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 the Kingdom 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, England, Austria, Russia, and the Netherlands). It is valid for the Renaissance track, but can be taken singly, no track.

Those interested can act as volunteer English speaking guides in Florence’s major churches through Ars et Fides (Art and Faith), the non-profit organization promoted by Monsignor Timothy Verdon, one of the ten Canons of the Florence Cathedral. Lay people volunteer to act as guides for two or three hours a week showing visitors the interior of the church of their choice. The layman in charge of training future guides in the church of their choice is Dr. Mario Lastrucci, who is in the board of directors of Ars et Fides and assists the instructor in the weekly tours. He will provide the persons who will train those that wish to volunteer. Student life staff member Federica Dionisio will take care of the bureaucracy providing the church handouts and collecting the insurance necessary to act as tour guide.

The churches are: 1) the Duomo or Florence Cathedral started in 1296 topped by Brunelleschi’s dome. 2) the Franciscan church of Santa Croce, begun in 1294 where Michelangelo is buried, 3) the Dominican church of Santa Maria Novella with the only Early Renaissance church façade in Florence, and 4) the Medici church of San Lorenzo. This is a voluntary service available to those enrolled in the class. It is a way of introducing church visitors to the architectural wonders built for the glory of God and decorated by the most famous painters and sculptors of the period.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
To give students a full immersion in Florentine art history and culture, through two in-class lectures, media presentations, a two hour field trip with the professor and her assistants, who rotate every week. Students will experience “art history live” through each weekly tour.

LEARNING OUTCOMES
By the end of the course students will be competent in Florentine and European art history, culture, banking, and their intertwining. They will acquire this knowledge by visiting the major art museums, and historical sites in Florence with the professor and her assistants as guides. They will realize how Florence of the Medici was a major shaping force of European culture through the 19th century. Its legacy still lives on, even in the 21st century.

GRADING AND OTHER POLICIES
Students will be graded on:
30% A weekly reflection/final project due March 28. Two page weekly reflections of on the Wednesday tours should give a general overview of the things seen, commenting on favorites using the handout as reference and no extra research involved. It should be delivered before
the next class period at the latest, in an 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.

The weekly reflections become the final project if the students research one piece from every tour so that the weekly reflections are turned into a 10 page paper: My Ten Top Favorite Florentine Treasures. Another possibility could be My Favorite Florentine Tour after seeing them all.

The table of contents, a bibliography of at least five sources, including books, not just websites are not counted as the 9th and 10th pages. The project should be done gradually starting with the first tour. Each piece chosen and researched should be illustrated with drawings, post cards, or pictures.

25% Class participation and three slide shows 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. Specific exam tour questions on the art pieces will be taken from the shows to narrow down the information on the weekly tours.

An electronic copy of the 1 page presentation should be submitted by email. Standard format: Title and picture: Times New Roman, 12, double-spaced, citing and listing the sources used as bibliography.

45% Three exams (Two mid-terms and a final examination). The mid-terms will be on Tuesday, February 11 and Tuesday, March 17. A group discussion of the in-class lectures will be held a week before the exam with an exam sample. The second and third exams are not comprehensive of earlier material. 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%.

ABSENCE POLICY ON WEEKLY TOURS
Weekly tours of two class periods each will be held every Wednesday morning. The tour is worth one credit, thus 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 pay his/her own fare and will attach the ticket stub to the report of the missed tour pointing out favorites. It should be handed in as soon as possible. There will be no grade change.

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

GRADES
(A 100-94) (A- 93.5-89) (B+ 88.5-85.5) (B 85.5-79) (B- 83.5-78.5) (C+ 78.5-75.5) (C 75-74) (C- 73.5-69) (D+ 68.5-65.5) (D 65-59) (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. Two 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 computers, I pads, or other electronic devices will be allowed in the classroom during lectures or exams.

REQUIRED READING
Students will be given three packets, one for each part of the course and handouts for every weekly tour prepared by the instructor. The handouts are based on the didactic material used by every museum in Florence for Art History professors, translated into English by the instructor. They will also be given 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.

Suggested Readings for the final Project
2. Ferdinand Schevill, Medieval and Renaissance Florence, It will complement the packets for a more detailed description of the events.
4. Frederick Hartt and David G. Wilkins, History of Italian Renaissance Art. 7th edition, 2010. It is on reserve in the library with wonderful explanations of the art works seen in the weekly tours.

COURSE OUTLINE & SCHEDULE
Course is divided into three sessions followed by a test, not comprehensive of earlier material.

