



Art 407 Museum Studies: The Uffizi and Florence

Spring semester 2019

Wed. 9:30 – 12:15 Aula 1 or on site

Prof. Giovanna Giusti

Office Hours: Wed. 12:15 – 13:15. or by appointment

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Course Description

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. Some visits will be arranged to special exhibitions.

CSU GE CATEGORY: C3, C4 or C elective

- **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 or who have art history minors.**

GENERAL COURSE REQUIREMENTS

You are responsible for the weekly readings, the information given to you in class, on handouts **and via email**. Part of your grade will be determined by regular attendance, participation in class discussions and active engagement in all activities of this course. **Make sure to check your email on a regular basis for updates and additional information.**

CLASS SITE VISITS

Visits to museums and other institutions and sites are included in this course and you are required to attend all of them.

APPROXIMATE COST OF THE MANDATORY SITE VISITS (to be confirmed):

70 euros each.

(Card as member of Friends of Uffizi Association (40 euros), available for also some other Courses to visit Uffizi Gallery and all the Museums in Pitti Palace.; Cost of the visit to the Restoration Laboratory (30,00 euros total).

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Lead the students through many visits and meetings to understand the complex reality of an important museum like the Uffizi and how it is alive and necessary to find again in the city of Florence the link that is at the origin of its creation.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the semester, through personal experience in Florence and the course, students will be able to: understand and appreciate the back stage of one of the most important art museums in the world.. They will learn how to become a curator, how to respect works of art and to take care of them, how to organize a special exhibition and how to help the international visitors understand the “deep voice” of the museum.

Grades and Exams

Your grade will be determined by the following assignments:
(select and list the ones applicable to your course)

- Midterm 30 %
- Final 30 %
- Reports 10 %
- Class participation 15 %
- Class presentation 15 %
- Other activities %
- Field trip presentation %

100-94	A
93-90	A-
89-88	B+
87-83	B
82-80	B-
79-77	C+
76-73	C
72-69	C-
68-67	D+
66-63	D
62-60	D-
59 and below	F

A Student performance has been outstanding and indicates an exceptional degree of academic achievement in meeting learning outcomes and course requirements

B Student performance has been at a high level and indicates solid academic achievement in meeting learning outcomes and course requirements

C Student performance has been adequate and indicates satisfactory academic achievement in meeting learning outcomes and course requirements

D Student performance has been less than adequate and indicates deficiencies in meeting the learning outcomes and/or course requirements

F Student performance has been unacceptable and indicates a failure to meet the learning outcomes and/or course requirements

Evaluation/Grading

Mid-term exam and final exam papers will consist of a group proposal of a temporary exhibition at the Uffizi Galleries

Class Code of Conduct

Activities unrelated to the course (including private conversations, emailing, text messaging, reading, web surfing, etc.) are not permitted during class time. Please turn off or put all electronic devices on silent mode prior to the beginning of the class.

Academic Dishonesty Will Not Be Tolerated.

Any form of plagiarism or cheating may result in a failing final grade in the course and might be reported to IP and your campus. You are better off spending your time studying for the class. If you have questions about what constitutes academic dishonesty, please refer to the student handbook and catalog of your campus and also ask me and/ or the Resident Director for more information.

Attendance policy (for classes that meet once a week, for 3 hours)

A) 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 grade (i. e., B to C-); THREE unexcused absences, lowers by 3 letter grades (i. e., A to D). More than THREE unexcused absences could result in failure of the course.

B) 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.

C) 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 there exam dates so that no tickets are purchased for you that will interfere with these exam dates.

Missing the midterm or the final exam could mean failure of the course.

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

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

F) Eating is not allowed in class.

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Important: Exams

You must attend all exams and quizzes as scheduled. Make-up exams are given only for valid reasons. Please check your academic calendar **BEFORE** you book trips, flights and hotels.

Copyright and Privacy Laws

No portion of the texts, films, videos, and other material used in this course can be reproduced in any format including scanning, electronic downloading or sharing of files.

In addition, no portion of class lectures, discussions, and activities can be reproduced and used any format, including electronic, without the written consent of the instructor and/or guest speakers.

Changes- Important

Information contained in this syllabus, including the class calendar, other than that mandated by the University, may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

CLASS CALENDAR

1. **In class Wednesday 27/2/2019: 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.
2. **On-site Wednesday 6/3/2019: 9 – 12,15: Visit to the Uffizi Gallery and to the exhibition “Antony Gormley”:** (MEETING: VIA DELLA NINNA N. 5) ***Friends of Uffizi Card***
3. **In class Wednesday 13/3/2019: 9,30 – 12,15: How is a special exhibition realized?**
4. **On-site Wednesday 20/3/2019: 9,30 – 12,15: Visit the exhibition “Kiki Smith”, Pitti Palace,** Andito Angiolini, the exhibition“ Barock carnivals”, Palatine Gallery. (MEETING: in front of the entrance of Pitti Palace, Pitti Square). ***Friends of Uffizi Card***
5. **In class Wednesday 27/3//2019: 9,30 – 12,15: The main differences between Italian and American museums**
6. **In class Wednesday, 3/4//2019: 9,30 - 12,15: MID-TERM EXAM**
7. **In class Wednesday, 10/4/2019: 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 relation between the museum and the visitors.

8. **On-site** Wednesday 17/4/2019: 9,30 – 12,15: Visit to the famous Restoration Laboratory at Fortezza da Basso. **TICKET NEEDED MEETING: VIALE FILIPPO STROZZI N. 1**
9. **Spring Break: April 19 – 18. No class on Wed., April 24**
10. **On-site** Wednesday 8/5/2019: 9,30 – 12,15: Visit the exhibitions: “Lessico femminile”, at Modern Art Gallery, Pitti Palace and Boboli Garden. *Friends of Uffizi Card*
11. **NO CLASS ON WED., MAY 1 – NATIONAL HOLIDAY : ITALIAN LABOR DAY**
12. **In class** Wednesday 15/5//2019: 9,30 – 12,15: The cataloguing of works of art. Education Department. Transformations. Uffizi Galleries.
13. **On-site** Wednesday 22/5/2019: 15,45-18,30 ??? TBC – Visit the Carabinieri Headquarters for the Protection of Cultural Heritage in Pitti Palace. Visit Boboli Garden.
14. **FINAL EXAM PAPER** due Wed., May 29. Papers are to be to the teacher no later than this date. Students can leave their papers in the folder in teacher’s mailbox at CSU.

PLEASE NOTE:

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 are allowed