Università degli Studi di Bologna
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The University</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Relations Office</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admissions</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academics</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libraries</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Rooms</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practical Matters</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Insurance</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acclimation and Immersion</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian Language Courses</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports Facilities</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tips from UCC Students</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The University

The institution that we today call the University began to take shape in Bologna at the end of the eleventh century, when masters of Grammar, Rhetoric and Logic began to devote themselves to the law.

The first recorded scholars were Pepone and Irnerio, the latter of whom was defined by the former as "lucerna iuris". With the advice of four doctors thought to be their pupils, in 1158 Federico I promulgated the Constitutio Habita, in which the University was legally declared a place where research could develop independently from any other power.

In the 14th Century, so-called "artists" - scholars of Medicine, Philosophy, Arithmetic, Astronomy, Logic, Rhetoric, and Grammar - began to collaborate with the school of jurists. Dante Alighieri, Francesco Petrarca, Guido Guinizelli, Cino da Pistoria, Cecco d'Ascoli, Re Enzo, Salimbene da Parma and Coluccio Salutati all studied in Bologna.

In the 15th Century Greek and Hebrew studies were instituted, and in the 16th Century those of "natural magic", that is, experimental science. The philosopher Pietro Pomponazzi upheld the study of the laws of nature against the traditionalist position of Theology and Philosophy.

A representative figure of this period was Ulisse Aldrovandi, whose contribution ranged from pharmacopoeia to the study of animals, fossils, and marvels of nature which he collected and classified.

Famous scholars and students included Pico della Mirandola and Leon Battista Alberti, who devoted themselves to canonical law. Nicolò Copernico began his astronomical observations while studying pontifical law. Paracelso, Raimundo de Pegñafort, Albrecht Dürer, St. Carlo Borromeo, Torquato Tasso and Carlo Goldoni all spent time at the University.

With the Industrial Revolution in the 18th Century, the University promoted scientific and technological development. In this period came the studies of Luigi Galvani who, along with Alessandro Volta, Benjamin Franklin and Henry Cavendish, was one of the founders of modern electrotechnical studies.

Following the establishment of the United Italian State came a period of great prosperity in which the figures of Giovanni Capellini, Giosuè Carducci, Giovanni Pascoli, Augusto Righi, Federigo Enriques, Giacomo Ciamician, and Augusto Murri stand out.

The University maintained its central position on the scene of global culture until the period between the two wars, when other countries came to the forefront in teaching and research. Bologna has thus been called upon to forge relationships with institutions in the most advanced countries to modernise and expand its activity. Among the many challenges which it has met with success, Bologna committed itself to the European dimension which has now led to adoption of the new university system.
**International Relations Office**

The International Relations Office at the Università di Bologna is the department of the University with which you will have the most contact during your stay in Bologna. The International Relations office is similar to University College Cork’s International Office, and will serve as your primary resource for information of the resolution of issues you might experience in Bologna. To that end, if you are interested in studying in Bologna or require any assistance during your stay, please do not hesitate to contact Università di Bologna’s International Relations Office.

**International Relations Division: Exchange Students Desk**  
Via Filippo Re 4  
40126 Bologna  
Tel: +39 051.2088101  
Fax: +39 051.2099351  
E-mail: Incoming.diri@unibo.it

**Departmental Websites**

**History:**
http://www.eng.unibo.it/PortaleEn/Academic+programmes/Courses/ArtsandHumanities/1stDegree/2011/CoursePage20110962.htm

**Economics and Commerce:**
http://www.eng.unibo.it/PortaleEn/Academic+programmes/Courses/Economics/2ndCycleDegreeM/2011/CoursePage20118408.htm

**Geography:**
http://www.eng.unibo.it/PortaleEn/Academic+programmes/Courses/ArtsandHumanities/2ndDegree/2005/CoursePage20050463.htm

**Italian Studies:**
http://www.eng.unibo.it/PortaleEn/University/University+Structures/Academic+Structures/Departments+schedule/Italian.htm
Boasting one of the country’s great medieval cityscapes – an eye-catching ensemble of red-brick palazzi, Renaissance towers and 40km of arcaded porticoes – Bologna is a wonderful alternative to the north’s more famous cities. Italy’s culinary capital, it’s an attractive, animated place; a large student population and active gay scene ensure a vitality that’s so often missing in many of Emilia’s smaller towns. Nicknamed la rossa (‘the red’ – as much a political moniker as reference to its colourful buildings), Bologna has long had a reputation for left-wing militancy. Passions have cooled since students faced down tanks in 1977, but the city remains highly political.

