Renaissance Art in London Spring 2014

Class code  V43.9350.001
Instructor Details  Dr. Michael Douglas-Scott
Class Details  Spring 2014
               Wednesday, 10am-1pm
Prerequisites  No previous knowledge of Art History required

Class Description  London has some of the richest collections of renaissance art in the world. Students in this course will be brought into direct contact with a large variety of artifacts to be found in museums and galleries such as the National Gallery, the National Portrait Gallery, the Victoria and Albert Museum and the British Library. Works by Van Eyck, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Raphael, Durer and Holbein will be examined alongside those of less well-known artists. Rather than providing a standard chronological narrative of European Art History c.1400-c.1600, emphasis will be placed on subject areas such as the altarpiece and the private devotional image, the renaissance portrait, graphic practices, print culture, the materials and functions of sculpture, myth and allegory, the cabinet of curiosities, the concept of the ‘Renaissance’ itself. These topics will not be organized around traditional national or regional ‘schools’ considered in isolation from one another but instead interconnections will be explored between the development of different types, technical processes and cultural practices across the Netherlands, France, Germany and Italy. A special case will be made of the English Renaissance, in order to place it within the wider European context through additional visits to Westminster Abbey and Hampton Court.

Desired Outcomes  This course is designed to equip students with a comprehensive grasp of the different genres of European art of the early modern period, the material processes involved in the production of specific objects and the original functions which they served, with the aim of providing a critical understanding of renaissance visual culture.

Assessment Components  A. Short Essay (1,500 words) on either ‘The Development of the Medieval & Renaissance Altarpiece’ or ‘The Functions of Renaissance Portraiture’ to be delivered by Session 4 (15%)

B. Long Essay (2,500 words) to be handed in by Session 12 the subject of which must relate to the course but may not repeat a subject specifically covered in class. The exact title of the essay MUST be agreed in advance with me (35%)

C. Oral Presentation to be delivered on an agreed painting or sculpture in groups of three in Session 13, written notes to be handed in at the end of class (20%)

D. Examination at Session 15 (30%)
Failure to submit or fulfil any required course component results in failure of the class.

**Assessment Expectations**

**Grade A:** Excellent work with some original thought and research

**Grade B:** Good work, demonstrating high competence and an ability to present an argument coherently

**Grade C:** Passable work but with significant mistakes and limited research

**Grade D:** Poor work

**Grade F:** Unacceptable work

**Grade conversion**

NYU in London uses the following scale of numerical equivalents to letter grades:

- A=94-100
- A-=90-93
- B+=87-89
- B=84-86
- B-=80-83
- C+=77-79
- C=74-76
- C-=70-73
- D+=67-69
- D=65-66
- F=below 65

Where no specific numerical equivalent is assigned to a letter grade by the class teacher, the mid point of the range will be used in calculating the final class grade (except in the A range, where 95.5 will be used).

**Grading Policy**

NYU in London aims to have grading standards and results in all its courses similar to those that prevail at Washington Square.
NYUL has a strict policy about course attendance. **No unexcused absences are permitted.** While students should contact their class teachers to catch up on missed work, you should NOT approach them for excused absences.

Excused absences will usually only be considered for serious, unavoidable reasons such as personal ill – health or illness in the immediate family. Trivial or non-essential reasons for absence will not be considered.

Excused absences can only be considered if they are reported in accordance with the guidelines that follow.

**Please note that you will need to ensure that no make-up classes – or required excursions - have been organised before making any travel plans for the semester.**

**Absence reporting**

1. On the first day of absence you should report the details of your illness by calling free (from landline) 0800 316 0469 (option 2) or by emailing absences@nyu.ac.uk including - class missed, professor, class time and whether any work was due including exams.

2. Generally a doctor’s note will be required to ensure you have sought treatment for the illness. Contact the Gower Street Health Centre on 0207 636 7628 to make an appointment, or use HTH general practitioners if you cannot get an appointment expeditiously at Gower Street.

3. At the end of your period of absence, you will need to complete an absence form online at [http://www.nyu.edu/global/london/academics/attendance_policy.htm](http://www.nyu.edu/global/london/academics/attendance_policy.htm)

4. Finally you must arrange an appointment to speak to Assistant Director for Freshman Programmes (freshmen) or Nigel Freeman (non-freshmen) on your first day back at class. You must have completed the absence form before making your appointment.

