

HA970-30 Research in Medieval and/or Early Modern Art/Architectural History

20/21

Department

SCAPVC - History of Art

Level

Taught Postgraduate Level

Module leader

Louise Bourdua

Credit value

30

Module duration

10 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This module, taught in Venice, is focused on developing research and writing skills through the study of a specific area of Medieval and/or Early Modern art and/or architecture. Students will learn about significant scholarly debates among historians of art and/or architecture, analyse and evaluate their contributions.

Module aims

The module aims to equip students with advanced knowledge and understanding of a chosen area of study in Medieval and/or Early Modern art and/or architecture. It encourages students to develop their prior knowledge and understanding of art history at a higher level and undertake more focused and independent work. It enables students to make effective use of primary sources, both artistic and textual, in developing and completing a research project. It provides opportunities to develop research and writing skills whilst living in the city of Venice.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be

covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

The Basics: internet / library search tips and strategies

Conducting art historical research

Part I: how to select a topic (objects, monument, spaces)

Part II: how to identify secondary and primary sources (libraries, archives, image banks)

Part III: how to contextualise your finds in terms of the process of creation & meaning

Dealing with the visual: how to look; how to establish the original setting; basics of reconstruction

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Communicate ideas and findings about the topic at hand both orally and in writing, to peers and to tutors
- Acquire knowledge of particular moments in the history of artistic production during the medieval and/or early modern era
- Make critical use of both textual and visual evidence at higher level to analyse, interpret and explain select works of art and architecture
- Engage critically with both primary and secondary sources
- Frame appropriate research questions for art-historical investigation
- Deploy a range of methods and approaches for investigating, interpreting and explaining works of art
- Use research libraries, archives, and art collections effectively to locate visual and textual sources
- Use scholarly conventions for presenting and referencing written work correctly
- Develop independent study skills, including planning and organizing of own learning

Indicative reading list

A Companion to Venetian History, 1400-1797, ed. E.R. Dursteler (Leiden, 2013)

E. Crouzet-Pavan, Venice triumphant: the horizons of a myth (Baltimore, 2002)

Joanne M Ferraro, Venice: History of the Floating City (Cambridge, 2012)

F.C. Lane, Venice, a Maritime Republic (Baltimore, 1973)

Patricia Fortini Brown, Venice & Antiquity: the Venetian Sense of the Past (New Haven and London, 1997)

Deborah Howard, The Architectural History of Venice (New Haven and London, 2002)

Peter Humfrey, Painting in Renaissance Venice (New Haven and London, 1995)

Norbert Huse and Wolfgang Wolters, The Art of Renaissance Venice: Architecture, Sculpture and Painting, 1460-1590 (Chicago, 1993)

Thomas F. Madden, Venice: A New History (Harmondsworth, 2013)

Margaret Plant, Venice: Fragile city, 1797-1997 (New Haven and London, 1997)

[View reading list on Talis Aspire](#)

Research element

Research under guidance from a tutor supervisor to encourage the development of research skills,

the critical application of methodology, and independent thinking.

Subject specific skills

Acquire knowledge of particular moments in the history of artistic production during the medieval and/or early modern era

Make critical use of both textual and visual evidence at higher level to analyse, interpret and explain select works of art and architecture

Frame appropriate research questions for art-historical investigation

Deploy a range of methods and approaches for investigating, interpreting and explaining works of art

Transferable skills

Use research libraries, archives, and art collections effectively to locate visual and textual sources

Use scholarly conventions for presenting and referencing written work correctly

Develop independent study skills, including planning and organizing of own learning

Engage critically with both primary and secondary sources

Communicate ideas and findings about the topic at hand both orally and in writing, to peers and to tutors

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Seminars	9 sessions of 2 hours (6%)
Tutorials	2 sessions of 1 hour (1%)
Private study	280 hours (93%)
Total	300 hours

Private study description

Required and recommended reading for seminar presentations and research for written assessments.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A1

	Weighting	Study time
Research Project 5,000 word research project	90%	
Engagement	10%	

Feedback on assessment

Written feedback and dedicated feedback tutorials

Availability

Pre-requisites

na

Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 1 of TRSA-V1PF Postgraduate Taught Culture of the European Renaissance

This module is Option list A for:

- Year 1 of THAA-V4P2 Postgraduate Taught History of Art
- Year 1 of THAA-V4PJ Postgraduate Taught History of Art and Visual Studies