OFFICE HOURS

MTR – By appointment or simply open door policy (Room 309 or Faculty lounge)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

It satisfies the Arts and Sciences fine arts core requirement.

A survey of Florentine art and culture, starting with Florence as a Roman colony founded by Caesar’s war veterans after 59 BC, ending with Florence as second capital of Italy from 1865 to 1871.

Florence will be viewed from various perspectives, emphasizing its artistic, historical, scientific, philosophical, and banking connections with the rest of Europe (France, Spain, Germany, Austria, Russia, and the Netherlands). It is valid for the Renaissance track but can be taken singly without being in the track.

Those interested can act as volunteer English speaking guides in Florence’s major churches for two or three hours a week showing visitors the church of their choice. The layman in charge of training future guides in the church of their choice is Dr. Mauro Lastrucci, who is in the board of directors of Ars et Fides and assists the professor in the weekly tours. He will provide the persons who will train those that wish to volunteer. Student development staff member Federica Dionisio will take care of the bureaucracy by providing church handouts and collecting the insurance necessary to act as tour guide.

Churches are: the Duomo or Florence Cathedral begun in 1296; the Medici church of San Lorenzo, the Franciscan Church of Santa Croce or Holy Cross, begun in 1294, and the Dominican Church of Santa Maria Novella. This is a voluntary service available to those enrolled in the class. It is a way of introducing visitors to these churches, architectural wonders built for the glory of God, and decorated by the most famous painters and sculptors of the period.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students get a full immersion in Florentine art history and culture, through Monday-Tuesday-in-class lectures and a two hour Wednesday field trip, led by the professor and her assistants who rotate every week. The Wednesday tours and class room material, reinforced with media presentations linking Florence to the rest of Europe, will allow students to experience “living history”.

Each student is assigned a tour group and will always remain with that particular group. The professor and her assistants rotate every week so all students are able to listen to all three. All Wednesday tours are conducted in exactly the same way. It is the professor who prepares the handouts distributed before each tour.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course students will have been fully immersed in Florentine and European art history, culture, banking, and their intertwining. They will acquire this knowledge visiting the major art museums and historical sites in Florence with the professor as guide. They will realize how Florence of the Medici was a major shaping force of European culture. Its legacy still lives on, even into the 21st century.
GRADING AND OTHER POLICIES
Students will be graded on:

35%  A weekly reflection/final project due November 29.
A two page weekly reflection on the Wednesday tours should give a general overview of the things seen, commenting on favorites with the handout as reference.

It should be delivered before the next class period at the latest, either in a hard or electronic copy, readable by Word- Windows or Microsoft Word. The Professor will grade it before the next tour with advise on how to improve the reflections. Students will know how they stand week by week. Each student's work and grade is kept in a folder.

Weekly reflections can substitute the final project if students research one piece from every tour. At the end, each researched piece citing the sources will become one entry turning the weekly reflection into a 10 page paper: My Ten Top Favorite Florentine Treasures or My Favorite Artists and Sites in Florence.

An initial table of contents and a bibliography of at least five sources at the end do not count as the 9th and 10th pages. The bibliography should include books, not just websites.

The project should be done gradually starting with the first tour. Each piece researched should be illustrated by a drawing, post card, or picture. It can be e-mailed before November 29, if you want the professor to go over it to make sure it is A material.

15%  Class participation and two slide shows the day before the tests. Each student will research and present one piece (architecture, painting, or sculpture) for 3 minutes at the most. He/she will share the newly acquired knowledge in front of the class, who will have copies of the slide show to take notes on. Exam tour questions on specific art pieces will be taken from the slide shows to narrow down the information on the weekly tours.

An electronic copy of the presentation (2/3 paragraphs max) should be submitted by email. Standard format: Title and picture: Times New Roman, 12, double-spaced, citing and listing the sources at the end for bibliography.

25%  Mid-term examination on Tuesday, October 25.
25%  Final examination is not comprehensive, date will be posted with final exam schedule.

In-class lectures review with an exam sample will be held a week before the exam.

