Course title: Exploring Rome, the Birthplace of the Modern Museum
Course code: AHIS 3003 ROIT
Programs offering course: Rome Open Campus Block
Open Campus Track: Art and Architecture
Language of instruction: English
U.S. semester credits: 3.00
Contact hours: 45.00
Term: Spring Block I 2021

Course Description

Through on site visits to Rome's prized cultural institutions, this course retraces the genesis and evolution of the modern museum from its ancient origins to its present-day reality. Our study will unfold before some of the world's greatest collections of Classical, Renaissance, Baroque, Neoclassical and contemporary artworks housed in historically significant edifices that number among the finest examples of period architecture in the Eternal City. In conjunction with site visits, the course analyzes practical issues related to museum professions, institutional missions, acquisition policies and their legal facets, art conservation and preservation, the pedagogical role of museums and engagement with the general public, including international and local audiences. Students will also address how museums implement technological advances to enhance visitor learning experiences and interaction. In addition, class discussions will focus on controversial, high profile case studies in the protection of national cultural patrimony entailing the repatriation of artworks from America to Italy.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

- Develop a deeper understanding of the concept of museums, their origins and evolution through the modern age.
- Investigate the main issues and problems, such as those of an ethical or legal nature, regarding museum practices and related professions.
- Outline elements of museums, their missions, and their characteristics.
- Examine the range of skills and knowledge required for succeeding in the museum profession.
- Develop the ability to differentiate and analyze different exhibition types and strategies.
- Evaluate a range of communication/interpretation media, including the role of digital media in audience engagement.

Course Prerequisites

None.

Methods of Instruction

This course will combine lectures, class debates, walking tours, film screenings, press reviews and conversations with guest speakers.

Assessment and Final Grade

1. Weekly Quizzes & Written Assignments 20%
2. Oral Presentation 20%
3. Written Report 20%
4. Final Exam 20%
5. Class Participation 20%
TOTAL 100%

Course Requirements
Weekly Quizzes & Written Assignments

While there is no mid-term for this course, two quizzes and two written assignments serve as continual assessment of student progress and performance. On a weekly basis, students are thus expected to analyze, interpret and comment on specific readings, institutions and the collections they house with references to their historical, social, political and cultural contexts, as discussed in class. The professor will provide extensive and precise guidelines, and the assignments are to be submitted through Canvas.

Oral Presentation

Presentations will be delivered during on-site visits. Students will examine any number of topics ranging from individual masterpieces and special collections to illustrious patrons of the arts and their favorite talents. In providing a thorough assessment of their topic, students will include a historical overview and discuss, wherever possible, the significance of their topic within the context of the weekly themes listed in the course syllabus. All primary and secondary sources consulted while researching said topics must be referenced. On the day of their presentation, students will supply their fellow classmates and the instructor with a typed outline, detailing the focal points of their talk. Students are NOT expected to furnish a handout of visuals for each of their peers. Instead, ONE copy – that can circulate among the participants - of maps, illustrations of referenced artworks, chronologies, family trees or other pertinent visual material is expected. Upon completion of their oral presentations, students are required to upload their outlines onto Canvas by going to Assignments and creating a submission for the file entitled Individual Oral Presentation.

Written Report

A final written report of approximately four (4) pages in length on one of the museums visited during this course will be due at the end of the six-week block. Specific guidelines will be provided by the instructor. Museological topics may be chosen by the student, but must be agreed upon by the instructor.

Final Exam

Students will take a final exam at the end of the course. The exam (multiple choice, true/false, short essay questions and picture identifications) will be cumulative and cover, therefore, all topics discussed and analyzed in class.

Rubrics will be used to assess each assignment.

Class Participation

Participation is valued as meaningful contribution in the digital and tangible classroom, utilizing the resources and materials presented to students as part of the course. Meaningful contribution requires students to be prepared in advance of each class session and to have regular attendance. Students must clearly demonstrate they have engaged with the materials as directed, for example, through classroom discussions, online discussion boards, peer-to-peer feedback (after presentations), interaction with guest speakers, and attentiveness on co-curricular and outside-of-classroom activities.

