

**HA&A 0306: Exploring Art in Italy**  
**Instructor: Dr. Amber A. McAlister**  
**Florence, Italy, 4-25 May 2019**

**I. COURSE GOALS**

Florence, the regional capital of Tuscany, is located in central Italy and is considered by many the birthplace of the Renaissance. This course will explore the art of the Renaissance highlighting innovators Giotto, Masaccio, Brunelleschi, Botticelli, Leonardo, Michelangelo, and Raphael with on-site lectures and visits in Florence, Rome, and Milan. Special attention will be given to the context of art and its relationship to its original location, and to the role and influence of humanism and Neoplatonism on the development of the style of the Renaissance.

NB: On the Greensburg campus fulfills the Artistic Tradition (AT), World Perspectives (WP), or Humanities (HM) general education requirements. Can be used toward the Visual & Performing Arts (VAPA) major or HA&A minor. On the Oakland campus fulfills one international foreign culture requirement.

**II. COURSE OBJECTIVES**

After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. define terminology involved in the art and architecture of the Renaissance period;
2. identify major artists and works of the Renaissance period;
3. recognize and explain the unique characteristics of Renaissance art and its development over the 13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> centuries;
4. articulate the influence of humanism and Neoplatonism on Italian Renaissance art.

**III. COURSE MATERIALS**

Required texts:

- Richard N. Turner, *Renaissance Florence: The Invention of a New Art*, reissue edition, Pearson, 1997. (ISBN-13: 978-0131344013)
- Anne D'Alleva, *Look! The Fundamentals of Art History*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall Inc., 2010. (ISBN-13: 978-0205768714)
- Additional Readings available on CourseWeb, either in PDF format or web sites

Recommended texts:

- Borsook, Eve. *The Companion Guide to Florence*. Vol. 6th revised, Woodbridge, Suffolk: Boydell & Brewer Ltd, 1997.
- *DK Eyewitness Travel Guides* for Florence, Tuscany, Rome, etc.
- *Blue Guide* guidebooks give a lot of historical information. Lonely Planet and Rick Steve's guides are also helpful.

Resources:

- *Hidden Florence*; download the app at <http://hiddenflorence.org> ; be sure to download the two Walks (Central Walk; Sant'Ambrogio Walk) before departure

Internet access and Data Plan:

Internet access is *crucial* for this class. This class is supported by a CourseWeb website (<http://CourseWeb.pitt.edu>) where additional readings, assignments, quizzes, etc. are available. You are to be reachable on your cell phone data plan 24/7 so plan accordingly, either by purchasing

a SIM card in Italy or having an international plan with your regular carrier. The Hidden Florence app will require use of GPS and data plan for the 4-6 hours you will use it.

☛ **ALL** assignments, study guides, etc., will be posted in CourseWeb. You will not receive handouts of these in class, so be sure to check the site regularly for new postings.

#### ARTstor:

This class is also supported by **ARTstor**, an online image database, where I will post available images of sites we will visit and objects we will see. You may also use this for your own research. Under the ARTstor tab in CourseWeb you will find a link to ARTstor and online tutorials, as well as instructional pdfs. I will introduce you to ARTstor in class and you will need to register on your own from a computer on the University of Pittsburgh network (terminals in libraries, computer labs, residence halls, etc.). Since this is a library database ARTstor must recognize a Pitt IP address to generate your account. It is best to register with your pitt.edu email.

If you already have an account in ARTstor, you should log on from a campus computer using the same email and password you used to set up your account (if you don't remember them you can contact ARTstor). This will reset your 120 days of off-campus access.

#### **IV. ASSESSMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

##### **Portrait/Selfie (5% of final grade)**

You will upload a portrait of yourself, or a selfie, to CourseWeb, along with a brief description of what you believe the image conveys about yourself. This photograph should be made **FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT**. Do **NOT** use a previously taken photo. The assignment is on CourseWeb, click on the Portrait/Selfie button in the menu at left for instructions and submission.

