

ARH 230 **Renaissance Art** Spring 2010  
CFAC 116, Tuesdays 6:45 to 9:25pm

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Required Texts: Hartt, Frederick, *History of Renaissance Art*. Prentice Hall, Inc. 2005, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition. Suggested text: Barnet, Sylvan, *Writing About Art*.

On Reserve: There are a number of texts on reserve, including the two above, that may help you in this course. Please see the list on My Courses or at the Olin Library.

This course focuses on the development of the Italian Renaissance from 1400 to 1530. Attention is paid to the social, historical, political and religious influences on the subject and style of the arts produced during this period.

**GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT:** This course fulfills the A or H general education requirement.

**EXPRESSIVE ARTS (A):** Artistic creation is a central and enduring activity in all cultures. The arts attest to the fundamental human need for self-expression and for the transformation of human experience into lasting symbolic form. Furthermore, the great diversity of art forms across cultures is evidence of the degree to which human experience, while shared, is also culturally determined. Expressive arts classes provide the student with an appreciation for aesthetic experience by teaching the skills necessary for individual aesthetic expression or by focusing on acquiring a critical vocabulary with which to articulate aesthetic experience. The expressive arts thus encompass both primary aspects of artistic creation: its practice and its scholarly study. Upon completion of this requirement, students will be able to:

- ◆ **GOAL 1:** Identify and explain artistic techniques and styles in their cultural context through oral presentations, examinations, in class discussions and papers.
- ◆ **GOAL 2:** Demonstrate an understanding of the creative process, including the technique, processes, and concepts of artistic creation, whether from hands-on experience or from the study of history and theory through oral presentations, examinations, in class discussions and papers.

**Development of Western Thought (H):** The ideas, arts, and institutions that define Western society and culture have emerged from a rich historical process. In order to understand, appreciate and critically evaluate any aspect of this culture, one must have an understanding of the context from which it arose. By studying the Western heritage in its historical development, students will be encouraged to see the historical dimensions of the issues they face as engaged citizens today.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

**EXAMINATIONS:** There will be a **midterm** and a **final exam**. Each test will cover approximately one half (1/2) of the course materials. The final exam will include cumulative essays. **No makeup tests or exams will be provided without prior communication with the instructor.**

**WRITING REQUIREMENTS:** There will be one analysis paper and one research paper. Details on the assignments are included in this syllabus. I expect writing assignments to be turned in **before** class begins the day they are due. **I will not accept any late papers.**

**CLASS PARTICIPATION** will be 10% of your final grade. Class participation will take many guises, participating in debates, class discussions, presentations, and pop quizzes among other items. Class Participation is an essential and required component of this professor's classroom dynamic. This requirement does not just entail the ability of the student to open his/her mouth and let any random musing clatter onto the tabletop. Students will be evaluated based on the quality, insightfulness and perceptiveness of their comments.

Exemplary attendance and no participation will equal a C.

Exemplary attendance and occasional thought provoking remarks or well-framed questions will constitute a B.

Exemplary attendance and excellent observations, analysis and comments will receive an A.

The teacher reserves the right to also bestow variations upon a grade, for instance A-, C+, etc.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:** There will not be an attendance policy in this class. Since 10% of your grade is based on class discussion/participation, your grade will suffer if you rack up absences. If you are not present, you cannot receive credit for class participation.

**PHILOSOPHY OF THE CLASSROOM:** I accept no late work. You have made a commitment to bettering yourself by coming to college. Take responsibility for yourself and your work. Papers are due when they are due. If you know that you will have a conflict, then it is your responsibility to make alternative plans with me. Do not wait until the day the work is due to work out arrangements, you will be too late. Equally, the tests, exams, in-class debates, etc. will not be rescheduled.

**In order to pass the course, all requirements must be fulfilled.**

**GRADE BREAKDOWN:**

Midterm	20%
Final Exam	30%
Paper 1	10%
Paper 2	30%
Class Participation	10%

**GRADING SCALE:** The grading scale will be: A - 100-90, B - 89-80, C - 79-70, D - 69-60, F - 59 and below.

## **THE ACADEMIC HONOR CODE**

Membership in the student body of Rollins College carries with it an obligation, and requires a commitment, to act with honor in all things. Because academic integrity is fundamental to the pursuit of knowledge and truth and is the heart of the academic life of Rollins College, it is the responsibility of all members of the College community to practice it and to report apparent violations.

The following pledge is a binding commitment by the students of Rollins College:

The development of the virtues of Honor and Integrity are integral to a Rollins College education and to membership in the Rollins College community. Therefore, I, a student of Rollins College, pledge to show my commitment to these virtues by abstaining from any lying, cheating, or plagiarism in my academic endeavors and by behaving responsibly, respectfully and honorably in my social life and in my relationships with others.

