ITL 308
The Italian Renaissance
S1 External 2016

Dept of International Studies

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Unit Convenor
Gianluca Alimeni
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Contact via gianluca.alimeni@mq.edu.au
W6A205

Credit points
3

Prerequisites
6cp in units at 200 level

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit introduces students to the Italian Renaissance, a key historical period that marked the point of departure from the medieval to the modern world, and laid the foundations for modern Western values and society. The unit provides an overview of the wide variety of aspects touched by this period of rapid change and development, from the arts and architecture, to science and politics, society and government, and introduces students to some of the key cultural achievements and figures of that period.

Important Academic Dates
Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates

Learning Outcomes
On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

- Have an understanding of the early Italian language development (through historical, geographical and cultural events)
- Have an understanding of (and be able to identify) painting techniques of this period and the thinking behind them
- Have an understanding of (and be able to identify) major architectural styles of this period and their development
- Be able to identify the major political and historical events that shaped cities like
Florence, Rome, Milan, and Italy at large
Be able to identify the major intellectual movements of the period
Have an understanding of the relationship between power and patronage

### Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quiz 1</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>Week 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay one</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Week 8 (class time)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay two</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>15 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quiz 2</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>Week 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar Participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>ongoing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Quiz 1

**Due:** **Week 7**  
**Weighting:** 7%

On-Line quiz covering readings and lecture material from week 1 to week 6.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Have an understanding of the early Italian language development (through historical, geographical and cultural events)
- Have an understanding of (and be able to identify) painting techniques of this period and the thinking behind them
- Have an understanding of (and be able to identify) major architectural styles of this period and their development
- Be able to identify the major political and historical events that shaped cities like Florence, Rome, Milan, and Italy at large
- Be able to identify the major intellectual movements of the period
- Have an understanding of the relationship between power and patronage

#### Essay one

**Due:** **Week 8 (class time)**  
**Weighting:** 30%

Choose one topic and create a 2000 words essay. **Make sure all material you use in the essay, whether quoted, rephrased or even largely summerised, is appropriately**
acknowledged in the notes [author(s), year of publication, publishing house, city and relevant page numbers] and all sources are listed in the bibliography.

Any common academic referencing standard can be used. Cover sheet must be included!

Topics will be provided in class

On successful completion you will be able to:

• Have an understanding of the early Italian language development (through historical, geographical and cultural events)
• Have an understanding of (and be able to identify) painting techniques of this period and the thinking behind them
• Have an understanding of (and be able to identify) major architectural styles of this period and their development
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• Have an understanding of the relationship between power and patronage

Essay two

Due: 15 June
Weighting: 40%

Choose one topic and create a 3000 words essay. Make sure all material you use in the essay, whether quoted, rephrased or even largely summarised, is appropriately acknowledged in the notes [author(s), year of publication, publishing house, city and relevant page numbers] and all sources are listed in the bibliography.

Any common academic referencing standard can be used. Cover sheet must be included!

Topics will be provided in class

On successful completion you will be able to:

• Have an understanding of the early Italian language development (through historical, geographical and cultural events)
• Have an understanding of (and be able to identify) painting techniques of this period and the thinking behind them
• Have an understanding of (and be able to identify) major architectural styles of this period and their development
• Be able to identify the major political and historical events that shaped cities like Flo
Florence, Rome, Milan, and Italy at large

- Be able to identify the major intellectual movements of the period
- Have an understanding of the relationship between power and patronage

**Quiz 2**

**Due:** *Week 12*  
**Weighting:** 8%

On-Line quiz covering reading and lecture material from week 7 to week 12.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Have an understanding of the early Italian language development (through historical, geographical and cultural events)
- Have an understanding of (and be able to identify) painting techniques of this period and the thinking behind them
- Have an understanding of (and be able to identify) major architectural styles of this period and their development
- Be able to identify the major political and historical events that shaped cities like
  Florence, Rome, Milan, and Italy at large
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**Seminar Participation**

**Due:** *ongoing*  
**Weighting:** 15%

Seminar participation is based on individual contribution on discussion of weekly topics and commitment of reading material as prescribed.

