

SAGE Highlights

International Education Week was a Success!

Valencia College celebrated International Education Week (IEW) with a bang! Between November 15th through November 19th, the SAGE Office featured 23 interactive, virtual events from around the world. This included multiple live walking tours with local guides in Rome, Oxford, Venice, Paris, Barcelona, Rio De Janiero, Cusco, and Athens. These live tours, while being very entertaining, were all centered around academic themes, including humanities, art, archaeology, political science, and history.

IEW also included two live cooking classes hosted with partners in Morocco and Italy. For the first cooking session, students joined Chef Belmamoun at her home in Marrakesh as she demonstrated how to prepare traditional Chicken Tajine and an accompanying Chachouka salad and Harissa sauce. For the second session, students were taken on a tour of the beautiful [Baglioni Hotel Regina](#), which ended with a cooking class in the hotel's kitchen with Executive Chef Sartori, Chef Pulvirenti, and Chef Palandri. Students learned how to make Spaghetti Carbonara, Roman Artichokes, and the hotel's signature Tiramisu.



In addition to the popularity of the cooking classes, a particular favorite amongst participants was a live tour and demonstration of the process of roasting, processing, and packaging coffee beans with partners from Urbania Café in Medellin, Colombia. Students learned about common farming practices in the mountains of Colombia, and Urbania's work with small farms and indigenous communities to grow and harvest coffee beans.

Students then followed the Urbania team as they roasted coffee beans in their facility, learning the ways the roasting process can change the flavor and acidity of the beans.

Throughout the week, students also enjoyed academic-focused global guest speaker sessions. Science sessions included geology and volcanology in Costa Rica, healthcare in Africa with partners in Liberia, and the impacts of micro plastics on marine wildlife presented by a biologist in Spain. Humanities and history-focused sessions included an overview of the black history of Paris with a Parisian professor and the history and changes of the city of Patan with a Nepalese professor.