

SCHOOL OF FINE ART AND MUSIC
Winter Semester 2015
ARTH*2950-01
BAROQUE ART



INSTRUCTOR: Elena Napolitano
TIME: Friday 11:30am – 2:20pm
LOCATION: MacKinnon Building, Rm. 114
OFFICE: Johnston Hall, Rm 113A
PHONE: Ext. 58476
EMAIL: TBA
OFFICE HOURS: Friday, 2:30 – 3:30pm

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

The visual arts in an age of religious crisis and the growth of great trading empires will be examined.

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

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

ARTH-2950-01 is a survey of the painting, sculpture, architecture, and urban planning of major cities in Europe and colonial centers of Latin America spanning the period ca. 1580-1750. In addition to examining a range of objects and monuments, this course will situate these works within the variety of circumstances that gave rise to them: larger political contexts (the centralization of power, colonial expansion, and the cultivation of the state); social contexts (the rise of the middle class and the development of a public sphere); and religious contexts (the division of the Christian world into Protestant and Catholic confessions). The course will also address a variety of methodological perspectives (formalism, social history, iconography) and interpretive strategies that have been applied to the period designation in Art History known as the Baroque.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of this course, students will have developed an understanding of the place of Baroque art and architecture in the history of Western art and be able to identify canonical works of art and artists, define key terms related to the period, and discuss the intersections between cultural and political contexts and artistic practices. Through readings, discussions, and assignments, students will also acquire critical thinking and writing skills. These skills will be developed and demonstrated by discussing the form, content, and context of works of art from the Baroque period and by analyzing the role of art historians in shaping our understanding of those works.

REQUIRED READINGS:

Will be posted as PDF files on Courselink or available through Course Reserves (ARES)

METHOD OF EVALUATION:

Mid-Term (Friday, February 13)	25%
Term Paper (Due: in class March 27)	35%
Final Exam: Tuesday, April 14, 7-9 PM, location TBA.....	40%