



CLASSICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Prof. Lisa Rosselli, Prof. Chiara Tarantino

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME IN HUMANITIES

2020/21 Academic Year

Learning outcomes

Knowledge

This course will provide an introduction to the history, archaeology and material culture of Classical civilizations from the Iron Age to the Roman Empire. Particular attention will be paid on the study of Greece, from the Geometric to the Hellenistic period, and of Italian territory (and more specifically Etruria and Rome) before and during the long period of Roman domination, considering both archaeological and historical-artistic contexts.

Skills

At the end of the course students will demonstrate a basic knowledge of the ancient civilizations with specialized skills in the field of Classical Archaeology, especially regarding the most significant historical and cultural aspects of the first millennium BC. During lectures and visits the course aims to provide students with the tools to read figurative documents in their functional and iconographic characteristics.

Behaviors

Through activities and experiences proposed in this course students will be able to develop active behavior applying in individual and group research.

Teaching methods

First part: 12 hours of classroom lesson: 6 lessons, two time a week in the afternoon (after 15.00).

Second part: 14 hours of classroom lesson: 7 lessons, two time a week in the afternoon (after 15.00).

At the end of the course will be proposed two off-site lessons:

1) off-site lesson in the ancient Etruscan city of Marzabotto: tour of the archaeological area (2 hours) and museum (2 hours).

2) off-site lesson in Rome: visit of Museum of Palazzo Massimo (2 hours), Colosseum (1 hour), Arch of Constantine (1 hour), Roman forum (2 hours). This tour will be on Saturday.



Syllabus

Lesson 1

Introduction to classical archaeology: time and space

Approaching classical art and archaeology. Art replicas in the classical world. Relationship between Greek statues and Roman copies. Technique of casting bronze statues and plaster copies. Archaeological plaster casts collections. The Collection of the University of Pisa.

FOCUS on: Statue of Penelope, Sophocles statues, Discobolus, Bronzes from Riace.

Lesson 2

Classical myths and their representations. FOCUS on: Athena and Marsyas by Myron, Hanging Marsyas, *Arrotino*.

Lesson 3

Ancient art, contemporary emotions. Do ancient artworks express emotions we recognize? Do they raise emotions in us? Why? We will look at the answers to these questions together.

FOCUS on: Tyrannicides group, Laocoon.

Lesson 4

A framework of Greek archaeology. Archaic, Classical and Hellenistic artistic productions: pottery.

FOCUS on: Geometric style pottery, Corinthian pottery, black-gloss pottery, Attic black-figure pottery, Attic red-figure pottery.

Lesson 5

A framework of Greek archaeology. Archaic, Classical and Hellenistic artistic productions: sculpture.

FOCUS on: Kuroi and korai, Doryphoros and Diadoumenos by Polykleitos, Hermes from Olympia by Praxiteles, Dying Gaul, Ludovisi Gaul.

Lesson 6

Greek Athletics and the Great Festivals. Terminology and athletic practices. Origins of Greek athletics and the great festivals. Athletes and fame. Athens and the Panathenaia. Representations of Athena.

FOCUS on: Terme Boxer, Apoxyomenos by Lysippos, Acropolis of Athens, Parthenon, Pheidias, panathenaic amphoras.



Lesson 7

Discovering the Etruscans. Who are the Etruscans? What do we know about the Etruscans? The beginning of the Etruscan culture: the Villanovan Period. The Etruscans and the Greek culture.

FOCUS on: Villanovan villages and huts, burial customs and cinerary urns.

Lesson 8

The age of aristocracy. The development of the power of Etruscan aristocracy in the Orientalizing period: palaces, burials and necropolis.

FOCUS on: The tumuli of Cerveteri, palaces of Murlo and Acquarossa.

Lesson 9

Etruscan art and manufactures: Characterizing productions: pottery, bronze, jewelry, sculptures and reliefs.

FOCUS on: bucchero pottery, sanctuary of Portonaccio at Veii.

Lesson 10

Etruscan customs and traditions: banquet, religion and haruspicy. Language and inscriptions.

FOCUS on: some Etruscan inscriptions.

Lesson 11

Approaching Roman art and architecture – Roman portrait sculpture. Roman historical and funeral reliefs.

FOCUS on: portraits of Caesar and Augustus, Augustus from Prima Porta, Augustus Pontifex Maximus, Arch of Augustus in Susa, Column of Trajan in Rome.

Lesson 12

The Roman fora: The Roman forum. The imperial fora. Main architectural and artistic aspects.

Lesson 13

Pompeii, a Roman city. Discovering the plan of the city: with houses, temples, stores and buildings for entertainment.

Lesson 14

Off-site lesson in the ancient Etruscan city of Marzabotto: tour of the archaeological area and the local museum.



Lesson 15

Off-site lesson visiting the ancient Rome: visit of Museum of Palazzo Massimo, Colosseum, Arch of Constantine, Roman forum.

Assessment methods

Grades are based on attendance and active participation and discussion in class (30%) and on final written exam composed of 14 questions and 2 short essays (70%).

Notes

First part of the course: prof. Chiara Tarantino

Second part of the course: prof. Lisa Rosselli

The course will start in the second semester.