Bologna started life in the 6th century BC as Felsina. For two centuries it was the capital of the Etruscan Po valley territories until tribes from Gaul took over, renaming it Bononia. They lasted another couple of hundred years before surrendering to the Romans. As the Western Empire crumbled, Bologna was successively sacked and occupied by Visigoths, Huns, Goths and Lombards.

The city reached its pinnacle as an independent commune and leading European university around the 12th century. Wealth brought a building boom and every well-to-do family left its mark by erecting a tower – 180 of them in all, of which 15 still stand today. The endless tussle between the papacy and Holy Roman Empire for control of northern Italy inevitably involved Bologna. The city started by siding with the Guelphs (who backed the papacy), going against the Ghibellines, but adopted neutrality in the 14th century.

During heavy fighting in the last months of WWII, up to 40% of the city’s industrial buildings were destroyed. However, the historic town inside the walls survived and it has been lovingly and carefully preserved.

Today the city is a centre for Italy’s hi-tech industries and is a popular trade-fair venue.
Travel

By Plane

- Bologna’s Guglielmo Marconi Airport (BLQ; 051 647 96 15; www.bologna-airport.it) is about 6km northwest of the city.

By Train

- Bologna is a major transport junction for northern Italy and has frequent services to Florence (€11.50, one hour, half-hourly), Rome (€34, three hours, half-hourly) and Milan (€22, two hours, half-hourly).
- There are also trains to Ravenna (€4.90, 1½ hours, hourly) and Ferrara (€3, 30 minutes, half-hourly).

By Car

- The city is linked to Milan, Florence and Rome by the A1 Autostrada del Sole. The A13 heads directly to Ferrara, Padua and Venice, and the A14 to Rimini and Ravenna. Bologna is also on the SS9 (Via Emilia), which connects Milan to the Adriatic coast. The SS64 goes to Ferrara.
- Major car-hire companies are represented both at Guglielmo Marconi airport and in town. City offices include Europcar (051 24 71 01; Via Giovanni Amendola 12f) and Hertz (051 25 48 30; Via Giovanni Amendola 16a).

Accommodation

SAIS is the Student Accommodation and Information Service (former “Centro Erasmus”) which is a joint collaboration project between the “Fondazione CEUR” (European Centre for University and Research) and the Alma Mater University of Bologna. Each year it provides help in finding accommodation to over 2000 people: international students, PHD students, Researches, and Professors. It offers a wide range of possibilities which vary from University Residences, Colleges, Guest Rooms (for short stays) and private apartments.

In the past years this service has become an important asset for many international students who seek information and advice for their stay in Bologna. Rooms are difficult to find in Bologna, and can be somewhat expensive. The SAIS will make the process of finding accommodation easier, and it is suggested that students interested in studying in Bologna make use of the service as early into their search as they can.

Student Accommodation and Information Service
Via Zamboni 62/b - 40126 Bologna – Italy
Phone. +39/051/254423
Fax +39/051/251640
E-mail: sais@ceur.it
Admissions

Students with EU citizenship (and citizens coming from Switzerland, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein) can live in Italy for 3 months without incurring in any legal obligation. If your stay is longer than three months but still temporary (as an exchange student i.e.), at the end of the 3rd month, you must carry out a compulsory registration (iscrizione allo schedario della popolazione temporanea) at the municipality offices. Applications must be submitted to the "Ufficio Anagrafe", that is the dedicated office located in each neighbourhood of the town where you live: Bologna, Cesena, Forlì, Ravenna o Rimini.

The registration is free of charge and must be carried out within the first 3 months of arrival in Italy.

