

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School/Department:	Communications, Arts and Social Sciences
Programme:	Art History and Visual Culture
FHEQ Level:	5
Course Title:	Michelangelo in Rome
Course Code:	AVC 5850
Course Leader:	Rosanna Graziani (Rome)
Student Engagement Hours:	120
Lectures:	45
Seminar / Tutorials:	
Independent / Guided Learning:	75
Semester:	Fall/Spring
Credits:	12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

Course Description:

ITALIAN STUDY CENTRES ONLY. This course examines the works of the Renaissance artist Michelangelo, his sculpture, painting, architecture and literary output, within their historical context, focussing on Rome. It concentrates on issues of commission, iconography, censorship, biography, historiography and aesthetics. The course examines Michelangelo's early career in Florence, where he worked at first under the Medici and then under the austere theocratic Republic, then explores his life and work in Rome, the centre of Christianity and of new ideas. Students study Michelangelo's relationship with various patrons and consider how different commissions and motivations determined very different outcomes, in order to appreciate the nuanced relationship between art and power. Michelangelo's work is analysed within the broader context of his contemporaries, in order to appreciate his distinctive style and innovative power. The course normally makes use of the city of Rome as a learning resource.

Prerequisites: AVC 4200 Introduction to Art Across Cultures or AVC 4205 Introduction to Visual Culture or HST 3200 World Cultural History or GEP 4180 Research and Writing II

Aims and Objectives:

- To explore Michelangelo's life, time and works
- To situate Michelangelo within the broader context of Renaissance art and culture
- To examine the aesthetics of renaissance art
- To explore the relationship between political power and artistic production during the Renaissance

Programme Outcomes:

A5(ii), A5(iii), B5(i), C5(ii), D5(ii)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification.

This is located at the archive maintained by the Academic Registry and found at:

<http://www.richmond.ac.uk/admitted-students/programme-and-course-specifications/>

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a detailed knowledge of the life, times and works of Michelangelo
- Show a detailed understanding of Michelangelo in the historical and cultural context of the Renaissance
- Demonstrate an ability to evaluate in detail the aesthetics of Renaissance art
- Demonstrate a detailed understanding of the relationship between political power and artistic production during the Renaissance
- Complete assigned work with a degree of clarity, technical competence and critical thinking, and a degree of independence and capacity for self-evaluation, appropriate for a 5000-level course

Indicative Content:

- the life, times and works of Michelangelo
- Michelangelo in historical and cultural context
- Michelangelo's works in the context of other major Renaissance artists
- the aesthetics of Renaissance art
- the relationship between political power and artistic production
- the legacy of Michelangelo

Assessment:

This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board (formerly Learning & Teaching Policy Committee and located at: <http://www.richmond.ac.uk/admitted-students/>

Teaching Methodology:

Classes will take the form of presentations by the lecturer with appropriate audio-visual support and in-class focused group discussion and exercises. In the museum and gallery situation, students will be divided into small groups and directed in close visual analysis and discussion. On occasion, they will be asked to self-conduct their museum visit with the help of an ad hoc worksheet. It should be noted that discussion will comprise a major element of this course and all students are expected to verbalize their thoughts and perceptions and to develop a critical response to the material under consideration. They must keep up with assignments, be prepared to ask questions, and discuss their readings. Students whose participation is minimal are unlikely to do well in this class.

Bibliography:

See syllabus for complete reading list

IndicativeText(s):

Campbell, S.J. and Michael W. Cole, M.W., 2012. *A New History of Italian Renaissance Art*. Thames & Hudson.

Hibbard, H., 1985. *Michelangelo*. 2nd ed. Westview Press.

Hartt, F., 2004. *Michelangelo*. Harry N. Abrams, Inc., Publishers.

Michelangelo. Life, Letters, and Poetry. Translated by G. Bull and P. Porter, 2008. Oxford University Press.

Journals

Web Sites

Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus

Change Log for this CSD:

Major or Minor Change?	Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or LTPC)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry