1. DESCRIPTION
This course explores the principal architects, monuments and themes of fifteenth and sixteenth century Italian architecture. Emphasis will be placed on Renaissance architecture in Florence, but the course will also consider architectural developments in other major Italian cities. Most lesson will include a lecture in class and an on-site visit in Florence. Topics in focus will include: architectural theory, the relation between architecture, painting and sculpture, patronage, urban planning, and church and palace design. Attention will be given to specific artists: Filippo Brunelleschi, Leon Battista Alberti, Lorenzo Ghiberti, Masaccio, Michelozzo, Donatello, Bernardo Buontalenti, Giorgio Vasari, Sandro Botticelli, Bramante, Michelangelo, and Palladio.

2. OBJECTIVE
The student will be able to recognize the main characteristics, styles, and architectural elements of typical Italian Renaissance buildings, focusing on Florentine architectural styles. Students will learn about architectural terms as well as the function of the major architectural and structural parts of buildings. Many architectural terms given and used by the professor will be kept in the Latin, Greek or Italian language, so that students become familiar with architectural terminology.

By the successful completion end of the course students should:
- have gained a broad historical knowledge of Florence and Italy from the 14th until the mid 16th c. as well as specific pieces of art that exemplify the primary artistic and architectural styles of the Renaissance
- have gained an understanding of the developments in the visual arts of Italy, with special emphasis on Florence
- be familiar with different techniques, practical problems in executing pieces of art and major achievements of Florentine Renaissance architecture
- be able to describe and discuss works of art particularly related to the artists explored in this course
- have developed visual skills to allow them to recognize different styles and periods
- be familiar with the language of art, including specific artistic terminology, iconography and symbolism related to the subject matter of this course
3. REQUIREMENTS
There are no prerequisites for this course. Lectures are held in English.
Individual study at home is required after every lecture, at least on a weekly basis. On your lecture schedule you will have information on each meeting’s readings: a good pre-reading activity of the material is highly recommended to better follow in-class explanations.
Students will be asked to research, read and study quite often at the School Library. Please make sure you are familiar with it (know how it works, opening and closing times, facilities, etc.) from the very start of the course.
No eating is allowed in class.
At all times cell phones must be turned off, both during lectures and visits.
No recording of any part of the lectures (both in class and during visits) by any means (video, mp3, etc..) is allowed.
A responsible and active class participation is expected at all times and activities.
Please also consider important notes on attendance, participation and assignments (as described in pertinent paragraphs).

4. METHOD
The teaching is composed of lectures with slides and on-site teaching.
Visits to churches, palaces, museums and galleries are as important as lectures taught in class.
Considerable space will be given to the comparison between artists’ styles and the political, historical, and artistic context in which they operated.

5. TEXT BOOK – FURTHER READINGS – INTERNET RESOURCES
The Textbooks are pre-ordered and available at: Paperback Via Oche 4R.
Each student must read the text book for the successful completion of the course.
Further material, handouts and notes will be distributed to the students during the semester.

FURTHER READINGS
(Books listed below are available at the school library, Corso Tintori 21).
FURTHER SUGGESTED READING:
(all books are in the FUA Library)
• Leon Battista Alberti, On the Art of Building in 10 Books.
• Peter Burke, The Italian Renaissance.
• Ludwig H. Heydenreich, Architecture in Italy 1400-1500, Yale University Press 1996.
• Andrew Hopkins, Italian Architecture from Michelangelo to Bernini, Thames & Hudson 2002.
• Bertrand Jestaz, Architecture of the Renaissance: From Brunelleschi to Palladio, Discoveries, Abrams Inc., NY.
• Ross King, Brunelleschi’s Dome, Chatto&Windus, London.
• Wolfgang Lotz, Studies in Italian Renaissance Architecture.
• Wolfgang Lotz, Architecture in Italy 1500-1600, Yale University Press 1995.
• C Rowe, Italian Architecture of the 16th century.

Students have access to the Palazzi-Fua library.
The FUA library is located on the first floor of Corso Tintori 21. Please consult the posted
course schedules for official opening times. 
Please note that in the library you can only consult the books and not take them on loan. It is possible to make photocopies.

Students are encouraged to take advantage of Florence’s libraries and research centers:

Biblioteca Palagio di Parte Guelfa
Located in Piazzetta di Parte Guelfa between Pza della Repubblica and Ponte Vecchio. Telephone: 055.261.6029. The library is open Monday through Saturday. This library is open until 10:00pm during weekdays.

Biblioteca delle Oblate
Located in via dell’Oriuolo 26 (across the street from SQUOLA Center for Contemporary Italian Studies) Telephone: 055 261 6512. Please consult the website [www.bibliotecadelleoblate.it](http://www.bibliotecadelleoblate.it) for current opening times under “orario”.