##### **Vocabulary Quiz (5% of final grade)**

Students will complete a vocabulary quiz in CourseWeb based on terms from the pre-departure lecture and vocabulary in the *Renaissance Florence* textbook. The goal is to be sure students are conversant with the necessary vocabulary and key concepts before the course starts in Italy. Format will be multiple choice, matching, fill in the blank, true/false, and/or similar. Terms will be taken from vocabulary lists posted in CourseWeb.

##### **Hidden Florence (5% of final grade)**

Students will download the *Hidden Florence* app and both walking tours on their smartphone prior to departure. Students will complete the app walking Florence and will write a short response to the experience, to be submitted in CourseWeb.

##### **Oral Presentation (15% of final grade)**

Students will research major works of art or sites from the Italian Renaissance and give a 10-minute presentation to the class while we are in Italy. The goal of your presentation is to place your work of art or architecture into its cultural, historical, and stylistic context in approximately 5-8 slides. Presentation will be completed and submitted before leaving the U.S.

##### **Daily Journal (20% of final grade)**

Students will complete a visual field research journal. The Journal is in CourseWeb and you will upload one photo from the day's itinerary and reflect upon it in the context of the course. This journal provides an opportunity for critical reflection and is not meant to be a mere record of events or objects viewed. You are expected to make connections between readings and class lectures/discussions and experience.

**Formal Analysis (15% of final grade)**

Formal analysis is fundamental to the discipline of art history. It involves looking closely and critically at a work of art/architecture and explaining its visual structure. You will choose a painting at the Uffizi Gallery, I will approve it, and you will study it and write a 500-800 word essay on the work.