This pledge is reinforced every time a student submits work for academic credit as his/her own. Students shall add to all papers, quizzes, tests, lab reports, etc., the following handwritten abbreviated pledge followed by their signature:

**“On my honor, I have not given, nor received, nor witnessed any unauthorized assistance on this work.”**

Material submitted electronically should contain the pledge; submission implies signing the pledge.

**SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS:** Rollins College is committed to equal access and does not discriminate unlawfully against persons with disabilities in its policies, procedures, programs or employment processes. The College recognizes its obligations under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 to provide an environment that does not discriminate against persons with disabilities.

If you are a person with a disability on this campus and anticipate needing any type of academic accommodations in order to participate in your classes, please make timely arrangements by disclosing this disability in writing to the Disability Services Office at (box 2613) - Thomas P. Johnson Student Resource Center, 1000 Holt Ave., Winter Park, FL, 32789. Appointments can be scheduled by calling 407-646-2354 or email: [gridgeway@rollins.edu](mailto:gridgeway@rollins.edu)

**CELL PHONES & LAPTOPS:** Please turn off all cell phones during class. If your phone rings during class, you will lose half a letter grade off your final grade. If the phone rings during an exam, you will fail the exam and lose a half a letter grade off your final grade. No texting in class. If you choose to use a laptop to take notes, that is fine. But please stick to taking notes. If I find that you are doing work for another class or “playing” on the computer (email, internet, games, etc), you will lose a letter grade off of your final grade

for each infraction. It is distracting, rude and annoying to your fellow students and to the professor.

**The syllabus and course outline are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Changes will be announced in class.**

#### TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Jan 12: Introduction to class/What characterizes the Renaissance Period? 13<sup>th</sup> Century Art: Cimabue, Giotto, Duccio, Martini, Lorenzetti. Reading: Hartt Ch 1, pp 48-52, Ch 3, Ch 4

Jan 19: Beginnings of Renaissance Architecture in Florence: Brunelleschi  
Early Renaissance Sculpture: Baptistery & Orsanmichele & other works by Donatello. **Analysis paper topic due.** Reading: Hartt Ch 6 & Ch 7, pp 250-261, pp 302-305

Jan 26: Early Renaissance Painting: Fabriano, Masolini, Masaccio, Angelico, Lippi.  
Reading: Hartt Ch 8 & Ch 9

Feb 2: Second Style in Painting: della Francesca, Botticelli, Ghirlandaio **Analysis paper due before class begins.** Reading: Hartt pp 281-297, 337-353, 356-363;  
Ghirlandaio contract on My Courses

Feb 9, 16: Transition to High Renaissance: Perugino, Mantegna, & the Bellini's.  
**Research paper topic due Feb 16.** Reading: Hartt pp 375-379, 398-411, 417-424

Feb 23: Catch up and Review for Midterm

Mar 2: Midterm

Mar 9: Spring Break: Enjoy!

Mar 16: Verocchio & da Vinci. Reading: Hartt pp 332-336; 445-468; "Fingerprint helps Identify possible new da Vinci" on [http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/33307916/ns/entertainment-arts\\_books\\_more/from/ET](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/33307916/ns/entertainment-arts_books_more/from/ET); "A High-Tech Hunt for Lost Art" on <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/10/06/science/06tier.html>

Mar 23: Michelangelo & Raphael. Reading: Hartt pp 469-483

Mar 30: Bramante, Michelangelo & Raphael. Reading: Hartt Ch 17

Apr 6: Giorgione & Titian. Reading: Hartt pp 599-620

Apr 13: Catch up and Review. **Research Paper due before class begins**

## Apr 20: Exam

Please note that the above schedule is subject to change. We may find that some works will require more time for discussion. If this circumstance occurs, corrections will be made orally in class. If the syllabus undergoes a major shuffling, I will provide you with a new syllabus.

If you are absent when a scheduling change occurs, it is your responsibility to find out the dates for the new material. Ignorance due to absence is unacceptable.

Papers:

### Analysis Paper

You may choose any work of art from the time period we are studying (Renaissance 1300 to 1540). But, you cannot choose any work of art we will discuss or have discussed in class, so check your monument list before making your choice. This 1000 word paper will be an in-depth analysis of a work of art.

Some things to consider when doing an in depth discussion of a work of art: consider color, line, shape, space, balance, symmetry, proportion, light, depth, texture, focal point, scale, rhythm, iconography, subject matter, patron, intended setting, etc. Consider how the work fits into the career of the artist/architect. Was the work commissioned? If so, by whom and why? Why was it created? What was its intended use? What does the iconography refer to? Is it blatant or hidden? How is it indicative of the culture that created it? What is the artist's intent? Is he/she successful? If so, why? If not, why?

