ART 3910 | Spring 2013
Italian Renaissance Art
M/W 4.10-5.35
Todd 339

Dr. Laura E. Cochrane
Office: Todd 215
Office Hours: M/W 2:30-4; T/Th 1-2:30, or
by appointment
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COURSE OVERVIEW

Description:
This class will cover the history of painting, sculpture, and architecture in Italy from the 13th to the 16th centuries. We shall examine the style and development of art from the early Renaissance to the high Renaissance, with special attention given to social and political contexts.

Learning outcomes:
By the end of this course, the engaged student should

- have a sense of historical, philosophical, political, and social contexts of Italian Renaissance art
- be able to recognize and verbalize the stylistic features of the art covered
- be able to analyze works of art in an informed and logical manner
- show professionalism in their completed work and in their attitude toward and behavior in the class

Format:
Although each class will vary depending upon the material that needs to be covered that day, typically classes will combine lecture and discussion.

Readings:
Required:
1. Laurie Schneider Adams, Italian Renaissance Art. This is available through the University bookstore.
2. You will also be responsible for additional readings, which will be available as PDF files on the class Web site or passed out in class. You will be expected to keep up with all the assigned readings, as they will be vital to class discussion. Many of these readings will come from Vasari’s Lives, which can be found at http://members.efn.org/~acd/vite/VasariLives.html

Recommended:
Sylvan Barnet, A Short Guide to writing about Art (available through Amazon.com, new and used.
(I have also put this book on reserve.)
Class Web site:
Readings, handouts, and other information will be available on the course Web site: http://capone.mtsu.edu/cochrane/Courses.html

Quizzes:
There will be quizzes on days that primary source readings are assigned. Their purpose is to make sure that you do the readings carefully and think about their content.

Exams:
There will be two exams for this class: a midterm and a final. The exams will include slide identification, terms to define, and essay questions.

Term Projects:
You will have to turn in a final project on the last day of class. You will have a choice of writing an 8- to 10-page research paper or making a work of art inspired by what you have learned about Renaissance art during the class. If you choose to make a visual project, there will be a writing component, as well.

Assessment:
A standard ten-point grading scale will be used in this class.

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90-100</td>
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<td>59 and below</td>
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A student earns a C for completing all the assignments on time and sufficiently to fulfill the requirements of the course. To earn a B, one needs to go beyond the minimum requirements and turn in very good, solid work. To earn an A, one must submit excellent work.

Grading breakdown:
- Quizzes: 10%
- Project proposal: 10%
- Midterms: 25%
- Term project: 20%
- Final: 20%
- Participation: 15%

Lottery scholarships
To retain Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship eligibility, you must earn a cumulative TELS GPA of 2.75 after 24 and 48 attempted hours and a cumulative TELS GPA of 3.0 thereafter. You may qualify with a 2.75 cumulative GPA after 72 attempted hours (and subsequent semesters), if you are enrolled full-time and maintain a semester GPA of at least 3.0. A grade of C, D, F, or I in this class may negatively impact TELS eligibility. Dropping a class after 14 days may also impact eligibility; if you withdraw from this class and it results in an enrollment status of less than full time, you may lose eligibility for your lottery scholarship. Lottery recipients are eligible to receive the scholarship for a maximum of five years from the date of initial enrollment, or until a bachelor degree is earned. For additional Lottery rules, please refer to your Lottery Statement of Understanding form, review lottery requirements on the web at
http://scholarships.web.mtsu.edu/telsconteligibility.htm, or contact the Financial Aid Office at 898-2830.

EXPECTATIONS

Attendance:
You are expected to attend every class. If you do miss a class, you will still be responsible for the information covered that day and will need to get notes from a fellow classmate.

Tardiness, although sometimes unavoidable, should not become a habit. I structure the lectures and discussions so that the point of the lecture is presented at the beginning of class. Even if you miss only the first ten minutes, you may not fully understand the class.

Behavior:
While you are in class, please be considerate of your fellow classmates and of me. If you do have to come late or leave early, please do so as quietly and unobtrusively as possible. Turn off cell phones before the class begins and do not text during class. I will ask you to leave the class if your behavior is distracting to your classmates or to me. I also do not allow the use of laptop computers during class.

Participation:
Fifteen percent of your grade will come from participation, so you should take this very seriously. Absenteeism and tardiness will count against your participation grade, as will inattentiveness or behavior that distracts your classmates or me. The way that I assess participation is as follows: you will earn an A in participation if you attend class regularly, come to class on time, are attentive and engaged in the class discussion, and offer regular, constructive comments. If you fulfill all of those criteria, but only actively participate in the discussion occasionally, you will earn a grade of B. You will earn a C if you come to class regularly and seem to be engaged, but do not participate in the discussion. You will earn a D or F if you miss numerous classes, are habitually late, and are not engaged in the discussion. If you text during class, do work for another class, sleep, or are otherwise clearly not paying attention, you will receive a 0 for participation that day, just as if you had been absent.

Assignments:
You are expected to hand in your work on time. A hardcopy of your assignment must be handed in at the beginning of class on the due date. Papers sent via email will NOT be accepted. Papers handed in anytime after the beginning of class on the day it is due will be considered late and will be penalized by a half of a letter grade. One half of a grade will be taken off for every additional twenty-four hour period that passes until the paper is turned in.