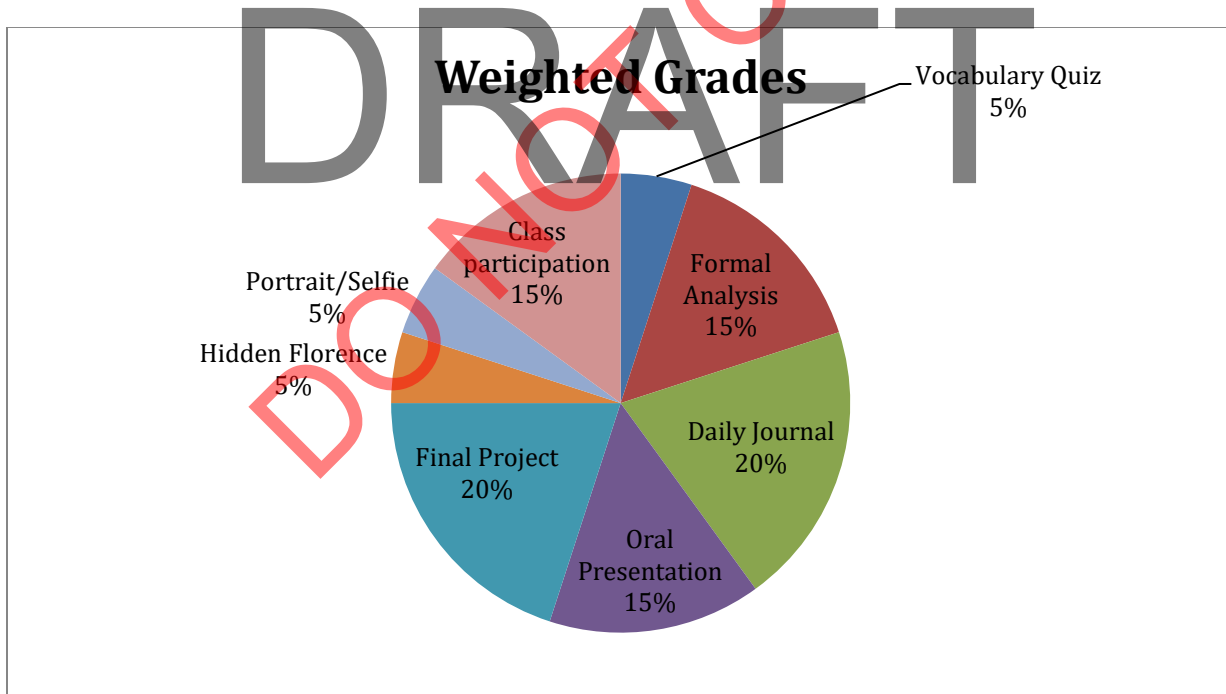
**Final Project (20% of final grade)**

The final project is a photo essay in which you will illustrate, analyze, discuss, and interpret the development of the Italian Renaissance from the 13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> centuries. Assignment will be submitted via CourseWeb and will be due after return to the U.S. Details available in CourseWeb.

**Course Participation (15% of final grade)**

Students are expected to be on time, prepared, and participate in discussions daily. Students should also maintain a respectful demeanor toward their colleagues and the host country and sites, which also means students should be dressed appropriately to enter a church at any time – no shorts or skirts above the knee, no bare shoulders or chest. Student behavior overseas is expected to be courteous and appropriate and unacceptable behavior will be reflected in course assessment and grades as well as other consequences that are reflected in the University of Pittsburgh’s code of student conduct. Group travel requires punctuality, consideration, and responsibility from all participants.

**V. GRADING**



**Grading Standards:**

Letter Grade	%
A+	97-100
A	93-96.99

A-	90-92.99
B+	87-89.99
B	83-86.99
B-	80-82.99
C+	77-79.99
C	73-76.99
C-	70-72.99
D+	67-69.99
D	63-66.99
D-	60-62.99
F	0-59.99

No late work accepted, except in case of documented medical emergency, therefore be sure to plan your work schedule accordingly!

## VI. POLICIES

### Preferred Name & Preferred Gender Pronouns:

Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, gender variance, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. NB: PeopleSoft is now equipped to include your preferred name. See the Registrar in Millstein Library.

### Diversity Statement:

In this course, students, faculty and any guests represent a diversity of individual perspectives, backgrounds, and experiences, which enriches our classes. I urge all to be respectful of others. While intellectual disagreement may be constructive, no harsh statements, or demeaning or discriminatory behavior will be permitted. If you feel uncomfortable, please feel free to approach me to discuss the situation.

### Disability Resource Services Statement

If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and the Director of the Learning Resources Center, Dr. Lou Ann Sears, Room 240 Millstein Library Building (724) 836-7098 (voice) / (724) 836-7128 (TTY), as early as possible in the term. Learning Resources Center will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course.

### Academic Integrity Policy:

Students are bound by the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg policies regarding academic integrity. Academic dishonesty, including cheating or plagiarism (such as claiming as your own information or text that you have down-loaded from the internet), *will result in a failing grade for*

*the assignment and may result in a failing grade for the course.* If you have any questions you should consult the full policy: <http://www.fcas.pitt.edu/academicintegrity.html>

### **Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism can be defined as, but not limited to, including ideas or words in any part of your paper from uncredited sources. If you use the information from the text on the wall in the museum describing the object (this does not apply to the basic information of artist, title, date, etc., only to any *descriptive* or *critical* information), from a website, museum catalog, or any other source you must cite it (however, remember this assignment is about YOUR visual critical assessment, not research). i.e., if you include information that cannot be gleaned solely from looking at the painting you must cite it or this will be considered plagiarism.

☞☞ Falsely representing an in-person study of a work of art or site for the purpose of completing an assignment will be considered a violation of the Academic Honesty Policy of the University of Pittsburgh.

