

ID 2242: Syllabus

History of Art and Architecture in Europe, Group 2, and 3 Credits

Summer 2026

Instructor Information

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General Course Information

Description

This course will encompass a survey of the visual arts, primarily sculpture, painting, and architecture, both secular and religious, of the West from the late Gothic to the mid-20th century. While traveling, some works outside of that scope will also be included in our studies due to our unique opportunity to see them. The week of class prior to departure for Europe will address general stylistic periods and movements as well as individual works and artists belonging to those categories through a five-day series of lectures with PowerPoint presentations, allowing for a combined visual and verbal learning experience. Class while traveling will be held in a similar classroom setting, as well as in museums, churches, and other such cultural venues, and during walking excursions through the cities visited

Course Learning Outcomes

Students are expected to:

*gain a general base of knowledge about the art and architecture of early modern and modern Europe and gain an understanding of the cultures and societies which produced the work.

*exhibit the above knowledge and understanding through not only memorization of the practical and factual information presented in the course, but also by distinguishing between the productions of the eras covered and producing original ideas about the relationships between works and their historical and cultural contexts.

*recognize the value and significance of the artistic and architectural artifacts of

the early modern and modern European world which may then be applied to the arts in general.

Required Course Materials

1. A travelbook of your choosing. *Frommer's*, *Rick Steve's*, *Eye Witness* are all suitable. The *Blue Guide* series is a more art-focused guidebook.
2. Course readings will be posted on Canvas
3. I will be providing **image list** and **PowerPoint files** with the key images and terms during our class at Tech; you should either print these pages and/or download these and your **syllabus** to your device before we head to the continent

Materials: While in Europe, you will be required to buy 13 postcards, which will be used for your writing assignments. A small notebook for note taking

PRE-DEPARTURE LECTURE SCHEDULE:

For each lecture, a list of the works covered, along with relevant terms, will be posted on the powerpoint. These lists are also meant to serve as preliminary guides for the museums that we will visit over the course of the summer, and thus, should be kept with the student throughout the semester. Given the amount of material to be covered during the week in Atlanta, the topics covered each day may vary, but all will ultimately be covered during the course of Atlanta and Europe lectures.

Pre-departure Lectures (Atlanta)

Day 1:	Principles of Art, European Art and Architecture prior to Early Modern Period
Day 2:	Gothic, Early Italian Renaissance, Italian Renaissance,
Day 3:	Italian High Renaissance, Mannerism, Venetian, Northern Renaissance
Day 4:	17th and 18 th Centuries
Day 5:	19 th and 20 th Centuries
Saturday, May 23:	EXAM 1 - TBD

Grading Policy:

The grading scale I employ is a traditional 100% system: A = 90-100%, B = 80-89%, C = 70-79%, D = 60-69%, F = 59% and below. Your final course grade will be calculated by the total number of points out of 391 earned on three exams (100 points each) and writing assignments composed while traveling (91 points).

Make a note of the dates below – only in emergency circumstances will a student be allowed to make up these assignments. **Since all classes do not progress at the same rate, it may be necessary to modify the syllabus requirements or their timing as circumstances dictate. Adequate notification will be given and will be discussed in class.**

Exam 1: May 23 (Atlanta)

Postcard submission 1: June 15

Exam 2: June 19 (Salzburg) – based on classroom availability

Postcard submission 2: June 27

Exam 3: June 27 (Bruges)

The exams will not be comprehensive in the regular sense, but be aware that, in this field of study, the student is building up a comprehensive set of ideas that must be brought to bear on any given exam. Thus, concepts and vocabulary covered at any point will be in use and tested throughout the semester, and you will commonly be called upon to remember an earlier work that was influential on a later one.

Exams will consist of my selection of the following types of questions: image identifications, multiple choice questions, True/False, fill-in-the-blank questions, and short answer questions. This type of exam is specifically designed to test the many aspects of learning art history: memorization of factual information, comprehension of historical and cultural information and context, and synthesis and subsequent application of information into a larger, or perhaps different, perspective. I will go over the type of exam question with sample questions before your first exam is held.

