Course Description:
This course offers an introduction to the art of Italy from 1496, the beginning of the reign of Lorenzo de’ Medici in Florence, to the death of Michelangelo in 1564. We will focus on the role of painting and sculpture in the artistic, religious, political, and social life of the city of Florence, the Venetian Republic, and Papal Rome, paying particular attention to the work of Leonardo, Bellini, Giorgione, Michelangelo, Raphael, and Titian. Many of the period’s ideas about art grew out of an intensive engagement with Classical culture, and we will examine this phenomenon through three lenses: the rise of collecting and the studiolo, the revival of Papal Rome, and the popularity of the pastoral mode in painting and the culture of the villa.

Developments in this period set many of the paradigms that have defined the artistic culture of Western art. The changing status of the artist from artisan to ‘genius’ introduced the terms by which ‘Great Artists’ would be identified and celebrated. When theorists like Leon Battista Alberti described the ideal form, content, and effect of a work of art, they set up a discussion on ‘what is art?’ that Western culture continues today. This course will work to identify the legacy bequeathed by the Renaissance to the later history of Western art, so that we can better understand the assumptions, peculiar interests, and artistic vocabulary of that tradition.

Course Objectives:
Provide an overview of the works and themes central to the history of the art of Italy between 1469 and 1564.
Inform students about the variety of social and cultural contexts in which art was produced and about the ways in which these contexts affected the form and function of art objects.
Increase fluency with reading the scholarly literature of Renaissance art history and provide students with the vocabulary to read and write about Renaissance art and culture.
Increase students’ ability to research Renaissance art and write about it clearly, with historical rigor and proper academic form.
Introduce students to the concept of historiography in order to examine how early art criticism and artists’ biographies greatly influenced later understanding of the Renaissance.
Heighten visual acuity and increase facility with discussing visual images.
**Course Policies:**

**Attendance and due dates.** Prompt attendance is required at all lectures. Repeated unexcused absences or habitual tardiness will result in a lowering of your attendance and class participation grade. Please take a look at your calendar at the beginning of the semester to see if you have any commitments (for example, religious holidays, family obligations, or extracurricular activities) that conflict with lectures and due dates. If you do have a conflict, please see me well in advance to clear your absence, schedule an extension, or discuss the possibility of a make-up exam. Last minute extensions, make-up tests, and incomplete grades will be granted only for serious, unforeseeable circumstances such as hospitalization or a death in the family. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalog at: [https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx](https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx).

**Email.** Please check your UF email account regularly for course announcements or replies to any emails you send me. I will email you through your UF email account. If your email box is full, my emails will bounce back to me, and I will have no way to contact you. Please make sure to clean out your box to prevent this.

**Classroom demeanor.** No talking on cell phones, ringing or beeping, text messaging, Facebooking, tweeting, emailing, IMing, noisy or smelly eating, etc. during class. Class sessions may not be recorded.

**Accommodation.** I will make every attempt to accommodate students with disabilities. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office (DSO). The DSO will provide you with the necessary documentation, which you must then provide to me when requesting accommodation.

**Course evaluations.** Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on ten criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at [https://evaluations.ufl.edu](https://evaluations.ufl.edu). Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at [https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results](https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results).

**Academic Honesty:**

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: ‘On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.’” The Honor Code ([http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/)) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. *If you have any questions or concerns, please ask me* (the instructor, Dr. Ross).

UF’s policies regarding academic honesty, the honor code, and student conduct related to the honor code will be strictly enforced. This means that cheating and plagiarism will be penalized, and a report will be filed with the Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution office. During exams, personal items must be cleared from desks and chairs and placed in a bag on the floor. For information on what constitutes plagiarism, consult the UF Plagiarism Guide at [http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/msl/07b/studentplagiarism.html](http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/msl/07b/studentplagiarism.html) and “Misuse of Sources” on the course web site. *If you have any questions, please ask me.* An online plagiarism checker service may be used to screen papers.

**Grading Scale:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>% Equivalency</th>
<th>GPA Equivalency</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93 and above</td>
<td>4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90 to 92</td>
<td>3.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87 to 89</td>
<td>3.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83 to 86</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80 to 82</td>
<td>2.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77 to 79</td>
<td>2.33</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73 to 76</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70 to 72</td>
<td>1.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67 to 69</td>
<td>1.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>63 to 66</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>60 to 62</td>
<td>.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E, I, NG, WF</td>
<td>59 and below</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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</tbody>
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Please note: A grade of C- (or below) will not count toward major requirements.

See the following web page for information on UF policies for using these letter grades to assign grade points: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx.