The Harold Acton Library at the British Institute of Florence
Address: Lungarno Guicciardini 9. For opening times and student membership information: [www.britishinstitute.it/en](http://www.britishinstitute.it/en). This is a fee-based membership library that allows you to borrow books and use their wifi system. A weekly cultural program is held every Wednesdays at 6 pm.

INTERNET RESOURCES
Students are strongly discouraged from using internet sources other than electronic journals that can be accessed through JSTOR. Websites of museums and churches can be a good introduction to a building or artwork but should never be used without checking the information against serious scholarly sources. Plagiarism from any source will result in an F grade.

6. VISITS – TRIPS
This course has regular site visits in Florence. For details, please consult the schedule at the end of the syllabus.

Important Guidelines for Visits:
- Make sure you know the exact meeting point each week and how to get there; be aware that there might be changes in the visit schedule.
- **Please dress decently at all times.** If we are visiting a church remember to dress appropriately (no short pants, no sleeveless tops/dresses for women, men should uncover their heads when entering a church). **Anyone denied access because of their attire will have that session counted as an unexcused absence.**
  - Dress comfortably, especially with regard to footwear – there is a lot of walking and standing for long periods. Do not burden yourselves with heavy bags – there is not always a place to check them in.
- **No food or drink (not even a small water bottle) allowed inside museums and churches.** Anyone trying to eat or drink inside a museum or church will have their presentation/paper grade lowered by one letter grade.
- You must not be late at the meeting point. We will often have reservations for both museum and churches: the class cannot wait for you to start a visit.
- Two late shows will be treated as an absence; this applies to both lectures and guided visits.
MAKE SURE YOU ALWAYS HAVE YOUR MAP AND KNOW WHERE TO GO

Recommended visits:
- Uffizi Gallery
- Pitti Palace (first floor: Galleria Palatina; ground floor: Museo degli Argenti, second floor: Galleria d’Arte Moderna)
- Galleria dell’Accademia
- Palazzo Vecchio
- Museo del Bargello
- Museo dell’Opera del Duomo
- Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore
- Baptistry
- Church of Santo Spirito

7. MATERIAL LIST
N/A

8. ADDITIONAL FEES
In addition to the textbooks, students will be responsible to pay for all museum/site visit tickets and reservation costs. You may refer to the library for the payment. Depending on the agreement between your university and the school, the payment of ticket and reservation costs might be included in the course fee. In case the museum/visit/reservation fees are not included, students will be informed on the first day of class of the exact due amount.

9. EVALUATION – GRADING SYSTEM
10% Attendance
10% Class Participation
20% Presentation (with preparatory written paper)
15% Quiz (x 2)
30% Final Exam (Written)

A = 93-100 %, A- = 90-92%, B+= 87-89%, B = 83-86%, B-=80-82%, C+ = 77-79%, C=73-76%, C-=70-72%, D = 60-69%, F= 0-59%, W = Official Withdrawal, W/F = Failure to withdraw by the designated date.

10. ATTENDANCE – PARTICIPATION
Academic integrity and mutual respect between instructor and student are central to Palazzi’s academic policies. This is reflected in the attendance policy. Class attendance is mandatory and counts towards the final grade. Roll will be taken at the beginning and end of each class. Coming late and leaving earlier affects the attendance and participation grade. It is important that students come to class on time. Two delays will be considered one absence.

Each absence from class will negatively impact your final grade (Attendance). After the second absence the instructor will notify the student is at risk. After the third absence the instructor may lower the final grade by one letter grade at the end of the term. (Example: 90/A- = B-)

After the fourth absence the student will receive an automatic Failure. Two late arrivals or early departures, or a combination, will be treated as an absence. This applies to both lectures and guided visits.

It is always the student’s responsibility to know how many absences they have in a course. Travel is NEVER an excuse for absence from class.
This course requires that you participate in class discussions. This means that you contribute to class discussions by relating your experiences, asking questions, and making comments appropriate to the topics being discussed. Students will be assigned readings in the textbook which will be discussed during a given class period. In order for the discussions to be meaningful, each student must come to class fully prepared to discuss the assigned reading and to make meaningful comments. Since participation plays a role in your final grade, it is essential that you have not only read the assignment, but have drawn conclusions of your own from the reading. You will present those conclusions during class discussions.

11. TESTS, PRESENTATION, EXAM
For exam time and date see schedule below. The time and date of tests and exam cannot be changed for any reason.

1. **Weekly tests** count for 15% of the final course grade each.

   Each weekly test consists of three parts:
   - **part 1:** a *slide test with 10 identifications*, shown for 3 mins each. Students should identify the subject by name, author, place, year(s). Each correct and complete answer will count 5 points, summing up to 50 points in case of 10 correct answers.
   - **part 2:** *10 multiple choice questions*. Each correct answer will count 4 points, summing up to 40 points in case of 10 correct answers.
   - **part 3:** *2 short-answers questionnaire*. Students will have to answer with concise explanations, main ideas, keywords, names, etc. Each correct and complete answer will be given 5 points, summing up to 10 points in case of 2 correct answers

2. **Student Presentation/Research Paper** counts for 20% of the final course grade.