Assignments

Assignment	Points	Percentage
Exam 1	100	25.6%
Exam 2	100	25.6%
Exam 3	100	25.6%
Postcard Assignments	91	23.2%
Total	391	100%

Description of Graded Components

Final course grades are based on three exams and a series of postcard writing assignments completed throughout the study abroad experience. Grades are awarded on the Georgia Tech scale of A–F with no plus/minus grades.

Exams (300 points total; approximately 77% of final grade)

Students will complete three exams over the duration of the course: one during the pre-departure lectures in Atlanta and two while abroad. Each exam is worth 100 points.

Exams are designed to assess several aspects of art historical learning, including:

- Identification of works of art and architecture
- Knowledge of historical periods, artists, terminology, and stylistic characteristics
- Understanding of cultural, historical, and religious contexts
- Ability to synthesize information and make connections between works, movements, and ideas discussed throughout the course

Exams may include image identifications, multiple-choice questions, true/false questions, fill-in-the-blank questions, and short-answer responses. Although exams are not formally cumulative, students are expected to retain and apply concepts, vocabulary, and comparative material introduced earlier in the course.

Postcard Writing Assignments (91 points total; approximately 23% of final grade)

Over the course of the study abroad program, students will complete thirteen postcard assignments based on works of art, architecture, museums, churches, or cultural sites visited during the course. Each postcard is worth 7 points.

The postcard assignments are intended to develop close observation, critical reflection, and the ability to connect emotional and intellectual responses to course material. Students are expected

to demonstrate both factual understanding and thoughtful engagement with the objects and sites encountered during travel.

Each postcard will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Accuracy and quality of information presented
- Demonstration of knowledge acquired through lectures and site visits
- Clear articulation of an emotional or intellectual response
- Explanation of how course information informed or shaped that response
- Adherence to assignment directions and formatting requirements

Postcards must be based on course-related material encountered in the specific city or venue in which they are written and must follow all submission guidelines outlined in the syllabus.

Course Policies

Attendance and/or Participation

Because this course is conducted as a study abroad program across multiple cities and cultural sites in Europe, attendance and participation are essential components of the learning experience. Course content is delivered not only through lectures, but also through guided museum visits, churches, architectural sites, walking tours, and in-person observation of works of art and architecture. Students are therefore expected to attend and actively participate in all required course activities both in Atlanta and abroad.

Attendance is mandatory for:

- All pre-departure lectures held in Atlanta
- All lectures delivered abroad
- All required museum, church, architectural, and cultural site visits
- All required group academic activities associated with the course

Because much of the instruction occurs on-site and cannot be replicated outside of the travel experience, absences significantly impact both the individual student's learning and the collective academic experience of the group.

Absences

Excused absences are limited to documented illness, emergencies, Institute-approved activities, or other circumstances recognized under Georgia Tech policy. Students are responsible for communicating with the instructor as soon as reasonably possible regarding any absence.

Absences resulting from personal decisions, travel delays caused by poor planning, oversleeping, alcohol use, or failure to manage time responsibly will not be considered excused.

Each absence will result in a 5% reduction to the final course grade.

Absences include, but are not limited to:

- Missing a lecture or required site visit
- Failure to be present for roll call at the designated meeting time
- Leaving class or a site visit early without prior approval
- Being dismissed from a venue due to behavior or dress code violations
- Being visibly unable to participate in course activities
- Accumulating more than two tardies

Tardiness

Tardiness is defined as not being present and accounted for when roll is taken. Because many museums and historic sites operate on strict timed-entry schedules, late arrival may prevent both the individual student and the group from entering a venue smoothly and may disrupt the academic experience for others.

After two instances of tardiness, a 5% reduction will be applied to the final course grade.

Participation and Professional Conduct

Participation in this course includes being mentally and physically prepared to engage in lectures, discussions, and site visits. Students are expected to:

- Arrive on time and prepared for all activities
- Follow museum, church, and venue policies
- Conduct themselves respectfully and professionally
- Engage actively with lectures, discussions, and observations
- Use electronic devices only for course-related purposes during class activities

Behavior that interferes with the learning environment or prevents participation in course activities may be treated as an absence and may also result in additional disciplinary action through Georgia Tech study abroad policies.

