naturalist's collection of specimens in their invaluable 18th-century display cases, the museum of anatomy and obstetrics with the works of Anna Morandi Manzolini, the celebrated wax modellist, after whom the Manzolini Crater on Venus is named.

www.museopalazzopoggi.unibo.it

# 7. The university museums

#### Via Irnerio, Bologna

The University has a series of collections that over the years have been expanded and organized as the University Museum System comprising fourteen separate museums. Apart from Palazzo Poggi (see above), in the area around Via Irnerio (named after the 11th-century founder of the Bolognese school of legal studies) we find: at n. 42 the herbs and botanical garden, one of the oldest in Italy, instituted in 1568; at n. 48 the



and botanical garden, one of the oldest in Italy, instituted in 1568; at n. 48 the anatomical wax museum, with wax reproductions, natural and dried human bones; in nearby Via Selmi, at n. 3, the anthropology museum; and in Via Zamboni, at n. 63, the Capellini Museum of geology and paleontology, displaying Pliocene whales and the massive model of

www.sma.unibo.it

the Jurassic Diplodocus dinosaur.

# 8. The School of Medicine and Surgery

#### Policlinico Hospital via Massarenti 9, Bologna

The first physician in the annals of Bologna was a certain Petrus, at the end of the 10th-century. Apart from the practice of medicine, it is likely that the earliest doctors also taught in the city, but it was only in 1316 that the University of the Arts (which included medicine) and the Medical College as a corporation gained the official recognition of the City. That same year, Mondino de' Luzzi, a lecturer in practical medicine, introduced the study of Anatomy to the university. In 1570 Italy's first Chair in Anatomy, separate from Medicine, was instituted. In the meantime, in 1563, the faculty of medicine, and indeed the entire university, had moved to the Palace of the Archigymnasium. Despite the climate of immobility and the Counter-Reformation of the 17th-century, Dr. Marcello Malpighi (1628-1694) made a name for himself with a series of fundamental studies on the lungs, sensory receptors, the liver, spleen, kidneys and embryos. He was the founder of the Bolognese school of anatomo-pathology. The Enlightenment of the 18th-century prompted a series of eminent scholars to plan the renovation of medical studies. These included Luigi Galvani (1737-1798), whose first studies were in human and comparative anatomy. The

Napoleonic era brought further, profound changes to the University of Bologna. The medical school was split into the Faculty of Medicine, with twelve chairs, and the Faculty of Surgery. This reform necessitated new facilities to host the various subject matters being taught: some in Palazzo Poggi and others in the former convent of Santa Maria dei Servi, while at first the clinics for the treatment of patients were grouped in the "Grande Spedale" (Ospedale Maggiore, today), then in the Azzolini hospital in Via Zamboni. In 1815, the restored post-Napoleonic government of the Papal States reformed the University once again by the papal bull Quod Divina Sapientia. Degrees in medicine (a four-year course) and surgery (three years) now had to be completed by two years of practice at the patient clinics in order to be authorized to exercise the profession of physician or surgeon. The clinics were moved definitively to the convent of Sant'Orsola in 1869, and subsequently expanded to form today's Policlinico hospital. In the 19th and early 20th-centuries, thanks above all to Luigi Maria Concato (1825-1882) and Francesco Rizzoli (1809-1880), the "philosopher clinician" was progressively supplanted by the "experimental clinician," whose work was based on the scientific method. In the QS World University Rankings, the University of Bologna, together with Milan, is the highest-ranked Italian university for medical studies. Certainly it is no accident that in popular Italian culture the traditional stock character that stands for the City of Bologna is "Doctor" Balanzone.









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# Bologna the Learned

The University of Bologna originated as a free association of masters and students. Since its creation, it has extended its studies throughout every branch of learning.



What is recognized as the Western world's first university independent of ecclesiastical schools was founded in 1088. This date was established conventionally during the 19th-century in order to be able to celebrate the institution's eighth centennial. Since the 14th-century the Bolognese Alma Mater Studiorum has hosted students from all over Europe, acquiring enormous prestige. The school of jurists was joined by the schools of "artists" – medicine, philosophy, arithmetic, astronomy, logic, rhetoric and grammar. The University of Bologna was attended by many of the greatest representatives of European culture and science: Dante and Petrarch, Thomas Becket, then Copernicus and Erasmus of Rotterdam, to name just a few.