Absence requests for non-illness purposes must be discussed with the Assistant Director for Freshman Programmes (Freshmen) or Assistant Director for Academic Affairs (non-freshmen) **prior** to the date(s) in question – no excused absences for non-illness purposes can be applied retrospectively.

Supporting documentation relating to absences must be submitted within one week of your return to class.

3% will be deducted from the student’s final course mark for each unexcused absence. Students are responsible for making up any work missed due to absence.

Unexcused absences from exams are not permitted and will result in failure of the exam. If you are granted an excused absence from an examination (with authorisation, as above), your lecturer will decide how you will make-up the assessment component, if at all (by make-up examination, extra coursework, *viva voce* (oral examination), or an increased weighting on an alternate assessment component, etc.). In the past, students have asked about early departure from the program at the end of the semester. This will not normally be allowed. Under no circumstances will we allow a student to take a final exam at any time other than it has been scheduled - neither before the other students in the class, nor afterwards. Students have been informed not to make return travel plans before the end of the exam week. Exams may not be held during your regularly scheduled class meeting. Please do not make plans during the exam period until you know the exact times of your exams.

NYUL also expects students to arrive to class promptly (both at the beginning and after any breaks) and to remain for the duration of the class. If timely attendance becomes a problem it is the
prerogative of each instructor to deduct a mark or marks from the final grade of each late arrival and each early departure.

Please note that for classes involving a field trip or other external visit, transportation difficulties are never grounds for an excused absence. It is the student’s responsibility to arrive at an agreed meeting point in a punctual and timely fashion.

Please refer to the Student Handbook for full details of the policies relating to attendance.

### Late Submission of Work

1. Written work due in class must be submitted during the class time to the professor.
2. Late work should be submitted in person to the Administrative Assistant for Academic Affairs in office hours (Mon – Fri, 10:30 – 17:30), who will write on the essay or other work the date and time of submission, in the presence of the student. Another member of the administrative staff can accept the work, in person, in the absence of the Administrative Assistant for Academic Affairs and will write the date and time of submission on the work, as above. Please also send an electronic copy to academics@nyu.ac.uk for submission to Turnitin.
3. Work submitted within 5 weekdays after the submission time without an agreed extension receives a penalty of 10 points on the 100 point scale.
4. Written work submitted after 5 weekdays after the submission date without an agreed extension fails and is given a zero.
5. **Please note** end of semester essays must be submitted on time.

### Plagiarism Policy

Plagiarism: the presentation of another piece of work or words, ideas, judgements, images or data, in whole or in part, as though they were originally created by you for the assignment, whether intentionally or unintentionally, constitutes an act of plagiarism.

Please refer to the Student Handbook for full details of the plagiarism policy.

All students must submit an electronic copy of each piece of their written work to www.turnitin.com and hand in a printed copy with the digital receipt to their professor. Late submission of work rules apply to both the paper and electronic submission and failure to submit either copy of your work will result in automatic failure in the assignment and possible failure in the class.

#### Electronic Submission

The Turnitin database will be searched for the purpose of comparison with other students’ work or with other pre-existing writing or publications, and other academic institutions may also search it.

In order for you to be able to submit your work onto the Turnitin website, you will need to set up an account:

1. Go onto the Turnitin website [http://www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com)
2. Click ‘Create Account’ in the top right hand corner
3. Select user type of ‘student’
4. Enter your class ID & Turnitin class enrolment password (these will be e-mailed to you after the drop/add period, or contact luke.harper@nyu.ac.uk if you have misplaced these).
5. Follow the online instructions to create your profile.
To submit your work for class, you will then need to:

1) Log in to the Turnitin website
2) Enter your class by clicking on the class name
3) Next to the piece of work you are submitting (please confirm the due date), click on the ‘submit’ icon
4) Enter the title of your piece of work
5) Browse for the file to upload from wherever you have saved it (USB drive, etc.), please ensure your work is in Word or PDF format, and click ‘submit’
6) Click ‘yes, submit’ to confirm you have selected the correct paper (or ‘no, go back’ to retry)
7) You will then have submitted your essay onto the Turnitin website.
8) Please print your digital receipt and attach this to the hard copy of your paper before you submit it to your professor (this digital receipt appears on the web site, immediately after you submit your paper and is also sent to your e-mail address). Please also note that when a paper is submitted to Turnitin all formatting, images, graphics, graphs, charts, and drawings are removed from the paper so that the program can read it accurately. Please do not print the paper in this form to submit to your lecturers, as it is obviously pretty difficult to read! You can still access the exact file you uploaded by clicking on the ‘file’ icon in the ‘content’ column.

