

**Course option #1: Spring 2010 (“London first” group only)**  
**Salvation and Holy Lives in Florentine Renaissance Art**  
**Professor: Gail Solberg**

This course serves as an introduction to the making, placement, and use of images of divine and other holy persons in Florence during the Renaissance. We will ask why exemplars of holy lives were needed, how they were presented, and when they were employed. We will study the heavenly patrons of the local church, of the city government, of the guilds, and of social service organizations. This was a mixed gender and evolving group as new entrants joined the company of long-standing protectors of Florence. The founders of the religious orders, such as Francis and Dominic, were relative late-comers, but then they took a significant place in Florentine attentions. Some patrons of Florence worked miracles and we will consider how images of them were protected and promoted. Family and personal patron saints introduce problems of micro history and in some instances gendered patterns of reception and appeal. The course treats painting and sculpture, and sets the works in their architectural context.

Students will write a paper, give an oral presentation, and take two exams.

Week 1

San Miniato

The Cathedral: Sta Reparata and Sta Maria del Fiore

The Baptistery, The Campanile

Week 2

Opera del Duomo Museum

Sta Croce

Week 3

Sta Maria Novella, Spanish Chapel

Uffizi

Week 4

Orsanmichele, Bigallo

Bargello, Piazza Signoria

Week 5

Carmine, Sto Spirito, San Felice in Piazza

Classroom Session

Week 6

Santissima Annunziata, Sant'Apollonia, San Marco

Accademia

Week 7

Sta Trinita, Ognissanti

Uffizi

Week 8

Classroom Session

Final

## **Course option #2: Spring 2010 (“London first” group only)**

### **Medici Patronage**

**Professor: Janet Smith**

For over three centuries the Medici family dominated almost every aspect of life in Florence. This course will observe how the Medici used the arts of painting, sculpture and architecture to promote themselves, slowly undermining the republican government and turning Tuscany into a personal duchy. Artists such as Donatello, Michelozzo, Verrocchio, Botticelli, Ghirlandaio, Giuliano da San Gallo, Michelangelo, Cellini and Vasari will play important roles. Other types of Medici patronage also will be considered. The family sponsored humanist scholars such as Ficino and Poliziano, financed musicians, composers and the Cathedral choir and participated in religious confraternities. Cosimo il Vecchio, Lorenzo il Magnifico and Grand Duke Cosimo I will be the principle protagonists. Works of art commissioned by two Medici popes, Leo X and Clement VII, will be studied in Florence and during the field trip to Rome.

Classes meet Tuesdays 2:45 and Thursdays 10:00

Reading: F. Cesati, The Medici: Story of a European Dynasty This picture book will serve as a reminder of chronology and of some of the works of art we will be seeing. There will be readings for each class meeting. Sometimes everyone will read the same thing; other times you will be divided into groups with different readings and will report.

There also will be a paper, a palace worksheet, a mid-term and a final exam.

### **Florence before the Medici**

#### **Week I**

**Wed. March 31** Introduction and discussion of the first readings.

**Thur. Ap. 1** Meet on the steps of Santa Croce.  
*The Typology of the Family Chapel*

### **From Cosimo “Pater Patriae” to Lorenzo “il Magnifico”**

#### **Week II**

**Tue. Ap. 6** meet at the Palazzo Medici  
*Cosimo Vecchio’s new palace and its chapel*

**Thur. Ap. 8** meet at SS Annunziata and then go to San Marco  
*Cosimo and Piero’s private chapels*

#### **Week III**

**Tue. Ap. 13** Meet at the Uffizi  
*Altarpieces and domestic paintings commissioned by the early Medici*

**Thur. Ap. 15** meet at San Lorenzo  
*The church, the Old Sacristy and the Medici tombs*

**Fri. Ap. 16** meet at il Museo Nazionale del Bargello in via Proconsolo and then go to the Casa Buonarroti in via Ghibellina  
*Sculpture for Medici settings*

**Fri. Ap. 16** In preparation for the Rome trip a Power Point presentation on Michelangelo and Raphael

### **Rome trip**

#### **Week IV**

**Thur. Ap. 22** meet at Sta. Trinità for the Sassetti chapel and then go to Santa Maria Novella to look at the Tornabuoni and Filippo Strozzi chapels.  
*Relatives, business partners and a rival of Lorenzo de' Medici*

#### **Week V**

**Mon. Apri. 26** Meet in the classroom. Power Point review of the Early Medici

### **From the Medici Popes to the Grand Dukes**

**Thur. Ap. 29** meet at the Bargello  
*Sculpture as grand ducal propaganda*

#### **Week VI**

**Tue. May 4** meet at the Palazzo Vecchio  
*Giorgio Vasari transforms a Republican parliamentary building into a royal residence*

**Thur. May 6** meet at the Uffizi  
*Medici portraits reinforce the dynasty*

#### **Week VII**

**Tue. May 11** meet at the Pitti Palace  
*The Pitti palace becomes a Grand Ducal palace - the Medici as collectors*

**Thur. May 13** meet at the entrance to the Cappelle Medicee behind San Lorenzo  
*Burying the Medici Popes, the Grand Dukes and their families.*

**Fri. May 14** Afternoon trip to see Lorenzo il Magnifico's villa at Poggio a Caiano

#### **Week VIII**

**Tue. May 18** in the classroom. Power Point review of the Medici Popes and the Grand Dukes.

**Fri. May 22** Exam