

Urban Design, Architecture, and Art in
Renaissance and Baroque Rome

This course will focus principally upon the Renaissance and Baroque phases of Rome's history (15th-18th centuries). However, the first class sessions will survey the city's growth and structure from its origins to the present, and throughout the course we will often turn our attention to those earlier and later events, without an understanding of which the Renaissance and Baroque developments would be only partially intelligible.

The history of urban design and architecture in Rome will be treated more thoroughly and systematically than the arts of painting and sculpture, but these latter topics will occasionally be our main focus, and will often be a secondary one.

While the overall organization of the syllabus is essentially a chronological one, each lecture tends to reflect other criteria of selection as well: topographic (a particular zone of the city); typological (a particular architectural type, e.g. the 16th-century palazzo); monographic (the work of a single artist).

Class sessions will be held during morning hours, beginning at 9:00 and ending about 13:00. We will sometimes meet at Palazzo Lazzaroni for an introductory lecture, but often we will have our appointment "on site" and will utilize photocopied materials in the course handbook to provide those crucial visual documents needed to understand our objects of study.

There are required readings coordinated with the lectures. These are listed in the last pages of the course bibliography.

There will be a mid-term examination and a final examination, as well as a project or paper, the exact nature of which will be determined in the early weeks of the course. Exams may include sites visited on field trips that are related to the periods and themes of the course. Attendance at all class sessions is required.

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1. A Survey of the Urban History and Structure of Rome
Itinerary: Sections of the Central Campus Martius
2. The Center of Rome, Ancient and Modern: Stratification and Transformation
Itinerary: Piazza Venezia, Palazzo Venezia, Campidoglio, Forum Boarium, Santa Maria in Cosmedin, Aventine, Santa Sabina, Knights of Malta Complex
3. Castel Sant'Angelo and the City of Rome across the Centuries
Itinerary: Castel Sant'Angelo, the Papal Way
4. Renaissance Palaces
Itinerary: Palazzo della Cancelleria, Palazzo Vidoni, Palazzo Maccarani, Palazzo Baldassini, Palazzetto Leroy, Palazzo Massimo alle Colonne, Palazzo Farnese, Palazzo Spada
5. The Basilica of San Pietro, from Bramante to Bernini
Itinerary: San Pietro
6. The Vatican Palaces
Itinerary: Belvedere Court, Bramante Stair, Museo Pio-Clementino, Chapel of Nicholas V, Logge and Stanze of Raphael, Sistine Chapel
7. Renaissance Villa and Garden Design
Itinerary: Villa Farnesina and Villa Giulia
8. Michelangelo
Itinerary: Campidoglio, San Pietro in Vincoli, Santa Maria Maggiore, (Santa Maria degli Angeli, Porta Pia)
9. Longitudinal Plan Churches of the Counter-Reformation and their Baroque Decoration

10. The Galleria Borghese: Caravaggio and Bernini, among others
Itinerary: San Luigi dei Francesi, Sant' Agostino, Palazzo Borghese, Galleria Borghese

11. The Urban Transformations of Sixtus V and Baroque Monuments in the Zone of the Quirinale
Itinerary: Piazza del Quirinale, Sant'Andrea al Quirinale, San Carlino alle Quattro Fontane, Santa Maria della Vittoria (Cornaro Chapel), Palazzo Barberini

12. Borromini and Pietro da Cortona
Itinerary: Oratory Complex, Santa Maria della Pace, Sant'Agnese in Piazza Navona, Sant'Ivo

13. Borromini
Itinerary: San Giovanni in Laterano, Propaganda Fide Complex, Sant'Andrea delle Fratte

Mid-Term Examination: Wednesday, 21 October

Projects Due: Monday, 16 November

Final Examination: Wednesday, 16 December

Field Trips related to this course (your attendance is expected):

Palestrina, Villa d'Este at Tivoli, Hadrian's Villa: Saturday
Caprarola, Bagnaia, Bomarzo:

Relative value of assigned work in determination of final grade:

Attendance and Participation, 10%; Mid-term Exam, 30%;
Final Exam, 30%; Project, 30%