Course Requirements:
Midterm Exam 25%
Preliminary Bibliography 12%
Annotated Bibliography 22%
Final Exam 34%
Attendance and participation 7%
Use of sources reading/quiz Pass/Fail

This course has a web site accessible through UF’s e-Learning at http://lss.at.ufl.edu/. This syllabus, lecture handouts, assignments, and the images required for exams will be posted to the site.

There will be a Midterm Exam in class on Wednesday, February 26. There will be a final exam on Wednesday, April 30 from 3-5pm. The exams will require (1) identification and discussion of images shown in lecture and (2) essay responses to questions about themes developed in lecture and in the readings. You can find sample exam instructions by following the <Exam Study Materials> link on the course web site. The images you need to know for exams will be available online through that link in advance of each test.

You are required to compile an annotated bibliography on a topic of your choosing related to the course, as if you were going to write a research paper. You do not need to write the paper; this is an exercise in gathering and evaluating sources. Instructions will be distributed in class on Monday, February 10. A description of your topic and a preliminary bibliography (without annotations) will be due in class on Wednesday, March 12. The final, annotated bibliography is due on Monday, April 28.

In preparation for the paper, you will read a brief text: Gordon Harvey, “Misuse of Sources,” Chapter 3 of Writing with Sources, 2nd ed. (Indianapolis: Hackett, 2008), 29-44. You can find the link to the text on the desktop of the course web site, and you can access the quiz via the <Tests & Quizzes> link to the left. You should complete the quiz before class on Monday, February 10, so we can discuss any question during the “research workshop” that day. You may take the quiz as many times as you need until you get all the questions right, but you must get all the questions right to pass the quiz. You must pass the quiz to pass the course.

Readings:

1. Kemp, Martin. Leonardo. Revised ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011. There is a problem with the Amazon link to this book when you search on their site. Here is the correct link. (I do not recommend or endorse Amazon; I am just trying to anticipate and eliminate frustration.)

2. Brown, Patricia Fortini. Art and Life in Renaissance Venice. 2nd Ed. New York: Prentice Hall, 2005. (This is a reissue of the 1997 first edition in the library. It has the same content and page numbers.)


The additional readings are available online through Ares, the UF Libraries course reserves system. Follow the <Course Reserves> link on the website or go to https://ares.uflib.ufl.edu/.

All books are also on reserve at the Architecture and Fine Arts Library. For a textbook that provides a chronological overview of the entire period, students may wish to consult the following volumes on reserve at the Architecture and Fine Arts Library:


WEEK 1
January 6—Introduction
January 8—The Florence of Lorenzo il Magnifico

WEEK 2
January 13—Botticelli and the Primavera
January 15—Collecting and Self-Fashioning in the studiolo

WEEK 3
January 20—No Class (Martin Luther King Jr.’s Birthday)
January 22—Collecting and Self-Fashioning in the studiolo, cont.

WEEK 4
January 27 and 29—Leonardo: Sfumato, smiles, and one shambles of a Supper

WEEK 5
February 3 and 5—Leonardo, cont.

WEEK 6
February 10—Research Workshop
   Instructions for Annotated Bibliography distributed in class
February 12—Venice and the Bellinis

WEEK 7
February 17—Giorgione’s Novelties and the Pastoral
February 19—Young Michelangelo

WEEK 8
February 24—MIDTERM REVIEW
February 26—**MIDTERM EXAM** (Blue books will be provided at the exam.)

WEEK 9
March 3 and 5—No Class (Spring Break)

WEEK 10
March 10—Reviving Rome
March 12—The New Seat of Saint Peter’s
   **PRELIMINARY BIBLIOGRAPHY** DUE IN CLASS

WEEK 11
March 17 and 19—The New Seat of Saint Peter, cont.

WEEK 12
March 24 and 26—Michelangelo at the Sistine Chapel

WEEK 13
March 31 and April 2—Raphael: Vatican Stanze and Portraits

WEEK 14
April 7—Michelangelo at San Lorenzo
April 9—Mannerism: Giulio Romano, Parmigiano, Pontormo

WEEK 15
April 14—Pygmalion and the Drag Queen: The artistic adventures of Benvenuto Cellini
April 16—Titian
**WEEK 16**
April 21—Titian, cont.
April 23—Tintoretto and Veronese

**ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY**

due Monday, April 28
There will be a box for the papers in front of the mailboxes near the SA+AH office (FAC 101). Walk toward the office. Turn right just past Dana Myers office at the copy machine. You should see the mailboxes on the left. **The office closes at 5pm, and after that time you will not be able to access the box.**

**FINAL EXAM **
Wednesday, April 30, 3-5pm, FAC 201
Blue books will be provided at the exam.