

ARH 4312
Late Renaissance Art in Italy

University of Florida, College of the Arts, School of Art and Art History
Monday 8:30-10:25am, Wednesday, 8:30-9:20am, Fine Arts C (FAC) 201
3 credits

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Walk-in Office Hours: Monday 10:30am-12:30pm, and by appointment

Office: Fine Arts C (FAC) 119a



Course Description:

This course provides an introduction to Italian arts during the late fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, using important courts in the Italian peninsula to structure our approach to Renaissance art history. The lectures, readings, and discussions will cover artworks and architecture by well-known artists like Leonardo and Michelangelo, as well as lesser known artists, considering themes raised by these works and giving attention to the conditions in which they were originally produced and viewed. At the same time, we will consider aspects of Renaissance visual and material culture that add depth and breadth to our understanding of the period, including the excavation of ancient Roman ruins and appreciation of classical sculpture; the production of luxury goods such as tapestries, jewelry, and tableware; and the collecting of 'exotic' artifacts from Asia, Africa, and the Americas.

Course Objectives:

- Students will become familiar with the established knowledge related to the history of Italian Renaissance arts.
- Students will be able to apply knowledge in familiar and new situations for academic purposes, and will develop their capacity for critical thinking and independent inquiry.
- Students will demonstrate an ability to read and understand a wide range of academic writing, and to speak and write accurately on academic topics in an academically rigorous manner.
- In weekly class meetings students will regularly engage with their peers in a conscientious manner.
- Students will orally present their own critical interpretation of texts and images by leading one discussion of assigned readings.

Course Policies:

Readings. Class meetings will include lecture and discussion, typically structured around weekly topics and assigned readings. There are no textbooks for the course; instead, readings will be drawn from journal articles, book chapters, and essays that will be made available for download via electronic reserves or in labeled document folders on the course website.

Attendance and due dates. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policy that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>. Please identify any potential conflicts as early as possible, and contact Dr. Greenfield.

Prompt attendance is required at all classes, and students are expected to attend all class sessions. Students will be permitted two excused absences for the semester (“excused” means that you must contact me prior to class to inform me of your absence). Additional excused absences – and any unexcused absences – will negatively affect your grade. Absences without prior notification will count as unexcused, lowering your participation grade. Numerous absences, excused or unexcused, may result in failure of the course; if you anticipate needing to miss several classes, you are advised to drop the course.

Unless pre-approved by the professor, late papers and assignments may lose a third of a letter grade for each 24-hour period beyond their listed due date, until they are turned in. All papers and assignments must be submitted in order to pass the class.

Classroom comportment. The use of laptop computers is permitted during class, but strictly for note-taking purposes. Please do not write emails, read the newspaper, check social media, etc., as this can be hugely distracting to those sitting around you. If you are observed using your computer (or phone, iPad, etc.) for something irrelevant to the class, your participation grade will suffer.

Email. Please check your UF email account regularly for course announcements or replies to any emails you send. I will email you through Canvas which can be linked to your UF email account. In the first week of class, confirm that you are receiving messages sent by me through Canvas, as I will occasionally send readings, links, and important updates.

Students with disabilities. To request accommodations, please contact the Dean of Students Office and register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

University Counseling & Wellness Center

Phone: (352) 392-1575 (line open 24/7) Web: <http://www.counsel.ufl.edu>

Academic Honesty:

All students are required to abide by the Academic Honesty Guidelines which have been accepted by the University. For information on what constitutes plagiarism, consult the UF Plagiarism Guide at <http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/msl/07b/studentplagiarism.html>.

Course Requirements:

Attendance —10% of the final grade

Participation — 20 % of the final grade

Presentation of reading & discussion questions — 10% of the final grade

Written responses to readings — 10% of the final grade

Writing assignment — 15% of the final grade

Midterm Exam — 15% of the final grade

Final take-home Exam — 20% of the final grade

Participation. In order to participate in class, you must attend class, but attendance does not constitute participation. This class will be run as a combination of lecture and discussion. Students are responsible for engaging with the material prior to class meetings by carefully reading and/or studying the assigned texts and images. You are expected to contribute to the educational environment of the classroom by coming prepared to both answer questions posed the instructor and engage in discussions with fellow students. If you feel that you are unable to freely ask and answer questions or otherwise participate in class conversations, please speak to me as soon as possible so that we may discuss alternatives for you.

Presentation of Readings:

At least once during the semester (three times for graduate students), you will be responsible for introducing an assigned reading and posing discussion questions in class related to the text's argument, subject matter, method of analysis, and engagement with relevant course themes. You must prepare in advance, but you may choose whether to work from notes or from a written statement.

Written responses to readings:

Three times during the semester, dates TBD, students are required to post short responses to questions related to the assigned readings. (Questions will be posted at least one week in advance of the class for which they are assigned.) These responses should be uploaded to the 'Discussion' section of the course website on Canvas by 12 am (midnight) the night before class. These posts will receive grades of check plus, check, or check minus. Late posts will not be accepted.

Midterm Exam:

The in-class exam format consists of image identifications, image comparisons, and essay questions about the material covered in lectures, discussions, and readings.

Writing assignment:

Students will be required to write one short research paper (approximately five pages long) on an artwork or group of related artworks, to be submitted via Canvas on April 4 by 5pm. The guidelines for the essay will be explained on a separate handout.