Attendance

Regular class attendance is required throughout the program, and all absences will result in a lower participation grade for any affected CIEE course. Due to the intensive schedules for Open Campus and Short Term programs, absences that constitute more than 10% of the total course will result in a written warning.

Students who transfer from one CIEE class to another during the add/drop period will not be considered absent from the first session(s) of their new class, provided they were marked present for the first session(s) of their original class. Otherwise, the absence(s) from the original class carry over to the new class and count against the grade in that class.

For CIEE classes, excessively tardy (over 15 minutes late) students must be marked absent.

Attendance policies also apply to any required co-curricular class excursion or event, as well as to any required field placement. Students may not miss placement/work hours at an internship or service learning site unless approved in advance by the Academic Director and placement supervisor. All students must complete all of the requisite 100 minimum work hours on site at the internship or service learning placement to be eligible for academic credit.

Students who miss class for personal travel, including unforeseen delays that arise as a result of personal travel,
will be marked as absent. No make-up or re-sit opportunity will be provided.

Attendance policies also apply to any required class excursion, with the exception that some class excursions cannot accommodate any tardiness, and students risk being marked as absent if they fail to be present at the appointed time.

Absences for classes will lead to the following penalties:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage of Total Course Hours Missed</th>
<th>Minimum Penalty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to 10%</td>
<td>Participation graded as per class requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 – 20%</td>
<td>Participation graded as per class requirements; 3% grade penalty &amp; written warning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 20%</td>
<td>Automatic course failure, and possible expulsion</td>
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</tbody>
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N.B. Course schedule is subject to change due to study tours, excursions, or local holidays. Final schedules will be included in the final syllabus provided to students on site.

**Weekly Schedule**

**Week 1**

Class: 1.1 Intro / The Museum from Antiquity to the 18th Century


Class: 1.2 The Role of Museums in Education, Visitor Engagement & Marketing

On-site visit to MAXXI


**Week 2**

Class: 2.1 The Grand Tour & the Princely Collections in Rome

On-site visit to the Galleria Doria Pamphilj


Class: 2.2 The First Public Modern Museum & Civic Identity

On-site visit to the Capitoline Museum


Due date for submission First Written Assignment on Raphael's Letter to Pope Leo X due today by
Week 3
Class: 3.1 The City as a Museum & the Museum of the City

On-site visit to Museo di Roma in Palazzo Braschi


Quiz 1

Class: 3.2 Art Within a Context

On-site visit to the Vatican Museums, specifically the Pius Clementine Museum and the so-called New Wing (Braccio Nuovo) of the Chiaramonti Museum


Week 4
Class: 4.1 Museum Ethics: Acquisition, Looting & Repatriation

On-site visit to the American Academy in Rome’s Norton Van Buren Archaeological Study Collection


Class: 4.2 Museums & Conservation

In-class guest lecture

Title of the Lecture: “Does culture produce bread?”

Guest lecturer: Dr. Roberto Nardi. Roberto is President of the International Committee for the Conservation of Mosaics (ICCM), Fellow of the International Institute for Conservation (IIC) and member of ICOM, International Council of Museums - Committee for Conservation. He was Kress Lecturer at the American Institute of Archaeology for 2010/2011.

Reading assignment: students will be divided up into groups of maximum 4 people. Each group will receive a different article or chapter pertaining to some facet of conservation, which they will then discuss in class.

Quiz 2

Week 5
Class: 5.1 The Traveling Exhibition & Museum

The Traveling Exhibition & Museum Media

On-site visit to French Impressionists exhibition at Palazzo degli Esami


Class: 5.2 Museum Management

On-site visit to the Galleria Nazionale d’Arte Moderna (GNAM)


Due date for submission of Second Written Assignment on Letters to Miranda & Canova on the Abduction of Antiquities from Rome & Athens.
Week 6
Class: 6.1 Review for the Final Exam

Class: 6.2 Session 2 / Final Exam

Due date for submission of Final Written Report.

Course Materials
Readings


Further reading materials will be assigned on a week-by-week basis.

Professor will provide a complete list of complementary readings, media sources and articles published in national and international media in order to stimulate class debates and activities.