COURSE OVERVIEW

Description:
This class will cover the history of the painting, sculpture, and architecture of Italy and related cultures 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 Renaissance art;
• be able to recognize and verbalize the stylistic features of the art covered;
• and be able to analyze works of art in an informed and logical manner.

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

Readings:
Required:
1. Laurie Schneider Adams, *Italian Renaissance Art (2nd edition)* (LSA). This is available through the University bookstore and on reserve in the library.  
2. You will also be responsible for additional readings, which will be available as PDF files on the class Web site, or distributed in class. You will be expected to keep up with all the assigned readings, as they will be vital to class discussion.

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 and handouts will be available on the course Web site: 
http://capone.mtsu.edu/cochrane/Courses.html
Quizzes:
Quizzes on primary source readings will be given periodically and are listed on the course schedule. Quizzes cannot be made up, so do not miss class or arrive late on a quiz day.

Participation
Participation is 15% of your overall grade and you should take it very seriously. Your participation grade will be assessed by me on the basis of your behavior, attendance, promptness, and class discussion.

Exams:
There will be two exams for this class: a midterm and a final. The exams may include slide identification, terms to define, short answers, and essay questions. I expect you to be present for exams at the times that they are scheduled. I will not offer makeup exams except in the cases of exceptional circumstances (this would be along the lines of serious illness or a family emergency and you would need to provide documentation of such a situation).

Written Assignments and Group Projects:
For this class, you will have to produce three short written papers and participate in a group project. As a class, we will also be putting on an exhibition in the student gallery. You will produce art works for display and will write wall text with your group. You will also each turn in a report of your experience. Later in the semester, you will review the Frist Italian Renaissance exhibition and will also write a paper on one of the objects in the exhibition.

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

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\begin{align*}
90-100 &= A \\
80-89 &= B \\
70-79 &= C \\
60-69 &= D \\
59 \text{ and below} &= F
\end{align*}
\]

A student will earn a C for completing all assignments on time and in a satisfactory manner, sufficient to fulfill the requirements of the course. To earn a B, one must go beyond the minimum requirements of the course and turn in very good work. To earn an A, one must submit excellent work. I may also take improvement over the course of the semester into account when calculating final grades.

Per University policy, I cannot give a grade of incomplete except in exceptional cases of illness or family emergency. Such situation will need documentation. If there is a possibility you will not be able to complete the course by the end of the semester, come and speak to me as soon as possible.

Grading breakdown:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exhibition project</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frist exhibition review</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Formal analysis</td>
<td>15%</td>
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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. Do not ask me to provide my lecture notes.

Tardiness should also be avoided. Class lectures and discussions are structured so that the point of the lecture is presented at the beginning of the class. Even if you miss only the first ten minutes, you may not fully understand that day’s material.

Attendance will also be counted as part of your participation grade (see attached sheet). Students who have 5 unexcused absences will receive a 0 in participation. Students with 6 or more unexcused absences will receive an F for their final grade in the class.

Behavior:
While you are in class, 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. Also, turn off cell phones before the class begins and do not text during class. I do not allow the use of laptop computers or tablets for note taking, or for any other purpose. I will ask you to leave the class if your behavior is distracting to your classmates or to me.

Late work:
You are expected to hand in your work on time. To receive full credit, 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 (5%). One half of a letter grade will be taken off for every additional twenty-four hour period that passes until the paper is turned in (this includes non-class meeting days and weekends). If you find that you must turn in your work late, please discuss the situation with me and let me know when I can expect the work to be turned in.

Exams:
I expect you to be present for exams at the times that they are scheduled. I will not offer makeup exams except in the cases of exceptional circumstances (this would be along the lines of serious illness or a family emergency and you would need to provide documentation of such a situation).

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 the University Provost. Please read and understand the University policy on academic integrity and misconduct (http://www.mtsu.edu/provost/acadmisconduct.php). 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, if you make an appointment. Please come to see me to discuss how to go about an assignment, study for an exam, or if you have any other questions.

