Art 103 History of Western Art
Wake Forest University
Eurotour Bernadine Barnes
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Summer 2012 (Please note—this syllabus is still under construction; please check back in March for a final version).

Course description:
This course offers you the opportunity to learn about the history of Western art from antiquity to the present by studying major works in museums and at historic sites in the cities we will visit this summer. You will be introduced to important artists, art works, and monuments, as well as major themes associated with the art of particular periods and cultures. Studying the history of art in Europe’s major cities will help you understand many of those images better—where and how they originated; how they articulate the assumptions and values of their makers, their patrons, and their audience; and how certain works ended up in particular cities and museums.

Course goals. By the end of this course you should be able to

- Recognize styles of particular regions, time periods, and individual artists; be able to describe how styles change through time.
- Understand how religion, literature, philosophy, and politics inform the meaning of works of art
- Learn to analyze visually a work of art and apply that skill to works you have not seen before. Compare works within genres, and attribute works to main artists.
- Demonstrate the ability to recognize historic styles and variations of them in local buildings.
- Learn how to find information about works of art, and critically assess and summarize that information.
- Use visual analysis to write a critical review of an exhibit.

Book and readings
Fred Kleiner and Christin J. Mamiya, Gardner’s Art Through the Ages: a Concise History, 2nd edition (I recommend the e-book; the paperback is fine, but you’ll be carrying it around Europe. It is possible to share a book with another student on the trip; let me know if I can help you facilitate that.)

Additional readings will be posted as PDFs on Sakai and Google Documents. Since we may have times when internet access is sketchy or unavailable, I recommend printing these readings out before departure. We will also be using museum websites for extensively.

Course Requirements:

- Promptness, attendance, and participation (discussing works in museums) are mandatory.
- 2 short papers (about 3 pages each). One on architecture; one on paintings or sculpture (more details to come).
- 2 Tests. Establishing a chronological sequence of stylistic development will be a challenge in this class. To help you understand the sequence there will be a final exam (with a mid-term quiz).
- A visual journal. An illustrated journal (electronic or paper) in which you will write about some of the works and cities we will see on the tour.

Schedule of Topics and Visits
Amsterdam 1: Artists and their lives
Visit to the Rijksmuseum and the Van Gogh museum
Begin visual journals

Paris 1: Surveying the history of art
Visit to the Louvre Museum: Egypt/Classical/Renaissance/18th/19th

Paris 2: Gothic architecture
Visit to Notre Dame and Ste-Chapelle
Optional: Musee d’Orsay or Georges Pompidou Centre (independent visits)

**Rome: Classical art and its revivals (Renaissance and Baroque)**
Visit to the Vatican Museum (Sistine Chapel); walking tour of Rome (Pantheon, Bernini fountains, Caravaggio paintings, etc.)

**Florence: The Early Italian Renaissance**
Visit to Uffizi Gallery; Accademia; selected churches

**Venice 1: Venetian architecture (Byzantine, Islamic, and Renaissance traditions)**
Piazza San Marco; visit to the Academia (Optional visit to Peggy Guggenheim Collection for modern art)

**Venice 2: Venetian painting in the Renaissance**
Visit to the Accademia and selected churches and scuole
Optional visit to the Peggy Guggenheim Museum (modern art)

**Prague—Budapest—Krakow**
Exploring the visual traditions of eastern Europe. Specific sites to be announced at a later date.

**Berlin 1: Ancient Masterpieces**
Visit to the Pergamonmuseum

**Berlin 2: Flemish Painting and Northern Renaissance**
Visit to the Gemäldegalerie

**Copenhagen: Roman and Egyptian art**
Ny Carlsberg Glyptothek (Optional—Danish design)
[FYI: museums in Copenhagen are free on Wednesdays!]

**London 1: Ancient Greece; medieval Britain**
British Museum

**London 2: Surveying art (again)**
National Gallery

**London 3: Contemporary architecture and art**
Tate Modern; walking tour.
Florence
The Accademia, www.accademia.firenze.it, or en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Accademia_di_Belle_Arti_Firenze

San Marco’s Convent, www.firenzemusei.it/00_english/sanmarco

Santa Maria Novella, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santa_Maria_Novella

Budapest
Museum of Fine Arts, www.szepmuveszeti.hu


Hungarian National Gallery, www.mng.hu/en


Krakow
Czartoryski Museum, www.muzeum.krakow.pl/?L=1

Stanislaw Wyspiański Museum, www.muzeum.krakow.pl/?L=1

Berlin


Berlinisher Galerie, www.berlinischegalerie.de/index.php?id=270&L=1

Copenhagen
Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, www.louisiana.dk/uk

London
Victoria and Albert Museum, www.vam.ac.uk

Wallace Collection, www.wallacecollection.org

Courtauld Institute of Art, www.courtauld.ac.uk

Tate Modern, www.tate.org.uk/modern