

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School/Department:	Communications, Arts and Social Sciences
Programme:	Art History and Visual Culture
FHEQ Level:	5
Course Title:	Italian Renaissance Architecture
Course Code:	AVC 5820
Course Leader:	Monica Giovannini (Florence)
Student Engagement Hours:	120
Lectures:	45
Seminar / Tutorials:	
Independent / Guided Learning:	75
Semester:	Fall/Spring
Credits:	12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

Course Description:

ITALIAN STUDY CENTRES ONLY . This course explores the principle architects, monuments and themes of fifteenth and sixteenth century Italian Renaissance architecture. After an overview of Greek and Roman architecture, used as models and sources of inspiration for medieval architecture during period, students examine some of the most imposing and influential constructions of Tuscan Romanesque and Gothic style. The main emphasis is on Renaissance architecture in Florence but includes contextual reference to architectural developments in Rome, Urbino and Mantua. Aspects of Renaissance architecture (architectural theory, Medici and papal patronage, urban planning and church and palace design) are considered. The focus is on the following architects: Alberti, Brunelleschi, Michelozzi, Bramante, Michelangelo and Giulio Romano. In addition to visits to key Renaissance buildings and urban spaces in Florence, the course normally includes a field trip outside of Florence.

Prerequisites: AVC 4200 Introduction to Art Across Cultures or AVC 4205 Introduction to Visual Culture or HST 3200 World Cultural History or GEP 4180 Research and Writing II

Aims and Objectives:

The aim of this course is to place the Renaissance and its buildings within a broad context of cultural history; to stimulate critical reflection on the usefulness and limitations of the terminology, categories, tendencies, and values which characterize the writing of architectural history; and to compare and contrast the historical buildings within contemporary Florence

Programme Outcomes:

A5(ii), A5(iii), B5(i), C5(ii), D5(ii)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification.

This is located at the archive maintained by the Academic Registry and found at:

<http://www.richmond.ac.uk/admitted-students/programme-and-course-specifications/>

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- demonstrate a thorough knowledge of Renaissance architecture within a broad context of cultural history;
- demonstrate an understanding of the most important stylistic elements of Renaissance architecture, compared to buildings of the Middle Ages.
- demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between historical and artistic events, and the importance of patronage.
- demonstrate an ability to think critically regarding theories in the past and contemporary interpretation

Indicative Content:

- Site visits in Florence and beyond
- Greek and Roman architecture as models for Renaissance architects
- Romanesque and gothic architecture
- Brunelleschi (1377-1446)
- Renaissance architecture in Venice
- Leon Battista Alberti (1404-1472), Michelozzo Michelozzi (1396-1472)
- Palace design in Florence, Urbino and Rome
- Michelangelo (1475-1564), Andrea Palladio (1508-80)
- High Renaissance architecture

Assessment:

This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board (formerly Learning & Teaching Policy Committee and located at: <http://www.richmond.ac.uk/admitted-students/>

Teaching Methodology:

Classes will take the form of presentations by the lecturer with appropriate audio-visual support and in-class focused group discussion and exercises. In the museum and gallery situation, students will be divided into small groups and directed in close visual analysis and discussion. On occasion, they will be asked to self-conduct their museum visit with the help of an ad hoc worksheet. It should be noted that discussion will comprise a major element of this course and all students are expected to verbalize their thoughts and perceptions and to develop a critical response to the material under consideration. They must keep up with assignments, be prepared to ask questions, and discuss their readings. Students whose participation is minimal are unlikely to do well in this class.

Bibliography:

See syllabus for complete reading list

IndicativeText(s):

Furnari, M., 1995. *Formal design in Renaissance architecture: From Brunelleschi to Palladio*. Rizzoli International Publications.

Murray, P., 1997. *The Architecture of the Italian Renaissance*. Schocken Books Inc.

Journals**Web Sites**

See syllabus for complete list

Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus

Change Log for this CSD:

Major or Minor Change?	Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or LTTC)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry