Summerschool Utrecht/
The Dutch University Institute for Art History in Florence (NIKI)
*The Art of Renaissance Florence and Rome*
*Florence:  6-17 July 2020*

**SYLLABUS**

**Course description**
Florence, originally founded by the Romans, was governed by the Medici family for centuries. Most of them had a passionate interest in painting, sculpture, architecture and literature. Still Florence keeps an exceptional artistic heritage, which is a marvelous evidence of its aged culture. Florence is the most marked example of Renaissance cities in Italy. Nowhere else in Italy does one find this multitude of buildings and works of art from this period. Among the cultural highlights is the magnificent cathedral (Santa Maria del Fiore), churches that contain breathtaking frescocycli, renowned museums (e.g. Uffizi, Bargello, Accademia), and impressive city-palaces (e.g. Palazzo Strozzi; Palazzo Rucellai; Palazzo Pitti, Palazzo Medici-Riccardi) and Palazzo Vecchio, the famous city hall. Apart from stimulating lectures the Summer School program also includes a day trip to Rome.

Course director: Prof. Michael W. Kwakkelstein, Ph.D.
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**Aim of the course**
The fundamental goals are to introduce students to the art and architecture of Florence and Rome in its historical context, and in doing so, to make them familiar with the origins, nature and development of the Renaissance in the visual arts. Mastery of basic concepts and terminology of art historical studies is another essential aspect of this course.

**Class Format**
Class meetings will be divided between illustrated lectures and discussions at the Institute, and guided visits on site in museums, churches and palaces of Florence.

**Form of Assessment**
Reading, class participation, and written work are all required of students. Grades will be composed of evaluations based on an assignment and a presentation.

**Site visit attire**
Appropriate attire must be observed when visiting churches: no bare shoulders or midriffs; no shorts, no minis.

**Required Reading**
Text for classroom meetings and lectures:
Reading assignments will be specified in class.

**Suggestions for extra reading (on reserve in the library)**
Ch. Avery, *Florentine Renaissance Sculpture*
B. Cole, *Masaccio and the art of the Early Renaissance*
J.T. Paoletti and G.M. Radke, *Art in Renaissance Italy.*
C.M. Richardson (ed.), *Locating Renaissance Art.*
K. Woods (ed.), *Making Renaissance Art.*

**Note:** For images you may wish to consult the material at the Web Gallery of Art (www.wga.hu)

**COURSE TIMETABLE***

**WEEK 1**

**Monday, July 6**
10:00 - Aula  
**Michael Kwakkelstein - Klaas Tonckens - Esther Millenaar**
Introduction to the course and lecture on the function and use of art in the Renaissance.

12:30 - lunchbreak

14:00 - Site visit  
**Klaas Tonckens**
Introductory city walk and visit to the Church of San Miniato al Monte.

Readings:  
Partridge, pp. 1-9; 57-59.

**Tuesday, July 7**
9:00 - Aula  
**Michael Kwakkelstein**

11:30 - Site visit  
**Klaas Tonckens**
Church of Or San Michele (exterior) and visit to Museo Nazionale del Bargello.

13:00 - lunchbreak

14:15 - Site visit  
Visit to the Basilica di Santa Croce.

Readings:  
Partridge, pp. 1-9; 22-27; 37-42; 87-89; 116-117

**Wednesday, July 8**
9:00 - Aula  
**Michael Kwakkelstein**

11:45 - Site visit  
**Klaas Tonckens**
Visit to the Cappella Brancacci at the church of Santa Maria del Carmine.

Readings:  
Partridge, pp. 43-50; 53-57; 70-71; 94-97; 108-109; 121-125; 139-141, 170-172
**Thursday, July 9**

8:15 - Site visit  **Gert Jan van der Sman**
Lecture on site and visits to the Church of Santa Trinita and the Church of Santa Maria Novella. *

11:00 - Site visit  **Stefano Corazzini**
The monumental halls and frescoed rooms of Palazzo Vecchio.

Readings:  

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**Friday, July 10**

9:00 - Aula  **Michael Kwakkelstein - Klaas Tonckens**
Revolution in architecture: Brunelleschi and Alberti.

