancomats that are inside banks and not those right off the street.

Unless necessary do not use Bancomats inside or near stations.

If you wish to open a bank account or rent an apartment you will need a **Codice Fiscale** (*Tax Code*).

This card is issued by the Agenzia delle Entrate - Via Modonesi, 16, under presentation of a valid identity document and a copy of your Visa if you are not an E.U. student.

Tel. +39 0523 601 211

### Opening hours:

Monday-Friday: 8.45am- 12.45pm

Mondays and Thursdays: 8.45am - 12.45pm and 2.45pm - 4.45pm

### Average costs (per semester)

Accommodation\*:

2,400 to 3,300 €

Food\*\*:

650 to 1,000 €

Personal expenses:

200 to 400 € per month

Books:

200 €

Local Transportation:

108 €

\* Cost may vary depending on the area, single or double room and possible program benefits.

\*\* University provides you with a **badge (student card)** which allows students to eat in the cafeteria at discounted prices.

Full meal: 7€/Light meal (formula lunch): 5 €

Pasta/soup: 4.50 €

### Average single priced items

- Pizza + Beer: 15 €
- Cinema ticket: 8€
- Gelato (*ice-cream*): 3 €
- Panino (*sandwich*): 5 €
- Caffè (*coffee*): 1.50 €



## Connecting you

### Mail

To locate a post office look for the yellow and blue PT sign. For mailing cost information consult the Italian Post web site:

› [www.poste.it](http://www.poste.it)

If you need to mail sensitive materials we would advise you send them by recommended mail, courier, or through express mail services, such as DHL, UPS or FedEx. Receiving packages from US via priority mail can cost a lot in terms of taxes. Postal & customs taxes are very high depending on the weight and the value of the package's content.

Please note that if you are going to get packages delivered to our office, this is the procedure you are required to follow:

1. Inform us that you are expecting a package at our office and the estimated delivery date.
2. Since our office is not authorized to keep cash money you are kindly requested to leave us the amount you are supposed to pay at least a couple of days before the foreseen delivery date. Please note that if you don't respect this procedure, UCSC International will not accept the package and it will be sent back to the central post office (close to Linate Airport).

### Telephone

The most convenient way to keep in touch with your new Italian friends and family back home is the cell phone. You can purchase an unlocked GSM phone back home and get an Italian SIM card at cell phone providers such as TIM, Vodafone or Wind.

Only triband and quadband phones will work in Europe. Check with your home cell phone service provider to find out if your current cell phone (once unlocked) can support a foreign SIM card. Once in Italy, you may look into signing up for a plan or simply getting pre-paid/rechargeable service. If you do not have a GSM phone purchased at home you may also buy one at a reasonable cost once in Italy.



International Office

Piacenza-Cremona Campus

Via Emilia Parmense, 84

29122 Piacenza (PC)

Italy

Tel: +39 0523 599 436

Fax: +39 0523 599 441

› [ucsc.international-pc@unicatt.it](mailto:ucsc.international-pc@unicatt.it)