

Summer in Rome 2015 Course Offerings & Descriptions

All courses are worth a total of 4.5 credits

PLEASE NOTE: Drexel students take 2 courses (9 credits) on the Summer in Rome program. In addition, ALL Drexel student participants MUST either take an online section of a Drexel summer course OR conduct an independent study research project with a Drexel faculty member in order to maintain fulltime student status of 12 credits. Failure to do so can result in billing and financial aid consequences.

MUSC 130 (3 cr) + MUSC 380 (1.5 cr): MUSIC APPRECIATION

An appreciation and analysis from the viewpoint of the listener of the representative works in Western art tradition, covering for example, selected masterworks of Bach, Handel, Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven, Brahms, Tchaikovsky, Bartok, Mahler, Stravinsky, and Schoenberg. This survey class is for any student and no previous knowledge of or about music is required.

Professor's Addendum: This course is an overview of the history of Western Art Music. The course will consist of lectures, discussion, video & listening examples, reading assignments, and attendance at live musical events throughout Rome and Naples. Guest lectures and concerts will include professors from the Accademia Nazionale Santa Cecilia Conservatory and the Auditorium Parco della Musica, the premier arts complex of Italy. Students will learn the basic elements of music and acquire knowledge of the periods of music history, including major composers, styles, and selected works. Special emphasis will be placed on the music of Italy, and in particular, Rome, from the Renaissance works of Palestrina, the operas of Rossini, Bellini, and Verdi, to the 20th and 21st century works of Respighi, Luciano Berio, Franco Donatoni, and Salvatore Sciarrino. No music background necessary. Fieldwork will include attending concerts and a daytrip to see an opera in Naples at the Teatro San Carlo.

MUSC 380: CONTEMPORARY MUSIC IN ITALY

Description: Prerequisite: consent of department. Specific areas of interest will be studied under the direction of a faculty member. This course has a major fieldwork component with concerts in Rome, lectures at the Accademia Nazionale Santa Cecilia and the Auditorium Parco della Musica, as well as visits to contemporary art galleries and museums including the MACRO, Gagosian, The Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, MAXXI, as well as pop-up new music concerts, installations, and happenings.

Professor's Addendum: A study of 20th and 21st century practices, techniques, and schools of contemporary music in Italy, emphasizing intersections with visual art. Beginning with the experimental Futurist *musique concrète* of composer and painter Luigi Russolo, the Nationalistic music of Ottorino Respighi, and the late Realist opera of Puccini, we will examine the rise, fall, and diversification of several genres including instrumental, electronic, sacred music, and opera in Italy from approximately 1924 to the present day. Particular attention is paid to post-war composers Luciano Berio, Luigi Nono, and Salvatore Sciarrino. Students will explore the highly heterogeneous regional characteristics of Italy (e.g. the polyphonic changing *tenores* of Sardinia and the Arabic monody of the South) and how the vernacular has influenced composers and artists alike. Modern Pop and its continued influence on "classical" music and "high" art will also be discussed through the lens of Italian politics and history.

ARTH 465: Art Appreciation

An introduction to art in which the visual elements and principles are examined through a study of the key monuments in the history of art from cave paintings to the present. Important styles of painting, sculpture, architecture, and twentieth century media are explored with attention to the personalities of the artists and the cultures in which they lived. As this class is in Rome, special attention will be made to Renaissance and Classical Roman art as well as contemporary Italian art. A trip to Venice for the 56th Biennale - the oldest art event of its kind will bring a great focus to the art of our time.

ENGL 325: The Roman World in Literature and Film

Recently--and not so recently--the viewing public has been bombarded with cinematic renderings of the classical world. Whereas films such as *Gladiator* set records at the box office, regrettably few viewers go to the trouble of familiarizing themselves with the rich store of literature that serves as inspiration for these blockbusters and to a large extent as the basis for the study of Western civilization itself. This course sets out to fill the gap between celluloid depictions of antiquity and the literary heritage of the Roman world. We will examine how contemporary film understands and presents the past, to what extent films based in antiquity are disconnected from the stories and historical issues that

inspired them, and what connections might exist and how those connections might help us better understand both classical literature and modern film. In order to achieve these objectives, students will develop an understanding of Roman literature and culture through texts, such as Suetonius' *Twelve Caesars* and Plautus' *Pseudolus*, and excursions, such as an underground tour of the Colosseum and hands-on instruction in gladiatorial combat. Literature and experiential learning will in turn serve as the basis for understanding how modern culture has re-visioned the ancient world in cinematic texts such as Ridley Scott's *Gladiator*, HBO's *Rome*, and Zero Mostel's famous version of *Pseudolus* in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*.

ARTH 465: Intro to Drawing

Intro to drawing in Rome is an opportunity to teach students the fundamentals of drawing in the midst of the art of the masters. Art students going back to the Renaissance have drawn figure studies from antiquity, studying anatomy from works of genius, which are both humbling and inspiring. Drawing field trips will be used for life drawing exercises and studio set up for drawing fundamentals.

****Westphal students may request that this course substitute VSST 110. The decision to substitute for VSST 110 is pending portfolio review by Westphal academic advisor.**