Missed Course Content

Students are responsible for obtaining notes, announcements, and course information missed due to absence. Because many course activities occur on-site and involve direct observation and discussion of works in person, some missed experiences cannot be fully recreated outside of class. Students should therefore make every effort to attend all required activities throughout the duration of the program.

Academic Integrity

Georgia Tech aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity, and honor. Students are expected to act according to the highest ethical standards. [Review Georgia Tech's Honor Code](#) and the [student Code of Conduct](#).

Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarism on a quiz, exam, or assignment will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, who will investigate the incident and identify the appropriate penalty for violations.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, [contact the Office of Disability Services](#) (404-894-2563) as soon as possible to make an appointment to discuss your special needs and to obtain an accommodations letter. Please also e-mail me as soon as possible in order to set up a time to discuss your learning needs.

Student-Faculty Expectations Agreement

At Georgia Tech, we believe that it is important to strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect, acknowledgement, and responsibility between faculty members and the student body. [The Student-Faculty Expectations](#) articulate some basic expectations that you can have of me and that I have of you. In the end, simple respect for knowledge, hard work, and cordial interactions will help build the environment we seek. Therefore, I encourage you to remain committed to the ideals of Georgia Tech while in this class.

Course Expectations and Policies

Professional Conduct and Engagement

This course is conducted on-site in museums, churches, historic spaces, and cultural venues throughout Europe. Students are expected to conduct themselves professionally and respectfully at all times, both as representatives of Georgia Tech and as participants in a shared academic experience.

Students are expected to:

- Arrive on time and prepared for all course activities
- Follow all museum, church, and venue rules
- Participate attentively in lectures and site visits
- Treat fellow students, guides, staff, and local communities respectfully
- Maintain behavior appropriate to an academic environment

Behavior that disrupts the learning environment, interferes with course activities, or violates venue or program expectations may result in removal from activities, grade penalties consistent with attendance policies, and/or referral to program leadership.

Communication Expectations

Because this course involves extensive travel and daily group activities, students are encouraged to speak with the instructor directly whenever possible regarding questions or concerns about the course.

While traveling, access to email may be limited during portions of the day due to lectures, museum visits, and transportation schedules. Students should generally expect email responses within 24–48 hours depending on travel conditions and course activities.

Students are responsible for regularly checking their Georgia Tech email for announcements, schedule updates, and other course-related communications.

Electronic Devices

Electronic devices may be used during lectures and site visits only for course-related purposes, including:

- Accessing course materials
- Viewing assigned images
- Taking notes
- Referencing maps or schedules related to course activities

Non-course-related use of devices during class activities is not permitted. This includes texting, social media use, unrelated browsing, or unauthorized photography.

Students must also comply with all museum, church, and venue policies regarding photography, recording, and device use. Unauthorized recording or photographing of faculty, staff, guides, or fellow students is prohibited.

Repeated misuse of devices may result in removal from the activity or being marked absent for that class or site visit.

Dress and Site Expectations

Because the course includes visits to religious sites, museums, and formal cultural venues, students are expected to dress appropriately for all course activities.

Certain churches and historic sites enforce strict dress requirements, including restrictions on shorts, sleeveless clothing, and hats. Students are responsible for ensuring that they meet all site-specific dress expectations before arrival.

Students who are denied entry to a site because of inappropriate attire will be considered absent for that activity.

Comfortable walking shoes are strongly recommended due to the physical demands of the program and the extensive walking required throughout the course.

Makeup Exams and Late Work

Makeup exams are permitted only in cases of excused absences and at the instructor's discretion. Because of the travel schedule and logistical constraints of the program, some assessments may not be reasonably rescheduled.

Late postcard assignments will be reduced by one letter grade per day late unless prior arrangements have been approved by the instructor.

Students are responsible for submitting assignments in the required format and at the designated time and location.

