INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Josephine Rogers Mariotti, jmariotti@acm.edu; cell: 3403019804
CREDITS: 4

COURSE DESCRIPTION
The course will open with focus on the figure of Leon Battista Alberti, humanist, artist and art theoretician who played a pivotal role in the development of the arts in Florence and beyond during the course of the 15th century. Sharing in Alberti’s marvel, we will review the birth of the “new style” of Florentine origin, intricately tied to the humanist movement underway since at least the beginning of the preceding century. The Medici and other corporate, religious and private patrons, intrinsic to this history, will also enter into our conversation as we investigate their interests and aspirations in relation to the transformations underway in the world of art production.

A choice of salient episodes of artistic patronage in Florence will be our portals to the understanding of artistic development in Florence during approximately a century of history. The patronage of Cosimo the Elder and his descendants serve as illustrations of this phenomena and lead to the end of the century which for Florence and all of Italy constituted a period of political and spiritual upheaval. Interesting to note, the response to this period of crisis on the part of patrons and artists was the creation of some of the greatest masterpieces of all time.

Florence played a fundamental role in the creation of the Renaissance style in the arts beyond the confines of the city. Take for example the case of the Sistine chapel created as we know it today by two generations of Florentine artists: the team of painters sent by Lorenzo il Magnifico to Sixtus IV and the subsequent intervention of the Florentine Michelangelo Buonarroti. The Vatican cycles of Michelangelo and Raffaello will bring us full circle back to the Medici with Pope Leo X, son of Lorenzo il Magnifico, whose patronage in Rome and Florence introduces us to the later works of Michelangelo and the art of the early Florentine mannerists, creators of an aesthetic ideal that characterized the refined artistic culture of the Medicean Duchy.

COURSE OBJECTIVE
The course intends to explore: the art produced under the auspices of the Medici and other members of Florentine society who share their common culture; the relationship of each patron to the artists employed; the connection between the art sponsored and the personal philosophy and persona of both patron and artist; the reciprocal interactions of patronage and art production and contemporary history, culture and philosophy.

REQUIRED TEXTS

COURSE CONTENT
Regular meetings fall on the days and at the times indicated on the schedule below. Meeting times are scheduled in accordance to museum and monument openings. We usually convene on site
rather than in the classroom, so please plan your route and estimate travel time carefully to ensure prompt arrival. Dress for conditions and be forewarned that 1) many times you will have little or no opportunity to sit 2) churches are not heated or air-conditioned 3) museums are minimally heated and air-conditioned 4) there are strict dress codes for entering religious sites 5) we cannot reschedule because of unfavorable conditions.

As indicated in the schedule, the sessions are 2-3 hour blocks of time. When needed, there will be a break mid-way through the session.

Weekly Schedule

This is a tentative schedule and may undergo changes. It is the student's responsibility to check email, SMS and notices posted on the ACM board (4th floor) at Linguaviva before every session.

Pre-elective mandatory site visits
Cathedral complex (Baptistery, Cathedral, Museum)
Orsanmichele
Brancacci Chapel

Patrons and Artists in Renaissance Florence

*** note change in normal schedule

Week 1: Early Medici patronage and their artists of choice
- Sept. 29: 9:30-12 San Lorenzo/Palazzo Medici
- Oct. 1: 9:30-12 San Marco

Week 2: L.B. Alberti
- Oct. 6: 9:30-12 San Miniato/Santa Croce
- Oct. 8: 9:30-12 S. Apollonia/SS. Annunziata/San Pancrazio

Week 3:
- Oct. 13: 9:30-12 Bargello
- Oct. 15: 9:30-12 Uffizi

Mid-term Break Oct. 17-25

Week 4:
Lorenzo il Magnifico: his age and contemporary art patronage
- Oct. 27: 9:30-12 in-class session segue Santa Trinita
- Oct. 29: 9:30-12 Santa Maria Novella