Any or all of the above may result in failing the assignment, being reported to the Vice President for Academic Affairs, and/or **immediate and automatic failure of the course.**

### **Email Communication Policy Statement:**

Each student is issued a University e-mail address ([username@pitt.edu](mailto:username@pitt.edu)) upon admittance. This e-mail address may be used by the University for official communication with students. Students are expected to read e-mail sent to this account on a regular basis. Failure to read and react to University communications in a timely manner does not absolve the student from knowing and complying with the content of the communications. The University provides an e-mail forwarding service that allows students to read their e-mail via other service providers (e.g., Hotmail, Gmail, Yahoo). Students that choose to forward their e-mail from their pitt.edu address to another address do so at their own risk. If e-mail is lost as a result of forwarding, it does not absolve the student from responding to official communications sent to their University e-mail address. To forward e-mail sent to your University account, go to <http://accounts.pitt.edu>, log into your account, click on Edit Forwarding Addresses, and follow the instructions on the page. Be sure to log out of your account when you have finished. (For the full E-mail Communication Policy, go to [www.bs.pitt.edu/policies/policy/09-10-01.html](http://www.bs.pitt.edu/policies/policy/09-10-01.html).)

*E-mail etiquette:* When emailing your instructor rules of professionalism should apply, here are some hints...

- The subject line should make clear the specific subject of the email
- Begin the email with the proper greeting (e.g., Dear Dr. McAlister; Dear Professor McAlister, etc.)
- The body of the email should be clear and concise; you should be sure your question cannot be answered by the syllabus or the postings on CourseWeb
- End the email with the proper closing and your name (e.g., Regards, first-name last-name)
- Make sure your *full name*, as it appears on the class roll, appears in your email

### **WhatsApp:**

Students are expected to have downloaded and installed WhatsApp on their smartphones prior to departure. A group for the class will be created and we will use this to stay in touch with each other at all times.

### **Turnitin Statement:**

Students agree that by taking this course all required papers/assignments may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers/assignments will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference

database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such work. Use of Turnitin.com page service is subject to the Usage Policy and Privacy Pledge posted on the Turnitin.com site.

**Student Opinion of Teaching Surveys:**

Students in this class will be asked to complete a *Student Opinion of Teaching Survey*. Surveys will be sent via Pitt email and appear on your CourseWeb landing page at the end of the collective summer sessions. Your responses are anonymous. Please take time to thoughtfully respond, your feedback is important to me and can make a difference in future iterations of this course, so even though it won't be immediate, please do complete the survey.. [Read more](#) about *Student Opinion of Teaching Surveys*.

**Office Hours:**

No regular office hours will be scheduled – it is expected that the instructor and students will have adequate contact time during the field course. Dr. McAlister will also be available after class and by appointment when needed.

**VII. A NOTE ON SEXUAL MISCONDUCT**

Sexual misconduct (including harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking) is prohibited at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg. If you have questions about Title IX or University policies and procedures regarding sexual misconduct or you wish to report sexual misconduct, please contact Mary Anne Koleny, Title IX Liaison, Lynch Hall 108, [msk59@pitt.edu](mailto:msk59@pitt.edu), 724-836-9902. The following confidential resources are also available: Gayle Pamerleau, Director of Counseling, Chambers Hall 217, [gaylep@pitt.edu](mailto:gaylep@pitt.edu), 724-836-9870, or Pam Reed, Director of Health Center, Chambers Hall 216, [pmr20@pitt.edu](mailto:pmr20@pitt.edu), 724-836-9947, or the Blackburn Center Against Domestic & Sexual Violence hotline (1-888-832-2272).

As an instructor and responsible employee for the University of Pittsburgh, I am required to report incidents of sexual misconduct to our Title IX office.

**IX. COURSE CALENDAR**

This schedule is fluid and adaptable so be prepared for things to shift as necessary.

