**School of Fine Art and Music**

**Fall Semester 2022**

**ARTH\* 3340-01**

**Studies in Renaissance and Baroque Art**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Martina Meyer, PhD

**TIME:** Tuesday & Thursday, 11:30-12:50

**LOCATION:** MacKinnon Building Room 114

**OFFICE HOURS:** TBA (or by appointment)

**OFFICE:** TBA

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

For centuries the idea of a Renaissance at the end of the Middle Ages has been an active agent in shaping conceptions of the development of Western European civilization. When, where, and what was the Renaissance? What is its relationship to the seventeenth-century culture that built upon its achievements? What were the motivating ideas of this era of creative energy, innovation, thought, and technology in Western Europe? Furthermore, why does it matter? The 400 years of European history that saw such pioneering developments as the invention of the printing press, encountering the Americas, the Protestant Reformation and Catholic response, and the scientific redefinition of the universe as a heliocentric system were turbulent ones. Developments in science, politics, and philosophy shaped these early modern cultures, directly contributing to the increased naturalism of the visual arts in representing both the human figure and the landscape, informing a new awareness of the individual, resulting in new complexities of meaning.

The goal of this course is comprehensive in scope and will introduce a diversity of current approaches within the discipline. To this end, we will touch on a range of European cultures (Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, France, and Germany) as well as a variety of media. We will investigate the evolution of portraiture and address key themes such as gender or evolving definitions of artistic identity and how these concepts vary in geographically.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

\*Distinguish between Renaissance and Baroque art

\*Understand the time, space and spirit of the early modern age

\*Comprehend the significance of the relationship between patron and artist

\*Recognize the influence of belief systems on the creation of images

\*Appreciate the role of evolving technologies on the production of images

\*Apply the correct art historical terms

\*Employ diverse methodologies and critical strategies

**Prerequisites:** None.

**Course requirements:** All students are expected to attend class regularly, participate in class discussions, and complete all of the readings and assignments by the dates outlined in the syllabus.

**Evaluation:**

1. Midterm examination = 25%
2. Pop Up Gallery “Selfie” Project = 10% (Group)\*
3. Research Project (2 options) = 35% \*

4. Final take home examination = 30%

\* Details and requirements uploaded to Courselink. Possible topics are uploaded on Courselink.

**Required text:**

Bohn, Babette and James M Saslow, [*A Companion to Renaissance and Baroque Art*](http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/9781118391488)*,*Hoboken: Wiley-Blackwell 2013.

Online Resource (University of Guelph Library) or purchase through Wiley, CDN $47.99:

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/book/10.1002/9781118391488>

The text will be referred to as **CR&B Art** in the syllabus.

Any additional readings and materials will be uploaded to our Courselink page.

**Images** Every lecture will be illustrated with images (PowerPoint). Students may be tested on labeled images from class PPTs and/or images that appear in the assigned readings.