   The presentation/paper should be the result of independent research, using the books held by the FUA library, other libraries in town, and the primary artistic sources available in the Florentine museums and churches.
   Topics, timing and the calendar for the presentation will be discussed with the students on the first day of the course.

   Presentations will start in the second week of the course and will be held by groups of three students. Each student will deliver a 10mins presentation.
   The preparation of a written paper for the presentation is mandatory. The paper should be developed and written individually and should be at least 2 pages long, Times New Roman, 12 pts, 1.5 spaced.
   To organize your powerpoint presentation and type your research paper you may take advantage of the school’s computer facilities in Via Magliabechi. Please note that the school uses MAC computing facilities: you may therefore want to check the compatibility between your own computer/software and that offered by the school. Make sure you have time to sort out any problems in good time before your presentation/paper is due.

   Please make sure the paper includes notes and a bibliography on a separate sheet. You may also include images with captions on a separate sheet; but images will not be counted in the length of the paper. Deliver your paper stapled and with page numbers.
   The typed paper will have to be handed in to the professor after the student presentation.
   **Please note:** Papers sent by email will not be accepted. Late presentations or papers will not be accepted. If the paper is not turned in, the grade will be F corresponding to 0 points. Papers will be accepted before the established date, but only during the class hour.
3. The **Final Exam** counts for 30% of the final course grade.

It consists of three parts:
- part 1: **15 multiple choice questions**. Each correct answer will count 3 points, summing up to 45 points in case of 15 correct answers.
- part 2: a **slide test with 10 identifications** shown for 5 minutes each. Students should identify the subject by name, author, place, date. They should also describe the relevant characteristic of the work of art shown. If two or more of your points say basically the same thing, they will not count as separate characteristics.
By the end of the course you should be able to use your own words in the description: do not literally repeat or transcribe what you have read or heard in class.
Each correct answer will count 4 points, summing up to 40 points in case of 10 correct answers.
- part 3: **3 essay questions**. Students will have to answer with concise explanations, main ideas, key words, names, etc. Each correct and complete answer will be given 5 points, summing up to 15 points in case of 3 correct answers.

12. **LESSONS**

**WEEK 1**

**Lesson 1**  Tue  Presentation of the course. LECTURE: Introduction to the history of Florence  
LECTURE: Etruscan and Roman Florence

**Lesson 2**  Wed  LECTURE: Romanesque style  
VISIT: Church of San Miniato al Monte and Piazzale Michelangelo  
READINGS: Introduction pp. 7-15

**Lesson 3**  Thu  LECTURE: Gothic style  
VISIT: Church of Santa Croce  
READINGS: Chapter 1 pp. 15-30

**Lesson 4**  Fri  9.00-10.00 **WEEKLY TEST**  
LECTURE: Introduction to the Renaissance

**WEEK 2**

**Lesson 5**  Mon  LECTURE: Renaissance patronage: the Medici family  
VISIT: Palazzo Medici-Riccardi, Church of San Marco  
READINGS: Chapter 4 pp. 63-81
Lesson 6  Tue
READINGS: Chapter 3
          pp. 51-62
LECTURE: Renaissance perspective: Leon Battista Alberti
VISIT: Palazzo Strozzi, Church of Santa Maria Novella, Rucellai Palace

Lesson 7  Wed
LECTURE: Renaissance perspective: Masaccio
VISIT: Brancacci Chapel

Lesson 8  Thu
READINGS: Chapter 2
          pp. 31-50
LECTURE: Renaissance perspective: Brunelleschi and Donatello
VISIT: Church of San Lorenzo, Old Sacristy

Lesson 9  Fri
9.00-10.00 WEEKLY TEST
10.00-10.30 LECTURE: Renaissance perspective: Brunelleschi
VISIT: Duomo, Spedale degli Innocenti

WEEK 3

Lesson 10 Mon
READINGS: Chapter 6
          pp. 121-136
         Chapter 9
          pp. 178-182
         Chapter 12
          210-223
LECTURE: Renaissance architecture in Rome and Venice: Bramante, Michelangelo, Palladio

Lesson 11 Tue
READINGS: Chapter 12
          pp. 208-210
LECTURE: Late Renaissance in Florence
VISIT: Walk: Uffizi, Church of Santa Felicita, Pitti Palace
Lesson 12  Wed
READINGs:  LECTURE: Giorgio Vasari, Bernardo Buontalenti
Chapter 12  VISIT: Boboli Garden
pp. 209-224

Lesson 13  Thu  Review
Lesson 14  Fri  FINAL EXAM

ALTERNATIVE LESSON
In the event that the class cannot take place due to unpredictable reasons, you are
required to view, as a group, the 5th and 6th episodes of Sir Kenneth Clark’s landmark
series CIVILISATION, available on DVD in the Library, or viewable directly on
youtube.com starting here:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nJuKxB7H5m4