I shall 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 will not discuss grades or how I assessed your work over email.

And now a few words from our sponsors …

Regarding Lottery scholarships:
Do you have a lottery scholarship? 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, FA, or I in this class may negatively impact TELS eligibility. Dropping or stopping attendance in a class may also impact eligibility; if you withdraw from or stop attending 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 reaching 120 TELS attempted hours or earning a bachelor degree. For additional Lottery rules, please refer to your Lottery Statement of Understanding form (http://www.mtsu.edu/financial-aid/forms/LOTFOD.pdf) or contact your MT One Stop Enrollment Counselor (http://www.mtsu.edu/one-stop/counselor.php).

From the Disability & Access Center:
Reasonable Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: Middle Tennessee State University is committed to campus access in accordance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Any student interested in reasonable accommodations can consult the Disability & Access Center (DAC) website www.mtsu.edu/dac and/or contact the DAC for assistance at 615-898-2783 or dacemail@mtsu.edu.
CLASS SCHEDULE

**Week 1:** Read LSA, preface and chapter 1 and Vasari, “Preface” (Link on Website)

8/26 (T) – Course overview

8/28 (Th) – The Idea of the Renaissance | VASARI QUIZ

**Week 2:** Read LSA, chapter 2

9/2 (T) – The Art of the Duecento

9/4 (Th) – The revival of ancient art in the Trecento

**Week 3:** Read Vasari, “Cimabue,” “Giotto,” and “Duccio” (Links on Website)

9/9 (T) – Giotto and Trecento Florence

9/11 (Th) – Duccio and Trecento Siena | VASARI QUIZ

**Week 4:** Read LSA, chapters 3-5

9/16 (T) – Quattrocento Florence

9/18 (Th) – Brunelleschi’s dome

**Week 5:** Read LSA, chapters 6-8 and Baxandall, “The Conditions of Trade” (PDF on Website)

9/23 (T) – Italian Renaissance Art Exhibitions

9/25 (Th) – Florentine art and architecture under Medici rule | BAXANDALL QUIZ

**Week 6:** Read LSA, chapter 10 and chapter 11

9/30 (T) – Art in Florence after 1450

10/2 (Th) – Botticelli

**Week 7:** Read Simons, “Women in Frames” (PDF on Website)

10/7 (T) – Women in the Renaissance | SIMONS ESSAY QUIZ

10/9 (Th) – MIDTERM
**Week 8:** Read LSA, chapter 12-13

10/14 (T) – FALL BREAK

10/16 (Th) – The Quattrocento outside of Florence

**Week 9:** Read LSA, chapter 14

10/21 (T) – The Ottoman Renaissance

10/23 (Th) – Leonardo da Vinci

**Week 10:** Read LSA, chapter 15

(10/27 (M) – EXHIBITION OPENING 5-7 PM)

10/28 (T) – Michelangelo: Early career

10/30 (Th) – Michelangelo: Later career | EXHIBITION REPORTS DUE

**Week 11:** Read LSA, chapter 16

11/4 (T) – Raphael

11/6 (Th) – MEET AT THE FRIST TO VIEW “Sanctity Pictured: The Art of the Dominican and Franciscan Orders in Renaissance Italy”

**Week 12:** Read LSA, chapter 17

11/11 (T) – Building a new Rome

11/13 (Th) – Venice in the Cinquecento

**Week 13:** Read selections from Rosamond E. Mack, *Bazaar to Piazza: Islamic Trade and Italian Art, 1300–1600* (PDF on Website)

11/18 (T) – Suleiman’s Ottoman Empire | EXHIBITION REVIEWS DUE

11/20 (Th) – The Ottoman Empire in the late Cinquecento | MACK ESSAY QUIZ

**Week 14:** Read LSA, chapter 18

11/25 (T) – Mannerism

11/27 (Th) – THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
**Week 15:** Readings on Galileo (PDFs on Website)

12/2 (T) – The Crisis of the Image | **OBJECT PAPERS DUE**

**FINAL:** Thursday, December II, 3:30-5:30 PM