11:30 - Site visit  **Klaas Tonckens**
Palazzo Rucellai and visit the Basilica di San Lorenzo

13:30 - lunchbreak  **Klaas Tonckens**

14:30 - Site visit  Piazza Santissima Annunziata and l'Ospedale degli Innocenti
Museo dell’Opera del Duomo.

17:00 - Site visit  Brunelleschi’s Dome (optional).

Readings:  
Partridge, pp. 19-21; 28, 29-36, 75

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**Saturday, July 11**

9:00 - Aula  **Klaas Tonckens - Esther Millenaar**
Renaissance Rome: Michelangelo and Raphael

Readings:  
Hartt, pp. 502-529.

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**WEEK 2**

**Monday, July 13**

7:00 - 21:30  **Klaas Tonckens - Esther Millenaar**
Day trip Rome
Visits to the Vatican Museums, Sistine Chapel, St Peter’s basilica, * faculty visit to Pantheon, Santa Maria Sopra Minerva, St Pietro in Vincoli (Michelangelo’s Moses)

**Tuesday, July 14**

9:00 - Aula  **Gert Jan van der Sman**
The early Medici as patrons of the arts

11:30 - Site visit  **Klaas Tonckens**
Visit to Museo di San Marco.

13:00 - lunchbreak

14:30 - Site visit  **Gert Jan van der Sman - Klaas Tonckens**
Visit to the Cappella dei Magi in Palazzo Medici-Riccardi
16:15 - Site visit  **Klaas Tonckens - Esther Millenaar**
Visit to the Galleria degli Uffizi

Readings: Partridge, pp. 53-56; 83-86; 119-120.

**Wednesday, July 15**  **Michelangelo**
15:00 - Site visit  **Klaas Tonckens - Esther Millenaar**
Lecture and visit to the New Sacristy at the Church of San Lorenzo.

16:45 Visit to the Galleria dell’Accademia


**Thursday, July 16**  **Gert Jan van der Sman**
9:15 - Site visit  High Renaissance and Mannerism in Florence.
Visit to the Galleria Palatina in Palazzo Pitti (optional)


14:00 - Aula  **Michael Kwakkelstein**
Student presentations

**Friday, July 17**  **Michael Kwakkelstein**
9:15 - Aula  Student presentations

*Times and sites subject to minor changes*
Assignment

Chapel Report
6 pages of text (not including images)
Please follow the formatting outlines given for the research paper

1: Read Turner’s “A Family Chapel”, pp. 36-40

2: Choose a chapel in any church in Florence as the subject of this 6 pages report.

“How do I choose my chapel?” Let your choice be guided by your curiosity and your interest – those who choose to treat a chapel simply because it is covered well in a book rarely get a good grade. This project is very much about developing a critical, enquiring eye by carefully looking at and analysing space, and doing some basic research combined with some educated guesswork. Spend time at your chapel, not just in the books, and visit your chapel on more than one occasion in order to study it well and to see it under varying conditions.

3: Research in a basic way the name, history and function of the chapel, and the identity of as many of its components as you can manage. The objective is to write a 6 page report giving a descriptive account not just of the chapel’s decoration (including any painting, sculpture, stained glass, furnishings, tomb slabs, etc) but more importantly to give a sense of how all of those components fit together in a single context.

What kinds of spatial and visual relationships exist between the various components of the chapel, and how do these relate to the requirements of the church and the patrons?

4: Illustrate your report with:
   • photos of or copied images of the chapel
   • a hand-drawn diagram of the chapel
   • a hand-drawn plan/map of the chapel
Annotate these where appropriate.

Here’s a checklist of just some of the things to look out for, and remember that your chapel has probably been altered a great deal since the Renaissance, and so some detective work and a keen eye will serve you well:
   • Steps, arches, doors, doorways, gates, grills...
   • Frescoes (walls and ceilings), panel paintings, stained glass windows and statues...
   • Funerary items like tomb slabs, commemorative plaques...
   • Tabernacles, recesses, niches, shelves...
   • Coats of arms, shields, portraits, text...
   • Benches, tables, chairs, kneelers...
   • Banners, drapes, flags, lamps, candle holders...
   • Signs of restoration and/or renovation...

Look out too for leaflets and brochures in the church where you found your chapel.