Students will have a week to prepare for the exam and will know exactly what to expect:
Multiple choice 20%
Matching 20%
Three short answer questions 30%
Two long answer questions 30%.

GRADES
(A 100-94)  (A- 93.5-89)  (B+ 88.5-85.5)  (B 85-83.5)  (B- 83.5-79)  (C+ 78.5-75.5)  
(C 75-74)  (C- 73.5-69)  (D+ 68.5-65.5)  (D 65-59)  (D- 58-50)  (F 48-0).

Gonzaga in Florence Attendance Policy (effective Fall Semester 2013) Official Policy Valid for all Courses

Attendance is taken at the beginning of class from the first day of the semester. The student entering class after attendance is taken has to contact the professor at the end and announce his/her presence. However, this does not mean that coming late is accepted.
late arrivals may be excused, three turn automatically into an absence and will affect the attendance and participation part of the final grade.

**Students can miss one week’s work, irrespective of the course formula (three sessions, two sessions, one session).** It is their responsibility to make up for the missed work. If they miss a quiz or a report they are not allowed to have it at another time, unless the absence is for certified medical reasons and the professor and Dean agree.

More than one week’s work missed is going to be penalized as follows:

One extra absence:
1. by lowering the attendance and participation grade as determined by the professor

Two extra absences
2. by lowering the final grade by a whole letter grade

Three extra absences
3. by grading the whole course F

**ACADEMIC HONESTY AND DECORUM**
Cell-phones off, no food or beverages are allowed in the classroom. No laptops, smart phones, or other electronic devices will be allowed in the classroom during lectures or exams. They will be left on the instructor’s desk or up front to avoid temptation during exams.

**ABSENCE POLICY ON WEEKLY TOURS**
Weekly tours of two-class periods each will be held every Wednesday morning. The tour is worth one credit. **Attendance is mandatory. Students can only miss one tour but must make it up on their own.** For the make up tour, the student will be given the handout and will pay his/her own fare attaching the ticket stub to a hard copy of the missed tour pointing out favorites. The reflection should be handed in as soon as possible and there will be no grade change. Every ticket stub has the date and hour when it was used. A used ticket with the date and hour of the missed tour will not be accepted.

**ABSENCE POLICY ON EXAMS**
There will be no make up tests without a medical certificate.

**REQUIRED READING**
1. Students will be given two packets, one for each part of the course, and a handout for each weekly tour.

   The packets are based on the reference books available in the library.
   The tour handouts are based on the didactic material distributed by every museum in Florence to Italian University’s Art History professors, translated into English by the instructor.

2. The librarian will provide a copy of Christopher Hibbert’s *Rise and Fall of the House of Medici*. They are responsible for all 24 chapters. It should be read going along with the lectures. It is a good, interesting read. A study guide on the book will be distributed after the second week. It works much better if the students have read the chapters before using the work sheet.

**Reference books on reserve available in the library**
2. Ferdinand Schevill, *Medieval and Renaissance Florence*, Parts 1 and 2. It will complement the packets for a more detailed description of the events.


**COURSE OUTLINE & SCHEDULE**

The course is divided into two sessions. Each is followed by a test. The second examination is not comprehensive of earlier material.

