

**SCHOOL OF FINE ART AND MUSIC**  
**Winter Semester 2015**  
**ARTH\*2550-01**  
**ITALIAN RENAISSANCE ART**



**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Sally Hickson  
**TIME:** Thursday, 11.30am – 2:20pm  
**LOCATION:** MacKinnon Building, Rm. 114  
**OFFICE:** Johnston Hall 113/Zavitz Hall 102 (Office of the Director)  
**PHONE:** Ext. 56930  
**OFFICE HOURS:** Thursdays 1:00 – 2.20 at my Johnston Hall Office

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**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:**

This course will investigate the myths and realities of the Renaissance in the visual arts. The artists to be studied will include Giotto, Duccio, Ghiberti, Donatello, Alberti, the Bellini, Verrocchio and Michelangelo. Their careers will be placed against the theoretical beginnings of art writing and the intricate relationships of the emerging city-states of Siena, Florence, Milan, and the republic of Venice.

***Prerequisite(s):*** 1 of ARTH\*1220, ARTH\*1510, ARTH\*1520

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course focus on major artistic developments of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, centered on new discoveries about the science of representation and the new intellectual current of humanism. These discoveries were fundamental to the art and architectural accomplishments of the High Renaissance in Florence, Rome and Venice. We will pursue key themes in Renaissance painting, sculpture, architecture, prints and printing, textiles, ceramics, jewelry making and various forms of cultural production in the domestic, religious, economic, political and social contexts of Renaissance Italy – from courts to cathedrals, from weddings to funerals, from birth to death, from gods to monsters.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

1. Evaluate the aesthetic, historical, social, and ethical significance of the visual realm that is our present environment and the heritage of many cultures.
2. Construct plausible methods of analysis in the field of art history and visual culture.
3. Develop a broader and deeper understanding of how visual images inflect and change our understanding of historical events.

**THERE IS NO REQUIRED TEXT FOR THIS COURSE**

\*students can, but don't have to, purchase second-hand copies (even if they're really old) of any standard Renaissance survey text – these include Frederick Hartt and David G. Wilkins, *History of Italian Renaissance Art*; Stephen J. Campbell and Michael W. Cole, *A New History of Italian Renaissance Art*; John T Paoletti and Gary M. Radke, *Art in Renaissance Italy*. These all have excellent illustrations. I'll put some copies on reserve in the library.

\*No class February 19 – Reading Week!  
\*March 26 – I will be at a conference in Berlin

**METHOD OF EVALUATION:**

First ePortfolio Assignment Jan .....	15%
Mid-term Feb. 12.....	30%
Second ePortfolio Assignment March 19.....	15%
Final Exam (Friday, April 17,2015 11:30-1:30, location TBA) .....	40%

\*\* More details about test and assignment formats will be given when classes start \*\*

**Mid-Term Test - Please Note:** Students who miss the mid-term for documented medical or compassionate reasons must provide the documentation and will have ONE opportunity, on a date and at a time determined by the professor, to write a make-up exam. In other words all students who are granted the opportunity to write the make-up will do so together at the same time – date, time and location to be determined by the professor.

**LECTURES AND READINGS:**

\*A detailed schedule of course lectures and readings will be handed out at the first class.\*

**ePortfolio** is found on your home page on Courselink, and is a great tool for storing images, documents, journal articles and other research and reference sources – it’s also a place where you can create and share presentations and you’ll be using it to create your writing assignments for this course. Instructions about ePortfolio will be given out in class.

**Late Assignments** will be penalized 5% per day (because they are submitted electronically, weekends count too!) up to a maximum of 5 days. After that they will not be accepted.

**E-mail** should really be reserved for making appointments. It’s often difficult (if not impossible) to adequately discuss matters related to your work via email.

Students are welcome and encouraged to drop by during my office hours or to make appointments with me to ask questions about assignments, to discuss the course, or to talk more broadly about the study of art history, or their future academic plans and/or careers in the arts and culture sector. Engaging with faculty is important as you develop your academic and professional goals, and I’m always happy to talk to you.