On successful completion you will be able to:

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- Have an understanding of (and be able to identify) major architectural styles of this period and their development
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  Florence, Rome, Milan, and Italy at large
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Have an understanding of the relationship between power and patronage

Delivery and Resources

Attendance to 75% of classes is compulsory. Delivery is in English: one hour lecture + one hour seminar weekly.

Students MUST complete prescribed readings (on iLearn) BEFORE coming to class.

The textbooks set for this unit are:


Unit Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Dante.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>The birth of painting: Giotto.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Easter break: a recording of the lecture will be made available on Echo360. Humanism: Francesco Petrarca.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Renaissance Society I: Merchants &amp; Bankers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Renaissance Society II: Love, Sex, Marriage –</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Florence in Boccaccio’s <em>Decameron</em>. <strong>QUIZ 1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Crisis and Transition: Florence, 1400. – <strong>Essay 1 due</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>The Rise of the Medici.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Art, Wealth, Power.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Machiavelli and the Republic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>The Art of Politics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>B. Castiglione: <em>The Courtier</em> - <strong>QUIZ 2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td><strong>Essay 2 due</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Prescribed compulsory readings can be found on iLearn. Make sure you complete the readings BEFORE coming to class.

NOTE: The above program is indicative only and may be changed if students progress or interest warrants it.

**Policies and Procedures**

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central. Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:


In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the Learning and Teaching Category of Policy Central.

**Student Code of Conduct**

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: [https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/)

**Results**

Results shown in iLearn, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in eStudent. For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au.

**Student Support**

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit [http://students.mq.edu.au/support/](http://students.mq.edu.au/support/)

**Learning Skills**

Learning Skills ([mq.edu.au/learningskills](http://mq.edu.au/learningskills)) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.
Graduate Capabilities

Creative and Innovative

Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Assessment tasks

- Essay one
- Essay two

Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative

We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement. They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Have an understanding of the early Italian language development (through historical,
geographical and cultural events)

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Assessment tasks

- Quiz 1
- Essay one
- Essay two
- Quiz 2
- Seminar Participation

Commitment to Continuous Learning

Our graduates will have enquiring minds and a literate curiosity which will lead them to pursue knowledge for its own sake. They will continue to pursue learning in their careers and as they participate in the world. They will be capable of reflecting on their experiences and relationships with others and the environment, learning from them, and growing - personally, professionally and socially.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Have an understanding of the early Italian language development (through historical, geographical and cultural events)
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Assessment tasks

- Quiz 1
- Essay one
- Essay two
- Quiz 2
- Seminar Participation

Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Have an understanding of the early Italian language development (through historical, geographical and cultural events)
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- Have an understanding of (and be able to identify) major architectural styles of this period and their development
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Assessment tasks

- Quiz 1
- Essay one
- Essay two
- Quiz 2
- Seminar Participation

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate
and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Have an understanding of the early Italian language development (through historical, geographical and cultural events)
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**Assessment tasks**

- Quiz 1
- Essay one
- Essay two
- Quiz 2
- Seminar Participation

**Problem Solving and Research Capability**

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Have an understanding of the early Italian language development (through historical, geographical and cultural events)
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period and their development

• Be able to identify the major political and historical events that shaped cities like Florence, Rome, Milan, and Italy at large

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• Have an understanding of the relationship between power and patronage

**Assessment tasks**

• Quiz 1

• Essay one

• Essay two

• Quiz 2

• Seminar Participation

**Effective Communication**

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

• Have an understanding of the early Italian language development (through historical, geographical and cultural events)

• Have an understanding of (and be able to identify) painting techniques of this period and the thinking behind them

• Have an understanding of (and be able to identify) major architectural styles of this period and their development

• Be able to identify the major political and historical events that shaped cities like Florence, Rome, Milan, and Italy at large

• Be able to identify the major intellectual movements of the period

• Have an understanding of the relationship between power and patronage

**Assessment tasks**

• Essay one

• Essay two

• Quiz 2

• Seminar Participation
Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation's historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Assessment task**

- Seminar Participation

**Late submissions**

Assignments are compulsory and must be submitted on time. As a general rule, extensions will not be granted without a valid and documented reason (e.g. medical certificate). Late submissions will be penalised by 5% for each day (including weekends) the assignment task is late. No assignments will be accepted after assignments have been corrected and feedback has been provided. Assignment tasks handed in early will not be marked and returned before the due date.