

Art 407: Museum Studies: The Uffizi and Florence

Fall semester 2016/2017

Wed. 9:30 – 12:15 Aula Magna or on site

Prof. Giovanna Giusti

Office Hours: Wed. 8:30 – 9:30 ; 12:15 – 13:15. On request by appointment

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Description of the Course

What does it mean to work in an Italian museum ?

The purpose of this Course is to offer those students who have a deep interest in the history of art, and possibly already a good knowledge of Italian art, an introduction, in different sectors, to the main activities and the life of a venerable, important and complex museum such as the Uffizi Gallery.

The Course will consist either of classroom lectures with slides or visits to collections, institutes and exhibitions. The student will see the “back stage” of the museum and will come to understand how important and demanding it is to care for, respect and preserve works of art. Students will see the complex activity of art restoration from inside the restoration laboratories, and they will also learn how to take care of cataloguing, of drawings, of detailed and special publications and of education. Visits to some collections of the museums will be made during days and times when they are closed to the general public. Other visits will be arranged to special exhibitions.

- **The Course will have a maximum of 20 students, due to the restrictions required by the sites to be visited. Priority will be given to students in the art history concentration.**
- **Please note that the course meets at different times during the week (on Wednesday or Monday or Friday,) due to the requirements of the site visits. It will not overlap most other courses however. It is YOUR responsibility to inform your other teachers in advance when there are conflicts.**

COURSE FEES

- **Cost of the entrance fees are to be paid by the students and the teacher will advise the students about the costs before the visits.**
- **Tentative costs: 20/30 euros each.**

Evaluation/Grading

The final grade will be determined as follows:

30% participation and attendance at the lectures and site visits; 30% in class mid-term exam (short paper(s); 40% final exam paper, consisting of 5 typed pages, inclusive of notes, images, bibliography, must be submitted by the students on one of four topics suggested by the instructor.

CLASS CALENDAR

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no class on Wed., Nov. 2 or Wed., Nov. 9. The first class (make-up for Nov. 2) will be on Friday, Nov. 11. The make-up class for Wed., Nov. 9 will be on Friday, Dec. 16. Attendance to these classes is mandatory.

1. In class Friday 11/11/2016: 9,30 – 12,15 Introduction to the Course: how the first museum in the world was created; transformations, branches and the relation with Florence, which is considered a town/museum. (make-up for Nov. 2 class)
2. In class Wednesday 16/11/2016: 9,30 – 12,15: How to preserve the works of art. The restoration of works of art: places and methods to preserve them. how to order, exhibit and preserve the works of art; the relationship between the museum and the visitors.
3. On-site Wednesday 23/11/2016: 9,30 – 12,15: Visit to the famous Restoration Laboratory at Fortezza da Basso. **15 euros each !!!!! - TICKET NEEDED MEETING: VIALE FILIPPO STROZZI N. 1**
4. In class Wednesday 30/11/2016: 9,30 – 12,15: How is a special exhibition realized?
5. On-site Wednesday 7/12/2016: 9,30 – 12,15: Visit the special exhibition at Archivio di Stato "The flood 50 years after". **MEETING AT SCHOOL**
6. On-site Wednesday 14/12/2016: 9,30 – 12,15: Visit to the *Contini Bonacossi Collection* at the Uffizi (closed to the general public) and the *Georgofili Area*. **MEETING: VIA DELLA NINNA N. 5**
7. On-site Friday 16/12/2016: 9,30 – 12,15: (make-up for Nov. 9 class) **Visit Paper Laboratory restoration ???? and Palazzo Medici exhibit. TICKET NEEDED ????? MEETING: ????**
8. In class Wednesday, 21/12/2016: 9,30 - 12,15: **MID-TERM**
9. In class Wednesday 11/1/2017: 9,30 – 12,15: The cataloguing of works of art. The future Uffizi. Transformations.
10. In class Wednesday 18/1/2017: 9,30 – 12,15: The main differences between Italian and american museum
11. On-site Wednesday, 25/1/2017: 9,30 – 12,15: Visit to the Educational Department
12. ****On-site Wednesday 1/2/2017: 15,45-18,30** – Visit the *Carabinieri* Headquarters for the Protection of Cultural Heritage in Pitti Palace
13. FINAL EXAM PAPER due. Wed., Feb 8 (put in teacher's mailbox in faculty room)

PLEASE NOTE: A class site visit to the Uffizi Museum has been planned for the fall semester. The exact day and time will be announced in class.

****THE SITE VISIT WITH ** WILL CONFLICT WITH ITALIAN CLASSES AND PERHAPS OTHER CLASSES. INFORM YOUR TEACHERS IF YOU HAVE A CONFLICT.**

PLEASE NOTE: Some expenses to be paid directly by students, other expenses to be paid by CSU. More details to be announced Be sure to take a very close look at the class schedule. Some

of these classes **meet OUTSIDE** of the regularly scheduled class time or even on a **DIFFERENT DAY**. It is YOUR responsibility to inform your other teachers of an existing conflict (if there is one) and you alone are responsible for obtaining any information that you missed as a result of conflicting site visits for this class. **Be sure to take note of each class meeting (day and time) BEFORE the date of that class.** If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask your professor for more information.

On site: no bags and no big umbrellas

CSU Attendance Policy

“3 – Hour” Attendance Policy 2016 -2017 (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 five 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.

Other 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.