**School of Fine Art and Music**

**Winter Semester 2022**

**ARTH\*2550-01**

**THE ITALIAN RENAISSANCE**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Martina Meyer

**TIME:**  Monday & Wednesday, 11:30-12:50

**LOCATION:** MacKinnon Room 114

**OFFICE:** MacKinnon #247

**EMAIL:** meyerm@uoguelph.ca

**OFFICE HOURS:** Friday, 10:30-11:30 virtual / Zoom by appointment

**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:** In this course we will learn to read Early Renaissance images/buildings/objects, analyzing form and content to investigate and understand how such monuments communicated messages to various audiences. Students will gain an understanding of contemporary attitudes towards art and learn to identify the possible connotations of styles, themes, and media for audiences then and now. Students also will learn about the relationships between artists and consumers in order to understand how art was used to negotiate selfhood through the crafting of individual, family, civic and corporate identities.

**Course Objectives:** Students will gain a thoughtful appreciation of art of the Renaissance period through the study of the diverse artists who created it. Students will acquire knowledge of the characteristics of style, the power of images, the language of art, and the vocabulary necessary to communicate a scholarly analysis of the works of the Renaissance period. Students will develop a method for value judgment, critical analysis, and determining the cultural significance to the Renaissance period and to our own time. Students will recognize the way many Renaissance artworks relate directly to our modern world and understand the lasting effects of the Renaissance period into the 21st century.

Upon completion of this course, students will have achieved the following educational and disciplinary goals:

• Synthesize information and concepts gained from reading • Evaluate written material and reach conclusions • Conduct careful, thoughtful observations of objects related to art and society • Describe observations using appropriate terms • Apply course theories to practical problem solving • Interpret, analyze, and evaluate visual images • Compare, contrast, and classify stylistic characteristic in the arts • General awareness of the history, religion and philosophies of different cultures • Familiarity with major forms of aesthetic and cultural expression • Familiarity with the major components of artistic expression.

**Required text:**

Hartt, Frederick, and David G. Wilkins. *History of Italian Renaissance Art.* 7th ed. Pearson: Upper Saddle River, 2011. (Earlier editions are perfectly acceptable).

There are multiple sellers – hardcover, paper back, loose pages ….

For eBook version, try the following:

<https://archive.org/details/HistoryOfItalianRenaissanceArtPaintingSculptureArchitectureHarttFrederick7thEd2011/page/n425/mode/2up>

Any supplemental source readings will be uploaded to Courselink.

**Courselink:** Image lists, Readings, and Announcements will be posted regularly.  I use the Courselink course management system and will expect everyone in the class to stay up-to-date by accessing the course website. Image lists and images for study will be available on the course website, as will additional readings. Check the website periodically for timely announcements. You will be expected to use image study lists as your study guides for the quizzes and exam.

Late papers and make-up tests: As the dates of exams and due dates of assignments will be included in the Course Outline, all students are expected to know about them and to be prepared accordingly. For those who miss a mid-term test for documented medical or compassionate reasons, the grade will be redistributed to the other exams. There will be NO make-up tests.

**E-mail Communication** As per university regulations, all students are required to check their <mail.uoguelph.ca> e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

**Accessibility**The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact Student Accessibility Services as soon as possible. For more information, contact CSD at 519-824-4120 ext. 56208 or email sas@uoguelph.ca or see the website: [http://www](http://www/) .uoguelph.ca/csd/

**Student Rights and Responsibilities**

Each student at the University of Guelph has rights which carry commensurate responsibilities that involve, broadly, being a civil and respectful member of the University community. The Rights and Responsibilities are detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar

**Academic Misconduct**The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring.  University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct.  Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

**Please note:** Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor. The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar.

**Recording of Materials** Presentations which are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

**Resources**

**The Academic Calendars** are the source of information about the University of Guelph’s procedures, policies and regulations that apply to undergraduate, graduate and diploma programs.

**Email Etiquette:** Please identify the course in your subject heading! Please allow a 24-hour turnaround time. In most circumstances I will get back to you much sooner. I will not answer questions whose solutions are easily available on Courselink.

**Method of Evaluation:**

**Midterm 1**: Feb. 2nd 25%

**Midterm 2**: March 9th 25%

Midterms may contain IDs and vocabulary terms. Image IDs will require you to identify the artist, title, date, and location (architecture) of the work shown. You may also be asked to discuss in a few short sentences the significance of the image. Comparisons will ask you to identify the two works shown, and discuss in short-essay form how the images together elucidate certain ideas. Short essay questions will ask you to thoughtfully synthesize a response to a thematic question, drawing upon your repertoire of western art to support your answer. Questions may be based on content from lecture, the textbook, and readings. Use the Study Guide uploaded to Courselink to prepare. You will be responsible for the image information on this list.

**Team Term Project: Fake or Fortune: Renaissance Roadshow** (20%) Scheduled the last two weeks of term. Dropbox deadline, April 4th, 11:59PM.

Teams of two / three students will be assigned an unknown image. It is your job as experts to investigate the image and advise your client as to its authenticity. Your team should compare to images you have been assigned with those studied in class and base your findings on formal analysis. These help you build your connoisseurship of western art, and you’ll earn a considerable amount of money!

**Final Exam:** Take Home final distributed in the last lecture., April 6 (30%)

DUE April to DROPBOX April 15 before 11:59PM.

**Late papers and make-up tests:** As the dates of exams and due dates of assignments will be included in the Course Outline, all students are expected to know about them and to be prepared accordingly. For those who miss a mid-term test for medical or compassionate reasons, the grade will be redistributed to the other exams. There will be NO make-up tests.

**\***A brief, but useful, bibliography is provided after the Course Schedule.