**Pre-departure** – ARTstor orientation; Oxford Art Online; Lecture on Elements of Art (3 hours)

**Pre-departure** – Study Abroad Orientation

**Saturday 4 May** – Departure

**Sunday 5 May** – Arrive Florence, settle in to apartments

**Monday 6 May** – CAPA orientation; city bus (introduce students to Jenny, orientation to city bus system, instead of Hop On/Off) to Piazzale Michelangelo, San Miniato al Monte; Welcome dinner

**Tuesday 7 May** – Italian language class; Hidden Florence App Walking Activity

**Wednesday 8 May** – Palazzo Vecchio + scavi + tower

**Thursday 9 May** – Excursion to Pisa: Duomo, Tower, Baptistry, Sinopie Museum

**Friday 10 May** – AM Sta. Trinità; Ognissanti; PM Sta. Maria Novella & pharmacy

**Saturday 11 May** – Free Day

**Sunday 12 May** – Free Day

**Monday 13 May** – Florence Cathedral Complex (Cathedral + scavi, Dome, Baptistry, Museum, Campanile)

**Tuesday 14 May** – Uffizi (all day, early start!!)

**Wednesday 15 May** – AM Galleria dell'Accademia; PM San Marco Museum

**Thursday 16 May** – Excursion to Rome: Pantheon; Colosseum + Belvedere ticket, Roman Forum & Palatine

**Friday 17 May** – Vatican Museums (Ancient Greek & Roman, Sistine Chapel, Raphael's Stanze, Pinacoteca, etc.), St. Peter's Cathedral & Dome

**Saturday 18 May** – Free Day in Rome, return to Florence in the evening

**Sunday 19 May** – Free Day

**Monday 20 May** – AM Orsanmichele Church & Museum (only open Mondays); PM Sta. Maria del Carmine, Brancacci Chapel

**Tuesday 21 May** – AM San Lorenzo & Medici Chapels; PM Palazzo Medici-Riccardi; Zecchi

**Wednesday 22 May** – AM Sta. Felicità, Capponi Chapel; Sto. Spirito; PM Palazzo Pitti

**Thursday 23 May** – Excursion to Milan: Sta. Maria delle Grazie, Leonardo da Vinci's *Last Supper*; Pinacoteca di Brera

**Friday 24 May** – AM/PM Museum Nazionale del Bargello; PM/AM Sta. Croce Church & Museum; Farewell dinner

**Saturday 25 May** – Departure

**VII. DAILY CALENDAR & ASSIGNMENTS—subject to change**

Daily Calendar	Lecture	Readings due before class	Assignments
Pre-departure, 3-hour lecture	<b>ARTstor Orientation; Oxford Art Online; Elements of Art</b>	<u>D'Alleva</u> , Introduction & Ch. 1, pp. 8-26, Ch. 2, pp. 27-51	
Pre-departure			Selfie/Portrait Assignment, due by midnight (USA, EST) on May 1
Day 1 - Saturday, 4 May Departure			PowerPoint presentation due in CourseWeb by midnight US EST
Day 2 - Sunday, 5 May Arrival			
Day 3 - Monday, 6 May CAPA orientation; City bus around Florence and to San Miniato al Monte	<b>Orientation</b>		CourseWeb Daily Journal due by 22:00
Welcome dinner 19:30			
Day 4 - Tuesday, 7 May Italian Language Class; Hidden Florence App Walking Activity	<b>A day in the life of a Renaissance man</b>		Hidden Florence reflection due in CourseWeb by 22:00; Optional CourseWeb Daily Journal due by 22:00
Day 5 - Wednesday, 8 May AM: Meet at CAPA to discuss Bartlett reading; Palazzo Vecchio + scavi + tower	<b>CAPA classroom: discuss Bartlett reading and humanism; The Town and Its Representation</b> On-site lectures Student Presentations	Complete reading Turner, <i>Renaissance Florence</i> ; Bartlett, "Defining the Renaissance," in <i>A Short History of the Italian Renaissance</i> , PDF on CourseWeb	<b>Vocabulary Quiz</b> due in CourseWeb by 9:00; CourseWeb Daily Journal due by 22:00, including response to Bartlett
Day 6 - Thursday, 9 May Excursion to Pisa: Duomo, Tower, Baptistery, Sinopie Museum	<b>Proto-Renaissance; Fresco technique</b> On-site lectures Student Presentations		CourseWeb Daily Journal due by 22:00
Day 7 - Friday, 10 May AM Sta. Trinità, Sassetti Chapel; Ognissanti PM Sta. Maria Novella &	<b>Mendicant Orders I; Linear Perspective</b> On-site lectures Student Presentations	CourseWeb Reading: McAlister, Amber A. "Echoes of	CourseWeb Daily Journal due by 22:00