**First part: From Roman Florence to Lorenzo the Magnificent. Exam: Tuesday, October 25**

13 September, October

- Roman Florence, division of the empire between East and West.
- Struggles between Guelphs and Ghibellines, Florence’s first attempt at democracy (1250-1260)
- Second Democracy, civil war in Florence.
- **First Tour: Archaeological Museum**
- No class. Tour reflection should be emailed before the next class period.
- Dante’s exile and his Comedy. **First tour reflection due.**
- The Third Democracy (1343-1382).
- **Second Tour: Western Roman Florence and Dominican church of Santa Maria Novella.**
- No class. Tour reflection should be emailed before the next class period.
- Florence (1382-1400) death of duke of Milan, Hibbert’s chapter 1
- Early Renaissance art begins.
- **Third Tour: Eastern Roman Florence, Santa Croce with Michelangelo’s tomb.**
- No class. Tour reflection should be emailed before the next class period.
- Rise of Medici family: Giovanni di Bicci as papal banker; Cosimo il Vecchio’s exile and return
- Cosimo’s local policy, Piero the Gouty. Hibbert’s chapters 2-8.
- **Fourth Tour: Cathedral Complex, Opera del Duomo Museum with Ghiberti’s Gates of Paradise, Donatello’s Magdalen and Michelangelo’s Pietà.**
- No class. Tour reflection should be emailed before the next class period.
- Cosimo’s foreign policy. Hibbert, chapters 2-8
- **Review, sample of mid-term.** Students will get the piece to research and present for tour review
- **Fifth Tour: Bargello (Competition panels, Donatello and Michelangelo’s sculptures.**
- No class. Tour reflection should be e-mailed before the next class period.
- Slide show with students as presenters.
- **Midterm examination.**
- **Sixth Tour: Uffizi Gallery with Botticelli’s Birth of Venus, da Vinci’s Annunciation.**
- No class. Tour reflection should be e-mailed or handed in before the next class period.

**Second Part – From Lorenzo the Magnificent to the last Grand Dukes of Tuscany**
October, November
31 Lorenzo the Magnificent: Pazzi conspiracy, Platonic Academy, humanism. Hibbert, 9-13
01 All Saints Day, no class
02 Seventh Tour; San Marco, Angelico’s frescoes Cosimo’s library, Savonarola’s cell.
03 No class. Tour reflection should be e-mailed before the next class period.
07 Piero di Lorenzo aka Piero the Unfortunate, Savonarola and the Florentine Republic.
08 The Florentine Republic after Savonarola’s death, Julius II, Medici return. Hibbert’s ch. 14-17.
09 Eighth Tour: Accademia with Michelangelo’s David and Four Prisoners
10 No class. Tour reflection should be e-mailed before the next class period.
14 Leo X and Protestant Reformation. Clement VII, the last Florentine republic Hibbert, chapter 18-19.
15 Alessandro il Moro first duke of Florence. Hibbert, chapter 19.
16 Ninth Tour: Michelangelo’s New Sacristy Medici Tombs and Medici Mausoleum (Chapel of the Princes) for the younger branch of the family.
17 No class. Tour reflection should be e-mailed before the next class period.
21 Fall break
29 Francesco I, Ferdinand I as cardinal and Grand duke. Hibbert, 21. Final project due
30 Tenth Tour Tenth Tour: Piazza della Signoria and Palazzo Vecchio.

December
01 No class. Tour reflection should be e-mailed before the next class period.
05 Last Medici Grand Dukes. Hibbert, 22-24. Florence second capital of Italy
06 Class discussion, review for final examination
07 Eleventh Tour Palatine Gallery, Pitti Palace. No reflection.
08 National holiday, no classes

FINAL PROJECT
Due November 29.
The weekly reflections will substitute the final project if students research their favorite work out of every tour. By the end of the course, each researched piece, citing the sources, will become one of the ten works chosen as paper topic. The weekly reflection is then turned into a 10 page paper: My Ten Top Favorite Florentine Treasures or My Favorite Artists and Sites in Florence.

A favorite tour can also become the ten page paper by choosing and researching then items.

Other recommended treasures to explore and turn into a final 10 page project:

1. Orsanmichele, the grain market where Early Renaissance sculpture began. It is open from 10 am to 5pm. The interior tabernacle by Andrea Orcagna was funded by the 1348 plague Free entrance

2. The Cathedral, Baptistery interior, Brunelleschi’s dome, the remains of Santa Reparata, Giotto’s Bell Tower. The class cannot go together as a group because it is a day thing. The cumulative 15€ ticket is valid for 24 hours after it is activated. Ticket stub must be attached or scanned.

3. Boboli Gardens, Silverworks Museum, China Museum, Costume Museum with only one ticket. Stub must be attached or scanned. 6€.

4. Piazzale Michelangelo, Jewish synagogue examples of Post-Unification architecture when Florence was capital of the Kingdom of Italy. Synagogue stub to be attached or scanned. 6€.