“Art and Patronage in Renaissance and Baroque Rome" is a program designed for students who wish to enrich their academic curriculum with a stimulating cross-cultural experience in a foreign Country and gain a deeper understanding of a global, and multicultural, past and present. This course is intended to fulfill the requirements of the Arts Core, the Art History Major, and the Art History Minor by means of expanding the knowledge of the visual arts including its purposes, development, and relationship to other cultural expressions. The opportunity to enrich and deepen undergraduate education by studying the art in situ, as well as in the social and cultural context in which it was made, enhances the student's experience. Coming face to face with the innumerable art treasures in Rome and experiencing on-site classes (including gallery and museums tours, day trips and a two-day trip to Florence) will provide a unique opportunity to understand the works of art in depth, and to make connections between them and the urban context in which they were made.

Location: Italy, Rome
(with a two-day trip to Florence)
Dates: May 21 - June 18, 2016
Credits: 3
Application Deadline: February 5, 2016

Professor Guendalina Serafinelli earned her Ph.D. in Early Modern Art History and the Scuola di Specializzazione Diploma in Medieval and Early Modern Art History at Sapienza Università di Roma. She completed her post-doc at the Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts (CASVA) of the National Gallery of Art (Washington D.C.), where she worked as Research Associate. She worked as Cultore della Materia and Assistant at Sapienza Università di Roma, where she held research seminars in Renaissance and Baroque Art. She held several visiting professorships at the Catholic University of Asunción in Paraguay and for the University of Dayton at the Fondazione Comunità Domenico Tardini (Collegio Universitario Villa Nazareth) in Rome.
Course Objectives

• Improve the knowledge of major artists’ names and works of art, patrons’ names, chronology, sites, and basic terms used in art historical studies.
• Understand the foundational concepts and theories in art history.
• Expand high-level skills of empirical observation as well as visual and symbolic analysis of works of art, architecture and urban spaces, including the ability to identify the characteristics of Renaissance and Baroque style.
• Recognize and critically discuss the aesthetical values of a work of art both as a formal structure and in relation to the social, historical, and cultural contexts in which it was created.
• Develop critical thinking and ability to clearly articulate persuasive ideas as well as original interpretations by demonstrating an array of critical approaches to the study of art history and visual culture.
• Learn how to make a short oral presentation of a work of art by conducting independent research.

For More Information

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