Daily Calendar	Lecture	Readings due before class	Assignments
Pharmacy		Dante in the Chiostro Verde, Santa Maria Novella: Nimrod's Role in the Creation of the Vernacular," pp. 93-100	
Day 8 - Saturday, 11 May Free Day			
Day 8 - Saturday, 12 May Free Day			
Day 9 - Monday, 13 May Florence Duomo Complex: Duomo + scavi, Dome, Baptistery, Museum, Campanile	<b>The Religious Center</b> On-site lectures Student Presentations		CourseWeb Daily Journal due by 22:00
Day 10 - Tuesday, 14 May Uffizi	<b>Art out of context: The Uffizi</b> On-site lectures Student Presentations		CourseWeb Daily Journal due by 22:00
Day 11 - Wednesday, 15 May Galleria dell'Accademia; San Marco church & museum	<b>Religious Art &amp; Religious Reform</b> On-site lectures Student Presentations		CourseWeb Daily Journal due by 22:00
Day 12 - Thursday, 16 May Departure for Rome: Pantheon; Colosseum, Roman Forum & Palatine Hill	<b>Ancient Roman Precursors</b> On-site lectures Student Presentations		
Day 13 - Friday, 17 May All day: Vatican Museums, St. Peter's	<b>High Renaissance in Rome</b> On-site lectures Student Presentations		
Day 14 - Saturday, 18 May Free Day in Rome; Return to Florence in evening			
Day 15 - Sunday, 19 May Free Day in Florence			

Daily Calendar	Lecture	Readings due before class	Assignments
<b>Day 16 – Monday, 20 May</b> <b>AM Orsanmichele church &amp; museum;</b> <b>PM Sta. Maria del Carmine, Brancacci Chapel</b>	<b>Public/Private Spaces</b> On-site lecture Student Presentations		CourseWeb Daily Journal due by 22:00
<b>Day 17 – Tuesday, 21 May</b> <b>San Lorenzo &amp; Medici Chapels;</b> <b>Palazzo Medici-Riccardi; Zecchi</b>	<b>Chapels and Palazzi I</b> On-site lecture Student Presentations		<b>Formal Analysis paper</b> due in CourseWeb by 8am local time;  CourseWeb Daily Journal due by 24:00
<b>Day 18 – Wednesday, 22 May</b> <b>Sta. Felicità, Capponi Chapel; Sto. Spirito;</b> <b>Palazzo Pitti</b>	<b>Renaissance to Mannerism</b> On-site lectures Student Presentations		CourseWeb Daily Journal due by 22:00
<b>Day 19 – Thursday, 23 May</b> <b>Day trip to Milan:</b> <b>Sta. Maria delle Grazie, Leonardo da Vinci’s <i>Last Supper</i>;</b> <b>Pinacoteca di Brera</b>	<b>The Renaissance outside of Florence</b> On-site lectures Student Presentations		CourseWeb Daily Journal due by 22:00
<b>Day 20 – Friday, 24 May</b> <b>Museo Nazionale del Bargello;</b> <b>Sta. Croce Church &amp; Museum</b>  <b>Farewell dinner 19:30</b>	<b>Renaissance Sculpture;</b> <b>Mendicant Orders II</b> On-site lecture Student Presentations		CourseWeb Daily Journal due by 22:00
<b>Day 21 – Sunday, 25 May</b> <b>Departure</b>			
<b>Friday, 14 June</b>			Final project due by 8:00 am EST in CourseWeb