Quizzes and Presentations:
I expect you to be present for the quizzes and presentations at the times that they are scheduled. I will not offer makeup quizzes unless you have a very good and verifiable reason for having to miss (this would be along the lines of serious illness or a family emergency and you would need to provide documentation of such a situation). The same will be true of presentations. If you are absent on a day that you were assigned to present, you will not be able to make it up and you will receive a 0 for that presentation.
Communication:
I shall communicate with the class via email, using MTSU email addresses only. I expect everyone in the class to check their email regularly. The easiest way to contact me is through my MTSU email.

Academic honesty:
I do not tolerate any form of plagiarism or cheating on papers or exams. Assignments or exams on which a student has cheated or plagiarized will receive a failing grade and will be reported to the Office of Judicial Affairs. Please read and understand the University policy on academic integrity and misconduct ([http://www.mtsu.edu/advising/pdfs/academic_integrity_brochure_handout.pdf](http://www.mtsu.edu/advising/pdfs/academic_integrity_brochure_handout.pdf)). I will give a “plagiarism quiz” on the first day of class. I will not accept any assignments until the quiz has been taken and passed.

For my part …
I am available to students who would like to discuss any matter related to the class. I have office hours, which are posted, but I am also happy to meet at other times. Please come to see me to discuss how to go about an assignment, or if you have any other questions. I shall also do my best to get exams and papers back to you in a reasonable amount of time and I am happy to explain grades and elaborate on comments, if you come to see me. I cannot discuss grades or how I assessed your work over email.
CLASS SCHEDULE

Week 1

1/23 (W) – Introduction

Week 2

1/28 (M) – The Renaissance and other renascences | QUIZ on Vasari’s Preface
Readings: Adams, chapter I (to pg. 9) and Vasari, “Preface”

1/30 (W) – Duecento: Coppo and Cimabue | QUIZ on Vasari’s chapter “Cimabue”
Readings: Adams, chapter I (pp. 9-14) and Vasari, “Cimabue”

Week 3

2/4 (M) – Ancient revival in the Duecento: Nicola and Giovanni Pisano
Readings: Adams, chapter I (pp. 14-24)

2/6 (W) – Trecento: Giotto | QUIZ on Vasari’s chapter “Giotto”
Readings: Adams, chapter 2 (to pg. 39) and Vasari, “Giotto”

Week 4

2/11 (M) – Trecento: Duccio | QUIZ on Vasari’s chapter “Duccio”
Readings: Adams, chapter 2 (pp. 40-43) and Vasari, “Duccio”

2/13 (W) – Siena in the Trecento
Readings: Adams, chapter 2 (pp. 43-50) Vasari, “Simone Martini”

Week 5

2/18 (M) – MIDTERM I

2/20 (W) – Florence in the Quattrocento
Readings: Adams, chapter 2 (pp. 50-56) and chapter 3 (to pg. 64)

Week 6

2/25 (M) – Brunelleschi | QUIZ on Brunelleschi’s Dome
Readings: Adams, chapter 3 (pp. 64-75) and PDF: Selections from Brunelleschi’s Dome

2/27 (W) – Sculpture in the early Quattrocento
Readings: Adams, chapter 3 (pp. 75-82) s
Week 7

3/4 (M) – Brother Sun, Sister Moon

3/6 (W) – Masaccio | QUIZ on Alberti’s On Painting | PROPOSAL FOR CLASS PROJECT DUE
Readings: Adams, chapter 4 and PDF: Alberti, On Painting

March 11 and 13 – SPRING BREAK

Week 8

3/18 (M) – Medici Patronage
Readings: Adams, chapters 5-6

3/20 (W) – Woman and Renaissance Art | QUIZ on “Women in Frames” and Vasari readings
Readings: PDF: Patricia Simmons, “Women in Frames”; Vasari, “Properzia de'Rossi” and “Sofonisba Anguissola”

Week 9

3/25 (M) – Sculpture in the mid Quattrocento
Readings: Adams, chapters 7 and 10

3/27 (W) – Piero della Francesca | QUIZ on Baxandall
Readings: Adams, chapter 9: PDF: Baxandall, Painting and Experience

Week 10

4/1 (M) – Botticelli
Readings: Adams, chapter 11

4/3 (W) – Mantegna at the Gonzaga Court
Readings: Adams, chapter 12

Week 11

4/8 (M) – MIDTERM 2

4/10 (W) – Venice in the Quattrocento
Readings: Adams, chapter 13

Week 12

4/15 (M) – Into the Cinquecento: Leonardo da Vinci
Readings: Adams, chapter 14
4/17 (W) – Michelangelo | QUIZ on Vasari’s chapter “Michelangelo”

Week 13

4/22 (M) – The Sistine Chapel | QUIZ on Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling
Readings: PDF: Selections from Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling

4/24 (W) – Raphael
Readings: Adams, chapter 16

Week 14

4/29 (M) – Venice in the Cinquecento
Readings: Adams, chapter 17

5/1 (W) – Mannerism and the Counterreformation | FINAL PROJECTS DUE
Readings: Adams, chapter 18

FINAL: Monday, May 6, 5:30-5:30