Final take-home exam:

The final exam is cumulative, composed of a number of essay questions. In your responses you should incorporate relevant assigned readings; answers that do not cite any of the assigned reading will not receive full credit. The guidelines for the final exam will be explained on a separate handout.

Grading Scale:

Letter Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
% Equivalent	93+	90-92	87-89	83-86	80-82	77-79	73-76	70-72	67-69	63-66	60-62	59-

Important Dates:

Midterm exam: March 2, in class

Writing assignment: Due April 4, 5pm

Final take-home exam: Due April 25, 5pm

Course Schedule [subject to change]**Week 1**

Wed. Jan. 6 — Introduction to the course

Week 2 — Historiography

Mon. Jan. 11 — Constructing Italian Renaissance Culture [Burkhardt]

Wed. Jan. 13 — Renaissance Art in a Social Context [Baxandall]

Week 3 — The Republic of Florence

Patrons: Cosimo the elder, Piero di Cosimo, and Lorenzo ‘il Magnifico’ de’ Medici

Artists: Fra Angelico; Benozzo Gozzoli; Domenicho Ghirlandaio; Sandro Botticelli

Sites: Church and Convent of San Marco; Palazzo Medici-Ricardi; Sassetti Chapel at S. Trinità

Mon. Jan. 18 — NO CLASS (Martin Luther King Day)

Wed. Jan. 20 — Florence

Week 4 — The Republic of Florence cont'd

Mon. Jan. 25 — Florence

Wed. Jan. 27 — Conducting Research: AFA Librarian Tom Caswell

Week 5 — Special topic: Printed books & Manuscripts

Mon. Feb. 1 — ***Visit to Special Collections***

Wed. Feb. 3 — Guest speaker: Fletcher Durant, Conservation and Preservation

Week 6 — The Duchy of Urbino

Patron: Federico da Montefeltro

Artists: Piero della Francesca; Justus of Ghent

Sites: Ducal Palace in Urbino; Studiolo from the Ducal Palace in Gubbio

Mon. Feb. 8 — The Duchy of Urbino

Wed. Feb. 10 — The Duchy of Urbino

Week 7 — The Court of the Gonzaga in Mantua

Patron: Isabella d'Este; Federico II Gonzaga

Artists: Andrea Mantegna; Giulio Romano

Sites: Camera degli Sposi in the Ducal Palace in Mantua; the Palazzo del Te

Mon. Feb. 15 — The Court of the Gonzaga in Mantua

Wed. Feb. 17 — The Court of the Gonzaga in Mantua

Week 8 — The Papal Court in Rome

Patrons: Pope Sixtus IV; Pope Julius II; Pope Leo X

Artists: Michelangelo; Raphael

Sites: Sistine Chapel; Stanza della Segnatura in the Vatican Palace

Mon. Feb. 22 — The Papal Court in Rome

Wed. Feb. 24 — The Papal Court in Rome

Week 9 — The Republic of Venice

Artists: Gentile Bellini and Vittore Carpaccio; Paolo Veronese

Patrons: Confraternity of the Scuola Grande; Dominican friary at SS. Giovanni e Paolo

Sites: Scuola Grande di San Giovanni Evangelista; Basilica di Santi Giovanni e Paolo refectory

Mon. Feb. 29 — Venice

Wed. March 2 — Midterm Exam

Mon. March 7 NO CLASS — SPRING BREAK

Wed. March 9 NO CLASS — SPRING BREAK

Week 10 — The Duchy of Florence & Tuscany

Patrons: Duke Cosimo I de' Medici & Eleanora di Toledo; Grand Duke Francesco I de' Medici

Artists: Benvenuto Cellini; Giorgio Vasari; Agnolo Bronzino

Sites: Guardaroba of Cosimo I and Studiolo of Francesco I, Palazzo Vecchio; Loggia dei Lanzi

Mon. March 14 — The Medici Court

Wed. March 16 — The Medici Court

Week 11 — Courts beyond Italy

Mon. March 21 — Italian artists at the French Court

Patrons: King Francis I

Artists: Sebastiano Serlio; Rosso Fiorentino; Primaticcio

Sites: Chateau of Francis I at Fontainebleau

Wed. March 23 — Venice and the Ottoman empire

Patron: Venetian Republic; Sultan Mehmet II

Artist: Gentile Bellini

Site: Ottoman court in Istanbul/Constantinople

Week 12 — Italian Cartography

Mon. March 28 — ***Visit to the Maps Library***

Wed. March 30 — No class: Research/Writing day

Week 13 — Art History and Artists' Biographies

Mon. April 4 — Giorgio Vasari and the writing of *Lives of the Artists*

*** *Writing Assignment due**** *Submit to Canvas Assignments folder by 5pm*

Wed. April 6 — Revisiting Michelangelo's oeuvre

Week 14 — Encounter and Exchange: Italy and Africa

Mon. April 11 — Black Africans in Renaissance Art

Wed. April 13 — African Arts in Renaissance Italy

Week 15 — Encounter and Exchange: Italy and the New World

Mon. April 18 — The Impact of the Americas

Wed. April 20 — Wrap-up: Re-constructing the Renaissance

Final take-home exam due on April 25, 5pm