

Art History

All art history courses taught at the Istituto Europeo consist of a combination of in-class lectures and on-site visits to Florence's museums and monuments.

ARH 100A Survey of Art History A – Classical Greece to Renaissance – 3 credits (45 hours)

An introductory course for students who have no, or little background in art history. This course covers the evolution of artistic expression in Western civilizations, from Classical and Hellenic Greek art, to the Rise and Fall of the Roman Empire, through the religious fervor of Middle Ages (Byzantine, Romanesque and Gothic art), to the rebirth of classical ideals in 15th century Florence. Particular consideration is given to the Early Renaissance artists, such as: Donatello, Brunelleschi, Masaccio, Botticelli and the early work of Leonardo and Michelangelo.

ARH 100 B Survey of Art History B – High Renaissance to 19th century– 3 credits (45 hours)

An introductory course for students who have no, or little background in art history. This course covers the evolution of artistic expression in Europe from the Age of the Italian Renaissance masters: Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo and Raphael, to the dramatic explosion of the Baroque masters: Bernini, Caravaggio and Borromini. From the decadence of the Rococo, through the Neo-classicism and Romanticism of the French Revolution and the Age of Napoleon, to the dawning of Modern Art, with French Impressionism and the Italian *Macchiaioli*.

ARH 210 Italian Art of the Middle Ages– 3 credits (45 hours)

This course focuses on the art produced during the three principle movements of the Middle Ages: Byzantine, Romanesque and Gothic. Often referred to as the Dark Ages, due to political unrest, wars, and the barbaric invasions, the Middle Ages actually produced vast quantities of religious artwork, illuminated manuscripts, mosaics, and constructed some of the world's most impressive cathedrals. The social position of the artist in this period will be discussed as well as the relationship between the artist and the wealthy noble patrons. Special attention will be given the Gothic art produced in Florence and Siena, and the political, social and economic factors, which allowed this art to flourish and paved the road for the Renaissance.

ARH 250 Early Italian Renaissance – 15th century– 3 credits (45 hours)

The period which runs roughly from 1400-1500 is known as the Early Renaissance. It was a century of incredible cultural growth and artistic talent (especially in Florence). Leon Battista Alberti's phrase "Man can do all things, if he wills" perfectly describes the well-rounded, Renaissance man, capable of undertaking many endeavors. Economic and political stability, combined with the rediscovery of classical ideals in art, literature and humanistic philosophy, caused an cultural revolution. The new humanistic approach, so different than the god-centered universe of the Middle Ages, allowed space for exploration, innovation and freedom of expression. Science and art intermingled to create a new, more realistic and intellectual style. Some of the artists to be studied in this course are Brunelleschi, Donatello, Ghiberti, Masaccio, Fra Angelico, Piero della Francesca, Fra Filippo Lippi, Boticelli, Verrocchio, and the young works of Leonardo da Vinci, and Michelangelo.

ARH 255 Early Italian Renaissance – 15th century (in Italian) – 3 credits (45 hours)

Pre-requisite: 3 semesters of Italian language or equivalent. This course follows the same description as **ARH 250**, however the lessons are taught in Italian. If there are fewer than 5 students enrolled in the course, it will be offered as an Independent Study. This means that the weekly contact hours with the professor will be cut in half and the remaining hours will be made up independently by the students.

ARH 300 High Renaissance and Mannerism– 3 credits (45 hours)

The artwork of Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo Buonarroti, greatly affected the artists of their time. The period known as the High Renaissance in fact, begins with these two artists and their younger counterpart, Raffaello Sanzio. The High Renaissance style migrates from Florence to new cultural centers, namely Venice and Rome, while in Florence, a new style defined as Mannerism emerges. In its origins, Mannerism was to be the imitation of the High Renaissance style, however it soon became the antithesis of the simple, balanced, and logical style of the late 15th century. The course concentrates on artists such as: Michelangelo, Leonardo, Raffaello, Titian, Vasari, Pontormo, Rosso Fiorentino, Buontalenti, Giambologna and Cellini.

ARH 305 High Renaissance and Mannerism (in Italian) - 3 credits (45 hours)

Pre-requisite: 3 semesters of Italian language or equivalent. This course follows the same description as **ARH 305**, however the lessons are taught in Italian. If there are fewer than 5 students enrolled in the course, it will be offered as an Independent Study. This means that the weekly contact hours with the professor will be cut in half and the remaining hours will be made up independently by the students.