Documents needed in order to apply:

- Personal ID (or equivalent)
- Declaration by the University of Bologna stating the duration of your exchange period (this document is issued by the International Relation Office at your arrival)
- The European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) or an insurance policy covering all health risks that you might incur in during the whole exchange period abroad. The insurance company will also need to fill in an additional form that can be found in the attachment box: the Certificate of compliance to the Italian law (Certificato di Conformità alla legge italiana). PLEASE NOTE: The Ufficio Anagrafe will not carry out the registration procedure unless this form is duly filled in and attached to the policy itself
- Proof of your economic means of subsistence. You can submit a self-certification, providing information on the kind of economic support you have (i.e. grant, support from your parents etc.) and you must give all the details (of your bank account or a photocopy of your credit card, which must be suitable for Italy, i.e. Maestro) needed for verification. The amount of money, which is considered sufficient, is calculated in relation with the social allowance, equal to 5.317,65 for the year 2009.

You will need both the original documents and a copy of each of them (The office will keep the copies). The application must be submitted to the Ufficio Anagrafe of the neighbourhood where you live.

Once you are registered, you can apply for a certificate. Both the application and the certificate are fee paying.
Academics

For ordinary exams, universities in Italy use a 30-point scale simply divided in two: non passing (0 to 17), and passing grades (18 to 30 cum laude). For the final score a 110-point scale is used, which is divided in two as well, with 66 being the minimum grade for passing. The 110-point takes into consideration of both exam scores and the final thesis. For outstanding results, the Lode "praise" is added to the maximum grade.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scale</th>
<th>Grade Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29.00 - 30.00</td>
<td>Ottimo - Cum Laude (With honors and commendations)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27.00 - 28.99</td>
<td>Molto Buono (Very Good)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24.00 - 26.99</td>
<td>Buono (Good)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.00 - 23.99</td>
<td>Soddisfacente (Satisfactory)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.00 - 18.99</td>
<td>Sufficiente (Sufficient)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.00 - 17.99</td>
<td>Respinto (Fail)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Libraries
The University of Bologna operates several libraries, each of which caters to a different field of study. Each library has a wealth of materials available for students, and is capable of locating some research materials that it does not possess through an Interlibrary Loan system. Use of the libraries requires the possession of a student card, which will be given to incoming students at the end of the registration process. The libraries also provide internet access, which also requires a student card and the affiliated ID number.

Computer Rooms
Each department of the University of Bologna operates at least one computer lab for student use. Some operate more, though at least one of the others tends to be reserved for postgraduate or employee research purposes. Students will only be able to use the computer labs of their given department, and use of the labs requires a student card and affiliated ID number. The card and ID number will be provided to students upon the completion of the registration process at the university.
Practical Matters

Health Insurance

In Italy, the national healthcare system is provided by a public healthcare service (ASL). Only foreign Citizens with a valid stay card or residence permit may apply for the service.

EU students who are in Italy for a temporary stay, are required to have the European Health Insurance Card to gain access to health care services During temporary visit.

Non-EU students must show evidence of a certified health insurance cover (it is recommended to have a copy certified by the Italian Consulate or Embassy).

Registration with the ASL

To register with the ASL, students must go to the ASL district registry office of the district where they live. To know what is the nearest office, you can ask the URPs - Public Relations Offices, or call the free number 800 663366 (for calls in English, please call Mon to Fri from 14.30 to 16.30, Wed, Thu and Sat from 9.00 to 12.30). For Further information, please check the 'District One Stop Shop'.

The registration Provides for the assignment of a healthcare card and the selection of a general doctor. Medical examinations are free and are the carried out at the doctor's study (at the patient's home visits are only for severe health conditions). Specialist examinations and must be requested are booked through the CUP service (the Unified Booking Centre - Toll Free Number 8488 84 888), or at the major city chemist's shops / pharmacies. All examinations require the payment of a "ticket", equivalent to a portion of the total cost.

Emergency situations

To call for an ambulance, dial the number 118 on your telephone. In case of emergency you can go to the Hospital first aid station, available 24 hours a day. Generally the service is free and open to everybody. The night doctor service (tel. 848 832832/831831) is active During the night hours and on bank holidays and on Sunday (When The general doctor is not available).

Drugs

The Pharmacy (Central Pharmacy) of Piazza Maggiore in Bologna is open 24 hours a day, all week days. In main newspapers, you will find the complete list of the daily chemist's shops or pharmacies on duty. In case of need, the Emergency Medicine Service (Tel. 800 218489) offers a service delivery of drugs to your home.
Acclimation and Immersion

In each Faculty of the University of Bologna there is an office devoted to providing help and support to exchange students. Some Faculties also organize special orientation sessions for exchange students. Calendars are published on the faculties’ websites.

