



ART 399 CityLab: Florence & Milan

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Program Dates: Summer B program / June 22 - July 23, 2020 4 weeks

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

What does it mean to be a tourist? How can we understand ourselves in a city that is not our own? How can we shift, notice, and experience more deeply Italy's beautiful cities as we engage with local people, places, and art? And once we do, how can we reflect this in our creative work? These are the questions we will be asking during this immersive study abroad experience.

Over the course of four weeks, Florence will act as our home and will fuel our thinking about tourism, the nature of place, and of course, art. The program will include a two-day trip to Milan to experience the trends in contemporary art, design, and fashion as well as day trips within and outside of Florence. Throughout the program, students will be introduced to people and places who will inspire a complex understanding of the cities' history, creative and contemporary life.

Students will explore the city, map those experiences in a variety of ways, and give and take 'detours' of less commonly visited places. As they collect information students will develop a personal relationship with an area of the city and use this to inspire their artmaking.

City Lab: Florence is directed to students who are majoring or minoring in Art Practice, Graphic Design, and Art History. This course will count for 8 credits. Students can use this credit towards required elective coursework in the Art Practice program.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The objective of this course is to expose students to various processes and tools for working in creative practice. In this course, students will:

- Learn to navigate and engage in unfamiliar cities as a site for creative research, exploration and inspiration.
- Heighten awareness of the experience of tourism and recognize the way one's own culture informs/influences worldview, values, beliefs and biases in other places.
- Recognizes and understands the value of curiosity and openness during interactions with other cultures.

- Recognize and demonstrate the ability to support the feelings of another cultural group and peer travelers.
- Communicate discoveries in writing, discussion, and creative output.

INTERNATIONAL INTERACTION:

Students will engage in daily Fieldwork exercise where they will engage with local sites and hosts. These will include:

- Gallery and museum visits
- Tours of sites of historic and contemporary significance
- Workshops and discussions with local artists and makers
- Collaborative activities that engage local public spaces

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Participation & Engagement (20%)

This class relies heavily on daily interactive demonstrations and discussions for delivering content. You will be expected to actively participate and engage every class period, during CoLab, and at end of term CORE Exhibitions/Events. Participating means arriving on time, with supplies, prepared to work, and making sure that your workplace is clean when you leave. It also means being engaged in in class activities and daily assignment discussions. Coming to class unprepared, arriving late, leaving early, texting, emailing, and working on unrelated projects during class will affect your grade. Attendance at the CoLab dinner seminars will be figured into this part of your grade.

Fieldwork (40%)

Fieldwork is directed process work that where you explore the city in a way that informs the individual projects. It will include readings, journal work, sketching, material investigation, collaborative exercises, field trips, studio visits, film/media excerpts. Fieldwork is intended to inform and expand your thinking related to your individual projects. Fieldwork assignments should be documented and assembled into a shared folder on Google Drive.

Projects (40%)

This class will include three projects developed around the theme of tourism and relates to the location where we visit. Over the course of the term you will complete three projects that investigate this theme using mediums, concepts, and processes related to surface, space and time. Specific prompts for each project will be outlined in an assignment sheet that are distributed at the beginning of each section.

Projects should reflect a thoughtful and intentional response to the thematic topic being addressed. These projects will be reviewed on their assigned due date in the form of a critique. Critiques are very important, not only the development of your project, but for gaining practice in discussing your intentions and helping others see what's working or not for their projects. The better you can talk about your work, the better you can understand it and defend it.

When evaluating projects, the following criteria will be considered:

- Assignment prompt addressed
- Creativity / uniqueness of approach
- Investigations of skills / concepts
- Craft / intention in final product
- Risk taking outside comfort zone
- Aesthetic strength

EVALUATION

Your overall grade will be evaluated on the following:

A (Excellent): Work demonstrates a rigorous investigation of idea. Assignment completed on time and executed well. Insightful contributions made to either in-class or online discussion. Substantially exceed the minimum requirements of the assignment.

B (Good): Work demonstrates a substantial investigation of ideas with attention to good craftsmanship. Assignment completed on time, and insightful contributions to critiques and class discussions. Minimum requirements of the assignment are exceeded.

C (Average): Assignments done competently and on time. Minimal contributions are made in class or online. 3 + Absences

D (Passing): Two or more late projects with limited investigation of ideas, poor craftsmanship, and minimal contributions made in class or online. 4+ Absences.

F (Fail): Late/Incomplete completed projects with minimal idea development, poor craftsmanship, and a lack of participation in class and online. 5+ Absences.

Grades for Participation & Engagement and Fieldwork will be given at the end of the Florence session. You will receive the grade for your final project following the exhibition in fall term. Attendance is mandatory and you are expected to come to class each day, with your supplies, ready to work. Attendance issues will significantly affect your grade.

Please do not come to class if you are sick with a contagious cold or flu. Instead email the instructor prior to class. You are responsible for making up work missed due to absences. If you have an ongoing illness or disability that requires flexible attendance, make sure to contact the DRC during the first week of the term to discuss possible accommodations.