Academic Integrity and Use of Artificial Intelligence

Students are expected to uphold the Georgia Tech Honor Code in all aspects of the course.

All written work and exams must represent the student's own original work unless otherwise authorized by the instructor. The use of AI-generated content for assignments or assessments is prohibited unless explicitly permitted.

Violations of academic integrity policies may result in a zero on the assignment, failure of the course, and/or referral to the Office of Student Integrity.

Accessibility and Student Support

Georgia Tech is committed to creating an inclusive learning environment for all students. Students who anticipate or experience barriers to learning are encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) to discuss accommodations and support resources.

Students approved for accommodations should meet with the instructor as early as possible to discuss implementation within the context of the study abroad program.

General Info and Guidelines for Europe:

- Although the other groups (and previous summers) are taking the same course title, our class is unique to our itinerary. We will cover similar material as the other groups, but there will be notable differences. Embrace the fact that yours is a unique experience.
- Whisperers – You are responsible to have your whisperers at every site visit. Do not share headphones with your friends. The Group Leader will have more information regarding the care and upkeep of your whisperer.
- **Europe, while is very enjoyable, is not your playground.** Any instances of bad behavior including, but not limited to, breaking the law, public drunkenness (including IN HOTELS), vandalism, not following house rules, or disrespecting the people, the culture, and/or the monuments of the places we visit will not be tolerated and will be subject to disciplinary action.
- **There is to be no drinking or being drunk during class/site visits.** Any indication of drinking will result in you being dismissed from class and subject to the above attendance policies. Although we are in Europe, you are in a class at Tech and subject to the same policies as being on campus.
- **The bus is also to be respected.** It is your home away from home, which you then share with 55 other people. Everyone must take a shower the morning of departures! There is nothing worse than sitting on a bus for 8 hours and smelling any excesses from the night before. These are nice vehicles, and the drivers are responsible for them. Pick up your own trash (trash bags provided for you on the bus), don't get too rowdy or too loud, and, above all, do not ruin everyone else's trip by stinking it up. Your driver is *especially* to be respected – he/she is in charge on the bus, and not your servant, and the reason we are able to get to where we need to go.
- Drugs are not allowed; remember that not only are they illegal here, if you get caught with or are found purchasing illicit materials overseas, it will be far more challenging to get a lawyer and obtain bail in another country.

- Stick together: do not leave anyone to walk home or check out the cities on his/her own. These are foreign places: most of you probably do not speak the languages and, with so much changing of hotels, might not remember where you are staying if you get off course. Take a card from each hotel to carry with you, take a map, and above all, take care of your fellow students.
- Head on a Swivel!! You will hear me say this several times during our time together. Europe is enjoyable, but you need to be aware of your surroundings. If I say, "Head on a Swivel" you need to immediately pay attention to me.

A Point to Remember:

While we will have an amazing time on this trip - and you will get a lot of leisure time - this is NOT a vacation. You are here to have a wonderful experience studying and learning for course credit at Georgia Tech.

Campus Resources for Students

Undergraduate Student Academic Success Resources:

Academic Support: Academic Success and Advising (a unit in the Office of Undergraduate Education & Student Success) provides free support for your courses. Students can attend scheduled supplemental review (PLUS) sessions, stop by Drop-In Tutoring, or schedule a one-on-one appointment through Knack. To explore what options work best for you, please visit us online at success.gatech.edu/tutoring, email us at tutoring@gatech.edu, or come see us at Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons, Suite 283.

Student Well-Being:

At Georgia Tech, we are concerned about your overall physical, social, and mental well-being. A [comprehensive list](#) of wellness related resources has been compiled and maintained by the Office of the Vice President for Student Engagement and Well-being ([student-resource-guide \(gatech.edu\)](#))

The above schedule and procedures are subject to change as I or Georgia Tech administration deem necessary

This syllabus is an agreement between the professor and student to respectively provide and complete a worthy learning experience. By remaining a registered student in this course, the student has identified their understanding of the obligations set forth in this syllabus for satisfactory completion of the course.