As soon as you arrive at the University of Bologna You Should go to the International Office of your city-campus (Bologna, Cesena, Forlì, Ravenna, Rimini) to do the registration: According to your grant will start the date of the registration. The official arrival or departure date That Will Appear On Your documents can only be the dates you show up at the office. Bring with you two passport size photos and a photocopy of your passport. You will get documents stating your arrival and a Welcome Kit with all you need to start your university life. If you need stamps on specific documents from your home university, bring them with you.

Italian Language Courses

Each academic year, the University of Bologna holds Italian language courses for international students. Courses are free and are held twice a year, in the first semester and in the second semester. Each student can take only one course.

If you come to Bologna as an exchange student you are not required to undergo any Italian language assessment. Nevertheless the achievement of a pre-intermediate level of knowledge of Italian language (A2 level), before arrival in Bologna, is highly recommended. Courses and lectures in English are offered in some graduate programmes (2nd cycle degree), but most of the classes are in Italian.

University of Bologna offers Italian language courses to foreign students during both first and second semester, but the number of places available in these courses is limited. Italian courses will be held both in first and second semester starting in September and January-February, with a limited number of seats. Look up regularly in the website for instructions and deadlines.

In order to enrol, an online language assessment test, to be done in the semester of arrival in Italy, is required. The test will be available on CILTA website for each course edition, starting from a date that will be published on web until all seats will be booked out.

Sports Facilities

Physical activity including courses, tournaments, and activities carried out for mere play or at a competitive level are an integral part of education. For this reason the University offers the combination of sport and study through the University Sports Centre of Bologna (CUSB). This is directly connected to the Committee for University Sports which organises and manages sports at the University.

Use of the sports facilities requires the possession of a student ID card and number. These will be provided after the completion of the registration process.
Tips from UCC Students

Academic Matters

- If you can foresee having trouble in a course, let your instructor know that you are an Erasmus student and that Italian is not your first language. They may be more understandable and flexible than they would be otherwise.
- There are plenty of libraries and they are all easy to use. Don’t let this go to waste!
- The language course has a session in September, which is very useful for students who are just showing up to Bologna and want to improve their Italian.
- Try to reserve your place in the language course as early as you can. If you attempt to enter the course too late, you may find that there are no seats left.
- Italian exams can be quite a bit of work, so it is useful to get the reading list for a course as early as you can to be sure that you’ve enough time to prepare yourself.

Accommodation

- As is the case with many university cities, student accommodation in Bologna can be very difficult to find. Start your search early for the best opportunity of finding a room.
- Apartments in Bologna typically do not come with kettles, linens, and the like. Be sure to go to a shop straight away to get the things you deem necessary.
- Public transport stops around 10:30pm, so finding accommodation within the city walls is very convenient.
- There is no single campus for the University, as it is spread throughout the city.
- Taxis only stop at the registered taxi parks. If you want to make use of a taxi, you must go to one such park.

Travel

- Bologna is two hours from Venice and three hours from Rome, making it an easy city from which to explore Italy.
- Students are advised to arrive in Italy at the end of August or in very early September, as that is when the free Italian language course takes place.
- Bologna is well-connected to other cities by train.
- Aer Lingus offers a flight from Dublin straight in to Bologna. This is the flight that many UCC students have booked.
- The airport and train station are located very close to the centre of Bologna.

Bureaucracy

- Your passport is required to do many things around Bologna, so it is imperative that you keep it with you at all times.
- Joining fitness clubs requires a small medical exam prior to joining.
- Unless your passport is in a language other than English, it is unlikely that you will need to have it translated.
- Be sure to have all of the materials you need whenever you engage with the Italian bureaucracy. If something is out of line, the entire process must often begin again.
- Your European Health Insurance Card should be enough to see you through all health-related issues.
Social Life

- Bologna is a sort of artistic hub for its section of Italy, particularly with music.
- Erasmus Nights are hosted by various Erasmus organizations in Bologna, and are a great way to get to know other students.
- Local students tend to go home on the weekends, so use these times to get to know your fellow international students.

General

- Bologna can be a very political city. You might find yourself engaging in conversations more frequently than in Cork. Be sure to remain respectful.
- The people of Bologna are very friendly and like to talk, especially to international students.
- Bologna has a very large student population, giving the city a young feel.