

Gonzaga University

School of Professional Studies

Department of Organizational Leadership

Summer Session 2010 / Firenze

The Renaissance was inspired by the ideals of classical antiquity—awareness of human power and potentiality, and a passion for discovery—but it also transformed them to meet the challenges of the time. Now we can draw inspiration from Renaissance ideals, transforming them to meet our own challenges.

--Michael J. Gelb, from *How To Think Like Leonardo da Vinci*

Course Title / ORGL 510.01

Renaissance Leadership for the 21st Century

3 semester credits / Friday, May 14 – Friday, May 28, 2010, 14 nights total.

Course Faculty /

John Caputo, Ph.D.

Professor of Communication and Leadership / Gonzaga University

Michael Lieberman Carey, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Organizational Leadership / Gonzaga University

Course Description /

This course provides an examination of Renaissance leadership as it applies to contemporary organizations. Course study is designed for an interdisciplinary group of students to explore the power of Renaissance thinking as it applies to renewal, rediscovery, invention and creativity. This course will help emerging leaders develop new perspectives and strategies to bring health, creativity and energy to their organizations. Learners will draw upon the creative processes of artists—painters, architects, musicians, and writers--and apply the same dynamics of creative thinking to the practical work of leaders in today's organizations. Special emphasis will be given to the artists of the Italian Renaissance, especially as developed in the city of Florence.

Course Objectives /

Given full participation in the course, the student will be able to:

- explain the dynamics involved in the creative process, especially as illustrated by the Italian Renaissance;
- apply these dynamics to leadership in contemporary organizations; and
- draw upon an inter-disciplinary network of colleagues to process an integrative approach to the art of leadership.

Course Required Texts /

- Michael J. Gelb. *How to Think Like Leonardo da Vinci*. New York: Dell, 1998. ISBN: 0440508274
- Christopher Hibbert. *The House of Medici: Its Rise and Fall*. New York: Perennial, 2003. ISBN: 0688053394
- Ross King. *Brunelleschi's Dome*. (New York: Penguin Putnam, 2001). ISBN: 0142000159
- Niccolo Machiavelli. *The Prince* (New York: Penguin Putnam 2003). ISBN: 0140449159
- Rick Steves' *Italy 2007*

Course Requirements /

The assessment of each student's work will be based upon the following:

- *Attendance and Participation* (one-half of total evaluation): in postings on a Blackboard discussion forum before and after the classroom sessions in Florence; at twelve sessions in Rome and on the Gonzaga campus in Florence, Italy; and at twelve field-excursions in Rome, Florence and Siena.
- *Journal* (one-quarter of total evaluation): daily journal entries that reflect on course content, activities, and discussions and extra-curricular activities in the context of leadership studies; and
- *Paper* (one-quarter of total evaluation): due no later than August 1, a double-spaced, 12-15 page paper that integrates the student's learning in Florence and applies it to the specific circumstances of his or her organizational experience, using both material from the course and outside research.

Example of Course Highlights:

Afternoon excursions may include:

Mercato Centrale
Santa Maria Novella
Ponte Vecchio
Piazza Republica
Piazzo Signoria
Basilica Santa Croce
Basilica San Lorenzo
Cappelli dei Medici
Palazzo Medici Riccardi
Benozzo Gozzoli fresco *Procession of the Magi*
Santa Maria del Fiore (Duomo)
Giotto's Campanile (Bell Tower)
Museo dell'Opera del Duomo
San Miniato al Monte
Piazzale Michelangelo
Galleria dell'Accademia
San Marco
Palazzo Vecchio
Galleria degli Uffizi
Palazzo Pitti
Boboli Gardens
Trip to Siena