



SYLLABUS

Fall Quarter 2016

REDISCOVERY OF HUMANITY: RENAISSANCE IN CENTRAL ITALY

Instructor: Piergiacomo Petrioli

Contact Hrs: 45

Language of Instruction: English

SIENA, ITALY

Office hour: after class or by appointment

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course offers the students a journey through the rich pageant of Renaissance art and culture, giving them the critical tools with which to analyse, understand and appreciate more fully the works of art produced in central Italy from the mid-13th to the mid-15th centuries.

We will look closely at the way in which changing styles in art reflected contemporary history and cultural attitudes. With power point presentations and also visits to museums, churches and other places of historical or artistic interest in and around Siena and Florence, this course give the students every opportunity to place their studies from the classroom in context and to see works by the great masters in the original.

OVERALL GOALS OF THE COURSE:

By the end of this course, students will gain knowledge of Medieval and Renaissance art in Central Italy, and its historical and cultural background. Students will acquire critical tools that will them to recognize and appreciate the most important artworks produced during Renaissance.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY:

Acquisition of knowledge and understanding is promoted through a combination of lectures, excursions, in-class discussions and active involvement. Students participate in group discussions on assigned readings, with further information and data provided by the instructor through lectures and electronic slides presentations. The teacher will distribute handouts, and other material in order to stimulate discussion on the most relevant topics covered during the course. Lectures do not simply explain the readings, but complement them and present different material. Taking notes during classes, as well as actively participating in the in-class discussions and during excursions and visits to museums and churches, is highly recommended, as the topics raised there will constitute integral part of the exams. Student participation is encouraged, appreciated and rewarded.

REQUIRED READINGS:

LAURIE SCHNEIDER ADAMS, “Italian Renaissance Art”, Westviwe Press (text **A**);
“The Great Masters of Italian Art”, Scala (text **B**);
Coursepack.

OPTIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY:

MICHAEL BAXANDALL, “Painting and Experience in Fifteenth Century Italy”, Oxford University Press;
FRANCIS AMES-LEWIS, “The Intellectual Life of the Early Renaissance Artist”, Yale University Press;
EVELYN WELCH, “Art and Society in Italy. 1350 – 1500”, Oxford History of Art.

N.B. All the materials (pdf version of the coursepack, slides, powerpoint presentations) can be downloaded at this website:

<https://1drv.ms/f/s!Ah3OhbZECKTeiRo56P0-yUOt8PLQ>

METHODS OF EVALUATION:

paper #1	20%
paper #2:	30%
final test:	30%
attendance & participation:	20%

N.B. The students are expected to read the pages and/or material listed for each class and to engage in active discussions on relevant issues.

The students are required to be punctual and not to bring food in the classroom

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS:

Students are required to write two short papers related to the looking assignments about an art piece of an artist discussed during class. For the first assignment (3-4 pages), students should focus on their personal opinions and ideas about the selected artwork. For the second assignment (5-6 pages), students should create a research paper, in which they provide in-depth information on the historical and cultural background of the selected artwork. Students should select an art piece from those discussed in class, either in the classroom or on site, and analyze it using the skills they have learned in class, focusing on the following points: 1) style 2) subject 3) technique 4) cultural and historical background 5) student's personal ideas 6) extra bibliography

N.B. Students have to communicate for approval to the teacher the topic of their papers one week before the due date.

The assignment #1 is due on **October 25**.

The assignment #2 is due on **November 23**.

Assignments have to be on different topics.

FINAL:

The Final exam comprises two sections—slide identification (40%) and two essay questions (30% each). The final exam is cumulative for material covered over the course of the entire term.

Slide identification; 6 pictures from the list on the website (file: “Final Slides”)

(slide identification: author, subject, date, plus few lines of comment)

N.B. Excursions are fundamental part of this course and they have to be considered classes in every respect. Students are required to take notes and to take an active participation.

The students are required to be punctual and not to bring food in the classroom.

COURSE SCHEDULE

<p>WEEK 1 Sept. 28th</p>	<p>The Byzantine Idea of Art</p>	<p>Read: A pp. 2-14; B pp. <i>Introduction</i>, 16-21.</p>
<p>WEEK 2 Oct. 4th</p> <p>Oct. 5th</p>	<p>On Site lecture: Walking through Siena: Architecture and Historical Changes Meeting pint: in front of GEO Please note: take notes in class.</p> <p>On Site lecture: Visit to the Cathedral Meeting point: in front of the duomo Please note: take notes in class.</p>	<p>Read: A pp. 14-18; B pp. 12-15.</p> <p>Video 1</p>
<p>WEEK 3 Oct. 11th</p> <p>Oct. 12th</p>	<p>Giotto & XIV century Literature on Art (Dante, Petrarch, Boccaccio)</p> <p>On Site lecture: Visit to the Crypt & Museo dell’Opera Meeting point: Duomo square Please note: take notes in class.</p>	<p>Read: A pp. 25-39; B pp. 28-40.</p> <p>Read: A pp. 40-43; B pp. 22-27. Video 2</p>
<p>WEEK 4 Oct. 18th</p> <p>Oct. 19st</p>	<p>On Site lecture: Visit to the Palazzo Pubblico Meeting point: Campo square Please note: take notes in class.</p> <p>Brunelleschi and the Renaissance in Florence</p>	<p>Read: A pp. 43-50; B pp. 41-58</p> <p>Read: A pp. 58-74. Videos: 3,4,5,6</p>
<p>WEEK 5 Oct. 25th</p>	<p>Discussion on Manetti’s <i>The fat WoodWorker.</i> Donatello.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">WRITING ASSIGNMENT 1</p>	<p>Read: A pp. 75-77, 142-149, 177; B pp. 84-93. Videos: 7,8 Photocopy: Manetti’s novella</p>

Oct. 26 th	Masaccio	Read: A pp. 83-103; B pp. 62-67, 76-83.
WEEK 6 Nov. 2 nd	Early XV century Painting in Florence	Read: A pp. 104-119, 222-226; B pp. 112-131
WEEK 7 Nov. 8 th Nov. 9 th	Piero della Francesca On Site lecture: Visit to the Spedale of the Santa Maria della Scala Meeting point: Duomo square Please note: take notes in class.	Read: A pp. 184-201; B pp. 132-146.
WEEK 8 Nov. 15 th Nov. 16 th	Leonardo da Vinci Botticelli	Read: A pp. 240-245, 291-298, 304-310; B pp. 208-223. Read: A pp. 229-238; B pp. 154-161.
WEEK 9 Nov. 22 nd Nov 23 rd	Raphael 1 Raphael 2 WRITING ASSIGNMENT 2	Read: A pp. 321-329; B pp. 244-246. Video 9 Read: A pp. 344 -353; B pp. 250-257.
WEEK 10 Nov. 29 th	Michael Angel 1	Read: A pp. 312-321; B pp. 224-235; Video 10

Nov. 30 th	Michael Angel 2 and the Mannerism	Read: A pp. 332-343, 379-388; B pp. 236-243. Read: A pp. 396-399; B pp. 286-313 Video 11
WEEK 11 Dec. 6 th Dec. 7 th	Revision of the course before the final FINAL	