

SCHOOL OF FINE ART AND MUSIC
Winter Semester 2016
ARTH*2550-01
ITALIAN RENAISSANCE ART



INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Sally Hickson
TIME: Wed. 2.30 – 5.20
LOCATION: MacKinnon Building, Rm. 114
OFFICE: Johnston Hall 113/Zavitz 102 (Office of the Director)
PHONE: Ext. 56930
OFFICE HOURS: Wednesday 1 – 2.15 at my Zavitz office

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.

TEXTBOOK:

John T Paoletti and Gary M Radke, Art in Renaissance Italy, 4th Ed.

*you can purchase a second-hand edition of this if you can find one, and there are some new and old copies on reserve in the library

OTHER READINGS:

Other readings for the course are on the Courselink site under ‘Course Materials’.

***No class February 17 – Reading Week!**

METHOD OF EVALUATION:

First Assignment Feb 3	15%
Mid-term Feb. 10.....	25%
Second Assignment March 16	20%
Tableau Vivant Assignment	10%
Final Exam (April 21, 2016 11:30-1:30)	30%

** 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.

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. If you have questions about assignments, want tips on effective studying, need to go over course material, please do contact the course TA.

You are also 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, and your future academic or career plans.

Engaging with faculty is important as you develop your academic and professional goals, and I'm always happy to talk to you.