COURSE CALENDAR

DAY	AM	PM	EVENING
Monday	Student Check In		
Tuesday	SRISA Orientation		Welcome Party
Wednesday	Market Tours	Studio	Pasta Making
Thursday	Renaissance Walk	Studio	Evening Walk / Lecture
Friday	Fieldwork	Studio	
Saturday			
Sunday			
Monday	Craft Tour: Paper	Studio	
Tuesday	Neighborhood Residency	Studio	Evening Walk
Wednesday	Day Trip: Centro Loris Malaguzzi		
Thursday	Uffizi	Studio	Evening Lecture
Friday	Fieldwork	Studio	
Saturday			
Sunday			
Monday	Craft Tour: Leather	Studio	
Tuesday	Neighborhood Residency	Studio	Evening Lecture
Wednesday	Travel to Milan / Hangar Bicocca		
Thursday	Triennale di Arte Decorativa		Evening Walk
Friday	Armani Silos / Return from Milan		
Saturday			
Sunday			
Monday	Craft Tour: Weaving	Studio	
Tuesday	Neighborhood Residency	Studio	Evening Walk
Wednesday	Day Trip: San Gimignano		
Thursday	La Specola	Studio	Opera
Friday	Fieldwork	Studio	
Saturday			
Sunday			
Monday	Garden Tour	Studio	Evening Lecture
Tuesday	Neighborhood Residency	Studio	
Wednesday	Final Exhibition		Final Dinner
Thursday	Student Check Out		

TECHNOLOGY

Laptops are not required for this course, however we highly recommend bringing a smartphone or tablet with wifi capability for navigation, research, and staying connected.

SUPPLIES + MATERIALS

Material kits are provided for many of the activities. You may decide that you need to purchase additional items.

TEXTS:

Texts will be supplied by faculty in a digital format. In addition, you may want to purchase a guide to Italy that concentrates on Florence and/or Venice as well as a map.

ADDITIONAL POLICIES

This class relies heavily on demonstrations for delivering content. These will not be repeated. It is the student's responsibility to get missed information due to absence outside of regular class time.

Independent work time is an opportunity to use class time towards making progress on your projects.

Expect to spend at least 6 hours each day working on projects and fieldwork outside of class.

Please be respectful of our shared space. Make sure that you leave your workspace clean. Move tables and chairs back into place following each class period. Do not store personal supplies or projects inside of the classroom. Failure to respect the shared classroom set up will affect your grade.

Technology should only be used for classroom purposes. No texting or cell phone conversations while in class. We will have periodic breaks during each class period for communication with the outside world.

Email through pdx.edu is the primary form of communication outside of class. If there is a reason to contact you I will use email. I expect that you will check your pdx.edu email account regularly.

Social Media. Core has their own Instagram at psu_core. Join us, message your name if you see something you created and follow us to see what other classes are doing. Most people like the chance to have a larger audience for their work, but if you prefer not to be featured then please share that information with your professor. And know if there is something that you want removed, all you have to do is email or post us a message on psu_core. If we don't hear from you we will assume you are onboard!

CLASSROOM CULTURE

In studio art courses the content of the work can sometimes be challenging. Students, as well as faculty, have a responsibility for creating and maintaining an environment that supports effective learning.

NAMES AND GENDER PRONOUNS

Class rosters are based on legal names; however, I am happy to honor your request to address you by your preferred name and gender pronouns. Please advise me at your earliest convenience. If you need support around this in general, please be aware that the PSU Queer Resource Center can provide advocacy.

CAMPUS RESOURCES

Students with disabilities <http://www.pdx.edu/drc/>

Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty and the Disability Resource Center (DRC). Students with accommodations approved through the DRC are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through the DRC should contact the DRC immediately at 503-725-4150.

Campus Safety <http://www.pdx.edu/sexual-assault/> Campus Safety Phone - (503) 725-4404

If you have not done so already, please complete the Safe Campus Module in D2L. The module should take approximately 30-40 minutes to complete and contains important information and resources. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources on PSU's Enrollment Management & Student Affairs Sexual Misconduct Prevention & Response website

PSU's Student Code of Conduct makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are strictly prohibited and offenses are subject to the full realm of sanctions, up to and including suspension and expulsion.

Title IX

As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment for my students and for the campus as a whole. We expect a culture of professionalism and mutual respect in our department and class. You may report any incident of discrimination or discriminatory harassment, including sexual harassment, to either the [Office of Equity and Compliance](#) or the [Office of the Dean of Student Life](#).

Please be aware that as a faculty member, I have the responsibility to report any instances of sexual harassment, sexual violence and/or other forms of prohibited discrimination. If you would rather share information about sexual harassment or sexual violence to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can find [a list](#) of those individuals.

Portland State Code of Student Conduct and Responsibility

<http://www.pdx.edu/dos/psu-student-code-conduct>.