Week 5:
- Nov. 3: 9:30-12 in-class: Sistine Chapel reports
- Nov. 5: 9:30-12 Rome trip: Nov. 5-7

Week 6:
- Nov. 10: 9:30-12 Galleria dell’Accademia (1 hr.)
- Nov. 12: 9:30-12 Bargello/Casa Buonarroti

Week 7:
Florence: the laboratory of the ‘maniera’
- Nov. 17: 9:00-12 SS. Annunziata, Scalzo
Nov. 19  9:00-12  San Salvi

Week 8:
Nov. 24:  14:50-17:00  Galleria Palatina, Santa Felicita
Nov. 26: see trip schedule  Poggio a Caiano (class session)

Thanksgiving: Poggio a Caiano, Tenuta di Capezzana

Week 9:
Tues., Dec. 3:  9:00-12  Medici Chapels/Laurentian Library
Dec. 5:  14:50-17:00  Uffizi

Week 10:
Dec. 8:  hour t.b.a.  Final oral presentations
Dec. 10/11: hour t.b.a  written presentations due Friday, Dec. 11 at 17:00

Final oral discussion

ASSESSMENT

- Attendance is mandatory. Unexcused absences (all should be notified to the instructor) will result in lowering your overall grade; more than 2 absences may seriously compromise your ability to pass the course.
- Plagiarism will be cause for a failing grade.
- Class participation is calculated as a component of your grade (see percentage below). Command of assigned readings and basic manual preparation as well as participation in discussion is expected. Tardiness or obvious disinterest (sleeping in class, improper use of computer/phones during class (navigating internet)) will affect grades negatively.
- Mandatory readings, illustrations and other didactic materials can be found on the ACM Florence googles.doc site. Some readings are available in hard copy in the designated reserve section in the library. These copies must be checked out and checked back properly, unmarked and in otherwise good condition. Printing out readings provided electronically on the Google site is possible but you must supply your own paper; consider sharing the print outs in order not to waste paper.
- Books from the ACM library placed on reserve for the course can only be removed from ACM library at Linguaviva, 4th floor, over night. They must be checked out properly late in the afternoon and returned early the next morning.

Grading for the course is based on a scale of **100 points**. See percentages below. In fairness to your peers, **late work** is not allowed. When the deadline has passed, expect considerable reduction in your grade. To ensure parity, all written assignments must be presented in hard copy or electronic copy on or before the deadline.

All of the following assignments must be completed in full before you leave Florence in order to pass the course.

**Requirements:**
- Participation (attendance, punctuality and engagement): 20 points
- Mid-term project: mid-term oral and written presentations (1500 words) regarding an episode of patronage of the Medici and/or their contemporaries in Florence. Details to be discussed in class: total 20 pts. (15 pts. written component + 10 pts. oral presentation).
• Brief (5-7 minutes) oral report and 350 word summary on two artists from Giorgio Vasari, *Lives of the Artists*: total 5 pts (to be assigned)
• Team project: Sistine Chapel (to be discussed in class) - 5 pts. oral presentation
• Written and oral presentation on an episode of patronage in Florence or Rome in the late 15th or early 16th century: final oral power point presentation due December 8 - 10 pts; final written presentation (2500 words) due Dec. 11 - 25 pts
• Final oral exam – 15 pts.

ACM POLICY ON ACADEMICS
A complete listing of ACM policies can be found in your student handbook.

Class attendance and participation: You are expected to attend and participate fully in all classroom sessions, site visits, and field trips.

Academic honesty: Actions of dishonesty are destructive to the well-being of the academic community, and ACM staff respond to them vigorously. Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic theft will result in a failing grade for that assignment and may result in failure for the course.

ACM POLICY ON NON-DISCRIMINATION
The Associated Colleges of the Midwest does not discriminate in the operation of its educational programs, activities, or employment on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, color, religion, national origin, age, veteran status, marital status, or disability.

CLASSROOM CONDUCT
Expectations will be discussed at the first class session.

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