Please follow these steps when creating your paper:

- Thesis statement is due **VIA EMAIL** before class begins on **January 19**. For each day it is late you will lose one letter grade on the final paper.
- Check that your topic is actually attached to your email if you choose to send it as an attachment rather than in the body of the email. **If the topic is not attached to the email it is not an excuse for being late. You are responsible no matter what for getting it to me on time, so be sure. You may want to send it to yourself to check. You can always turn in a paper copy if you are worried about electronic failures.**
- Paper is due **February 2** before class begins. No late papers accepted. No email copies of papers will be accepted.
- All papers must be typed, double spaced, 12 point font, and proofed for grammar, spelling, coherence, etc.
- Staple the paper together in the upper left corner and do not forget to put your name on the paper.
- If you have any questions, please talk to me. For guidance, you can come to me with a draft to discuss, turn to your text, or go to the writing center!

- **I expect a proper bibliography and citations to be included in the paper.** Please use the MLA style for writing your paper (see <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01/> if you need guidance). I will be glad to sit down and discuss the paper with you. Do not use Wikipedia as a source.
- **If you plagiarize your paper, it will fail and you will fail the class.** If you have questions about this, please let me know.

### Research Paper

Choose a topic you are interested in pursuing from the Renaissance. There are thousands of avenues to take. I have proposed a few ideas below, but you are welcome to come up with your own idea if you like.

Topic one: Choose two works of art from the time period we are studying (Renaissance, 1300 to 1540), one from the Early Renaissance (1300 to 1450) and one from the Late Renaissance (1450 to 1540). Once you have chosen your works of art, the first part of your paper should be an in depth description of the paintings and how they compare with one another. This should be followed by an in depth study of the changes that took place between the early and late Renaissance periods.

Topic two: Explore the impact of scientific perspective on the art of a specific artist, such as Masaccio, Brunelleschi, Piero della Francesca, etc.

Topic three: Explore the advances in architecture as compared to the ancient ruins that were being found and explored. Consider the work of Brunelleschi, Alberti or Bramante in your discussion.

Topic four: Consider the influence of Castiglione's writing on the self portraits of male and female artists of the Renaissance period.

Topic five: The role of patronage in the Renaissance period.

I would like to have your thesis statement via email to me before class begins on **February 16** (for each day that it is late you will lose a letter grade on your paper). Check that your topic is actually attached to your email if you choose to send it as an attachment rather than in the body of the email. **If the topic is not attached to the email it is not an excuse for being late. You are responsible no matter what for getting it to me on time, so be sure. This is the case for papers as well. So, check and recheck when you send your email. You may want to send it to yourself to check.**

The topic must be accompanied by an image(s) of the work(s) you plan to discuss.

The paper should be 2500 words, fully documented with footnotes and bibliography, accompanied by copies of the works of art you are discussing, double-spaced and typed. Papers without images will fail. Be sure to watch for spelling, grammar, coherency, etc.

Please do not choose any work of art that we have or will discuss in class. Some things to consider when doing an in depth discussion of a work of art are: color, line, shape, space, balance, symmetry, proportion, light, depth, texture, focal point, scale, rhythm, iconography, subject matter, patron, intended setting, etc. Consider how the work fits into the career of the artist/architect. Was the work commissioned? If so, by whom and why? Why was it created? What was its intended use? What does the iconography refer to? Is it blatant or hidden? How is it indicative of the culture that created it? What is the artist's intent? Is he/she successful? If so, why? If not, why?

I suggest you go to the writing center at least one time during this process. Papers that have been through the writing center process always turn out to be better papers. The writing center is located in the Thomas P. Johnson Center in Mills Building.

Please follow these steps when creating your paper:

- Thesis statement is due **VIA EMAIL** before class begins on **February 16**. For each day it is late you will lose one letter grade on the final paper.
- Check that your topic is actually attached to your email if you choose to send it as an attachment rather than in the body of the email. **If the topic is not attached to the email it is not an excuse for being late. You are responsible no matter what for getting it to me on time, so be sure. You may want to send it to yourself to check. You can always turn in a paper copy if you are worried about electronic failures.**
- Paper is due **April 13** before class begins. No late papers accepted. No email copies of papers will be accepted.
- Must use at least one book and two journals for source material.
- All papers must be typed, double spaced, 12 point font, and proofed for grammar, spelling, coherence, etc.
- Staple the paper together in the upper left corner and do not forget to put your name on the paper.
- If you have any questions, please talk to me. For guidance, you can come to me with a draft to discuss, turn to your text, or go to the writing center!
- **I expect a proper bibliography and citations to be included in the paper.** Please use the MLA style for writing your paper (see <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01/> if you need guidance). I will be glad to sit down and discuss the paper with you. Do not use Wikipedia as a source.
- **If you plagiarize your paper, it will fail and you will fail the class.** If you have questions about this, please let me know.