First part - From Roman Florence to Cosimo the Elder (il Vecchio) Exam: Tuesday, Feb. 7. January, February
9 Roman Florence, division of the empire between East and West.
10 Struggles between Guelphs and Ghibellines, Florence’s first attempt at democracy (1250-1260)
11 1st Tour: Archaeological Museum
12 No class. Tour reflection should be e-mailed or handed in before the next class period.
16 The Second Democracy, civil war in Florence. First tour reflection due
17 Dante’s exile and his Comedy.
18 2nd Tour: Santa Maria Novella, Spanish Chapel outside the second western wall.
19 No class. Tour reflection should be e-mailed or handed in before the next class period.
23 The Third Democracy (1343-1382), 1378: Great Schism of Avignon, Florence’s Ciompi Revolt.
24 Florence (1382-1400) death of duke of Milan, Early Renaissance Art begins. Hibbert’s Chapter 1.
25 3rd Tour: Santa Croce with Michelangelo’s Tomb outside the second eastern wall.
26 No class. Tour reflection should be e-mailed or handed in before the next class period.
31 Review and sample of midterm. Each student will be given a piece to research and present during the tour review on Monday 8.
01 4th Tour: Cathedral Museum.
02 No class. Tour reflection should be e-mailed or handed in before the next class period.
06 Tour slide show review with students as presenters
07 First exam

Second Part: From Lorenzo the Magnificent to Alessandro il Moro. Exam: Tuesday, March 14.
February, March
08 5th Tour: Bargello or National Museum of Sculpture (Competition panels, Donatello’s sculpture, Michelangelo’s Bacchus, Cellini’s Cosimo I).
09 No class. Tour reflection should be e-mailed or handed in before the next class period.
13 Pazzi conspiracy, Platonic Academy, Botticelli, Michelangelo. Hibbert Chapter 9-13
14 Piero di Lorenzo or the Unfortunate, his exile, Savonarola and the Florentine Republic. Ch.14-17
15 6th Tour: Convent of San Marco with frescoes by Fra Angelico and Savonarola’s cell.
16 No class. Tour reflection should be e-mailed or handed in before the next class period.
20 The Florentine republic after Savonarola’s death, Julius II, Medici return
21 Giuliano duke of Nemours, Lorenzo duke of Urbino. Leo X and Protestant Reformation.
22 7th Tour: Uffizi Gallery with Botticelli’s Birth of Venus, da Vinci’s Annunciation, etc.
23 No class. Tour reflection should be e-mailed or handed in before Spring Break.

Mon-Fri Feb.27-March 03 Spring Break
March April
06 Clement VII, sack of Rome, last Florentine Republic Medici Return Alessandro’s murder. Hibbert
07 Review for test, same format. Students get pieces to research and present for slide show.
08 8th Tour: Accademia with Michelangelo’s David and Four Prisoners
09 No class. Tour reflection e-mailed or handed in before next class period
13 Tour review with students as presenters.
14 Second exam
Third Part: From Alessandro il Moro to Florence as Second Capital of Kingdom of Italy
March, April
15 9th Tour: New Sacristy by Michelangelo, Medici Mausoleum for younger branch of family.
16 No class. Tour reflection should be e-mailed before the next class period.
21 Francis III Lorraine, Peter Leopold I Hapsburg Lorraine
22 10th Tour: Government Square - Piazza della Signoria and Palazzo Vecchio
24 No class. Tour reflection should be e-mailed or handed in before the next class period.
27 French dominion over Florence, Congress of Vienna Ferdinando III Hapsburg-Lorraine.
28 Leopold II, the Risorgimento, Florence second capital of Kingdom of Italy. Students will be
assigned the pieces to present for the tour review. Final paper due.
29 11th Tour: Pitti Palace Gallery or Boboli Gardens depending on weather. Boboli Gardens, Silverworks Museum, China Museum, Costume Museum with only one ticket.
30 No class. Tour reflection should be e-mailed or handed in before the next class period.
03 In-class review for final exam.
04 Tour review with students as presenters.
05 12th Tour: Pitti Palace Gallery or Boboli Gardens depending on the weather. Gallery
ticket is also valid for the Gallery of Modern Art.
06 No class. No reflection necessary.

FINAL PROJECT
Students are free to research a favorite tour or their favorite pieces with an index and a bibliography of at least five sources including books, not just websites. With the 15 € cumulative ticket for the Baptistery, Giotto’s Bell Tower, Santa Reparata, and Brunelleschi’s dome valid for 24 hours, students can also do their final project on the Cathedral Complex.

A great possibility would be to write on other sites that were covered in class but not visited because they are closed on Wednesdays or open at 10.

Suggested sites: handouts are available on request.
1. A late afternoon visit to the church of San Miniato to admire the sacristy frescoes by Spinello Aretino, the Chapel of the Cardinal of Portugal, and to hear the friars sing Vespers.
3. Palazzo Davanzati. Museum of a Florentine home with its antique furniture
4. Masaccio’s Brancacci Chapel where Early Renaissance painting began. It is to the Early Renaissance what Michelangelo’s Sistine Chapel ceiling is to the High Renaissance. It opens at 10 so it is impossible to organize a Wednesday tour. 5€ ticket stub must be attached or scanned.
5. Orsanmichele, Florence’s Grain Market with the interior shrine by Andrea Orcagna funded by the plague survivors and the exterior Tabernacles where Early Renaissance sculpture began. Free entrance 10am -5pm
6. The Medici Palace with Early Renaissance frescoes by Benozzo Gozzoli and a Baroque wing with a frescoed gallery by Luca Giordano, inspired by the Gallery of Mirrors in Versailles. It is closed on Wednesday, our tour day. 5€ ticket stub must be included.
8. The Jewish Synagogue with its green dome, an example of Post-Unification architecture.