

ART 403: EARLY RENAISSANCE ART IN ITALY **FALL SEMESTER 2015-16**

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Office Hours: 1 hour before and after class and by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION: General survey of the development of Italian art, particularly Tuscan art, from the dawn of the Renaissance around 1300 in the art of Giotto to its full flowering in the mid 1400s.

CLASS ORGANIZATION: Lectures will be held in the Aula Magna and on site in the city as designated on the schedule. The meeting place is indicated on your syllabus and will always be confirmed at the preceding lecture. Italy is full of surprises so always check the board at school for last minute changes. Entrance fees for the semester will be approximately 22 Euro.

GRADING/CLASS REQUIREMENTS: Grades will be based on a written mid-term and a written final, as well as a Looking Assignment (see below).

Mid term exam: 30%; A Looking Assignment: 20%; Final Exam: 45%; Participation: 5%
N.B. Attendance is important, as you will be expected to remember works of art we will be seeing together during class time. The established CSU attendance policy will be applied.

REQUIRED READING: Readings in Frederick Hartt's *Renaissance Art*. and the *Gospel of Matthew*

CLASS CALENDAR:

Week 1 (Nov. 5): Aula Magna Introduction: Dawn of the Renaissance

Week 2 (Nov. 12) Aula Magna: Revival of Classicism in the Early 15th C./ Ghibert and Brunelleschi

Week 3 (Nov. 19): Aula Magna: Early Renaissance Painting/ Masaccio and his Contemporaries :**Looking Assignment Due***

Week 4 (Nov. 26): **HAPPY THANKSGIVING!! NO CLASS**

Week 5 (Dec. 3): Meet at Or San Michele and continue to Cathedral complex (no entrance fees)

Week 6 (Dec. 10): Meet at Or San Michele and continue to Museum of Cathedral Works (no fees)

Week 7 (Dec. 17): Mid-term Exam

Winter break: Dec. 18 – Jan. 6

-----MERRY XMAS!!! -----

Week 8 (Jan. 7): Meet in Piazza Santissima Annunziata at the corner of the Loggia degli Innocenti for a walking tour of Renaissance Architecture (**6 euro**)

Week 9 (Jan. 14) Meet at Bargello (**6 Euro**)

Week 10 (Jan. 21): Meet at the Museum of San Marco for Fra Angelico and continue to Sant' Apollonia for Castagno (**6 euro**)

Week 11 (Jan. 28): Aula Magna for Second Renaissance Style

Week 12 (Feb. 4) UFFIZI (FEE of approximately **10 euro** – to be confirmed)

Week 13 /Exam week: Feb. 8 – 11, WRITTEN FINAL EXAM. Exact day and time to be announced.

***LOOKING ASSIGNMENT:**

The Looking Assignments are to supplement your reading and site visits and we will discuss them in class during a specific oral session dedicated to this. You should follow these guidelines:

1. Note your initial reaction to the work. Do you like it, hate it, feel indifferent? Why does the work have this effect on you?
2. Try to figure out what is going on in terms of the subject matter .
3. Analyze the work in terms of style; i.e. the role of light, color, shapes, the relation to the viewer, the composition, the use of negative space, line (outline) and anything else that seems pertinent.
4. Prepare notes and sketches to help make your looking assignment be more focused and memorable and to be presented to me.

5. LOOKING ASSIGNMENT – DUE WEEK FIVE

BRANCACCI CHAPEL IN THE CHURCH OF THE CARMINE

MASACCIO'S FRESCO CYCLE

CLASS COSTS: **On the class calendar it is noted directly by the site visit if there is an entry fee to pay. Entry fees for this class should total approximately 28 euro.**

“3 – Hour” Attendance Policy 2015-2016

(for classes that meet once a week for 3 hours)

Attendance to all CSU courses is mandatory. One unexcused absence is allowed during the semester but more than one unexcused absence will lower your grade as follows (excused absences will be accepted for serious medical reasons or emergencies): **TWO** unexcused absences, lowers by 1.5 letter grades (i.e., B to C-); **THREE** unexcused absences, lowers by 3 letter grades (i.e., A to D). More than **THREE unexcused absences will result in failure of the course.**

In order not to disrupt the class, punctuality is required. Students are expected to be in class at the beginning of the class hour; any delay exceeding ten minutes will be considered an absence.

Dates of mid-term and final exams **can not** be changed for individual travel plans or personal needs. Students should take note of the dates and hours of the midterm and final exams and plan their trips after the last exam. It is important to inform friends and relatives about these exam dates so that no tickets are purchased for you that will interfere with these exam dates. Missing the midterm or the final exam will mean failure of the course.

During the academic year photocopies and other material may be distributed in class by the instructors. Students who were not in class are responsible for getting the material from their classmates and making their own photocopies.

Optional class policies:

Use of the computer in class is restricted to oral presentations, unless previously approved by the professor.

Eating is NOT allowed in class.

Cellular phones must be **turned off** or placed on **silent mode** during class.