### 1. The schools of St. Petronius

#### Piazza Maggiore, Bologna

Until the middle of the 16th-century the Bolognese academy had no fixed seat; the medieval doctors of study held their lectures mainly in their own homes. Later, many masters taught in Piazza Sant'Ambrogio, now occupied by the Cathedral of St. Petronius. In the late 14th-century, many also taught at the Ospedale della Morte (Hospital of Death) and the vestry of St. Petronius. Thus people came to speak of the "Schools of St. Petronius". Not until the second half of the 15th-century were the schools of the academy brought together under a single roof: the "Archiginnasio".

# 2. The Palace of the Archiginnasio

Piazza Galvani, Bologna

This building, constructed at the order of Pope Pius IV, was erected on the land originally assigned to St. Petronius Cathedral, which remained unfinished in order to keep it from outstripping even St. Peter's in Rome as the largest building in Christendom. In the courtvard and the upper story, the largest mural complex of heraldry in existence brings together coats of arms, inscriptions and decorations of students and teachers. This was the seat of the lecture rooms of the university of artists and of jurists, with their main auditoriums, now the library reading room and an auditorium in the Stabat Mater. The upper story houses the anatomy theater, designed in 1637 for the anatomy lessons by the Bolognese architect Antonio Paolucci, a student of Carracci's. The theater is made entirely of wood: fir for the walls, cedar



for the statues of famous physicians, above them the most celebrated anatomists of the University of Bologna. Destroyed by a bombardment during World War II, the theater has been faithfully reconstructed with the original wooden sculptures, luckily saved and recovered.

www.archiginnasio.it

# 3. The Glossators

#### Piazze San Domenico and San Francesco, Bologna



The "glossators", legal scholars belonging to the school of Bologna founded by Irnerius in the 11th-century, took their title from the literary term for their scholarly activity: attaching to texts of canon law and civil law annotations, known as "glosses", to clarify the meaning of the text. Through their detailed and extensive studies, the glossators not only mastered the ancient *Corpus Juris Civilis* of Justinian but also rendered it applicable to the legal life of their own day. These legal scholars enjoyed considerable social prestige in Bologna, as can be seen from the tombs located in some central squares: those of Foscherari and Rolandino Passeggeri in Piazza S. Domenico and those of the glossator Accursio and his son Francesco, the jurist Odofredo and Rolandino in Piazza S. Francesco.

# 4. The Spanish College

## via Collegio di Spagna 4, Bologna

The first foreign country to establish a presence at the University of Bologna was Spain. In 1364 the Cardinal Gil Alvarez Carillo de Albornoz, of Spanish noble descent, founded the first University College to provide a house for Spanish students: St. Clement's. Thus Bologna's Royal College of Spain was founded, with a statute of its own that endures to this day. Only Spanish male students with a Spanish university degree are eligible, through a competition, to become "bolonios". Their period of study in Bologna is designed to produce an advanced degree. The foreign colleges at the University were once quite numerous: among others, Flemish, French and German colleges. The Spanish College is the only foreign university college in Europe that has remained active since the Middle Ages. Its walled, crenellated building hosted such illustrious quests as St. Ignatius of Loyola (the founder of the Jesuit order), Miguel

Cervantes (author of *Don Quixote*), and, for a few months, Emperor Charles V of the Holy Roman Empire.

www.realecollegiospagna.it

#### 5. The Medieval Museum

#### Via Manzoni 4, Bologna

The museum has a collection of funeral monuments whose intent was to convey a prestigious image of the professors. The tomb of Bonifacio Galuzzi, by Bettino da Bologna, and the coffin of Giovanni d'Andrea both portray professors at the desk, lecturing to their



students. The museum also houses the *Lapide della Pace* (memorial tablet for peace), dating to 1222, which commemorates the pact between the university students and the City of Bologna, reached after the municipal authorities had executed a student.

www.museibologna.it/arteantica

# 6. The Institute of Science

#### Via Zamboni 33, Bologna

In the 14th-century Palazzo Poggi such men as Ferdinando Marsili, Francesco Maria Zanotti, Ercole Lelli, and Prospero Lambertini (the future Pope Benedict XIV) restored the academic primacy of Bologna. The university Senate accordingly had no hesitation in agreeing to Marsili's proposal for an Institute of Science, donating books and scientific instruments. In exchange, the City would provide a seat, pay the salaries of the scholars, and build an astronomical observatory. The edifice that Cardinal Poggi commissioned became a historic site. In fact, Napoleon chose it as the new seat of the modern University of Bologna. It still houses manuscripts, photographs, relics, and important collections: the Speculum and its astronomy museum, the ship museum, the Ulisse Aldrovandi museum with that great