Please also see the Late Submission of Work policy, above.

Students must retain an electronic copy of their work for one month after their grades are posted online on Albert and must supply an electronic copy of their work if requested to do so by NYU in London. Not submitting a copy of a piece of work upon request will result in automatic failure in the assignment and possible failure in the class. NYU in London may submit in an electronic form the work of any student to a database for use in the detection of plagiarism, without further prior notification to the student.

Penalties for confirmed cases of plagiarism are set out in the Student Handbook.

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Reading (recommended).
Copies in NYU-L course collection at Senate House Library

Jill Dunkerton, Susan Foister, Dillian Gordon, Nicholas Penny:
*Giotto to Durer. Early Renaissance Painting in the National Gallery*
London 1991

Susie Nash:
*Northern Renaissance Art*
Oxford 2008

John Paolletti & Gary Radke:
*Art in Renaissance Italy*
London 1997

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Internet Research Guidelines

Exercise caution, relying on institutional (e.g. museum and gallery) and accredited academic sites

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Additional Required Equipment

A London Transport Oyster card as classes will be held at sites in Zones 1-2
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<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Background Reading</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Session 2</td>
<td>5 February</td>
<td>Images for Devotion</td>
<td>Visit to the National Gallery</td>
<td>Peter Humfrey and Martin Kemp (eds): <em>The Altarpiece in the Renaissance</em>, Cambridge 1990</td>
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<td>Meet in the lobby of the Sainsbury wing, National Gallery</td>
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<td>Meet at the west front of Westminster Abbey</td>
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<td>Meet in the main lobby of the Victoria and Albert Museum. Nearest underground station South Kensington</td>
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<td>SHORT ESSAY TO BE HANDED IN</td>
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<td>Leave from Byron Court, 26-34 Mecklenburgh Square, by bus at 10.00 am (return by circa 5.30 pm)</td>
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<td>Meet outside NYU in London, Bedford Square</td>
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Session 8  Myth and Allegory  
Visit to the National Gallery  
Background Reading: Malcolm Bull:  
Meet in the lobby of the Sainsbury Wing, National Gallery  

Session 9  Raphael's Cartoons  
Visit to Victoria & Albert Museum (Raphael Cartoons)  
Background Reading: Mark Evans & Clare Browne (eds): Raphael, Cartoons and Tapestries for the Sistine Chapel, London 2010  
Meet in the main lobby of the Victoria and Albert Museum. Nearest underground station South Kensington  

Session 10  Veronese and the Venetian Renaissance  
Visit to the Exhibition; ‘Veronese: Magnificence in Renaissance Venice’ at the National Gallery  
Meet in the lobby of the Sainsbury Wing at the National Gallery  

Session 11  The Early Printed Book  
Visit to the British Library  
Background Reading: Ernst Goldschmidt:  
The Printed Book of the Renaissance, Cambridge 1950  
Meet in the lobby of the British Library  

Session 12  What was the Renaissance?  
Background Reading: Peter Burke:  
The Renaissance, London 1987  
Jakob Burckhardt:  
The Civilization of the Renaissance in Italy, 1860 (Penguin 1990)  
James Elkins & Robert Williams (eds):  
Meet in the lobby of the Sainsbury Wing, National Gallery  

LONG ESSAY TO BE HANDED IN
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 13</th>
<th>ORAL PRESENTATIONS</th>
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<tr>
<td>7 May</td>
<td>Meet in the foyer of the Sainsbury Wing, National Gallery</td>
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<tr>
<th>Session 14</th>
<th>REVIEW</th>
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<tr>
<td>14 May</td>
<td>Meet in Room 105</td>
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<th>Session 15</th>
<th>EXAMINATION</th>
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<tr>
<td>19 May</td>
<td>Meet in Room 105</td>
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**Suggested Co-curricular Activities**

Go to related exhibitions in London, especially those not visited by the whole class