Syllabus

BEAUTY, LEADERSHIP AND INNOVATION

THIS SYLLABUS MAY UNDERGO SOME CHANGES.

– Classes are on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 11:00-1:00. At Università di Siena: San Niccolò, rooms 149, 366.
– Sections are on Monday, 10:45-12:00. At Università di Siena: San Niccolò, rooms TBA (Amelia) and TBA (Corrado).
– Field trips are usually on Friday; they last the entire day. There are two two-day trips on June 27-28 (Thursday-Friday) and July 5-6 (Friday-Saturday). In Siena you’ll have to walk to Porta Romana (0.2 miles). We usually leave at 7:30 AM and are back around 10:00 PM.
– Events and guided tours are preferably on Wednesday; they last two to three hours.
– Film screenings are usually on Wednesday in the afternoon; they are followed by a discussion with prof. Erspamer. All movies are in Italian with English subtitles. At Università di Siena: Padiglione esterno, room B.
– Italian dinners are usually on Tuesday.
– Aperitivo is usually on Monday.
– Weekends are usually free.
– Prof. Erspamer’s office hours are by appointment or on the bus during our Friday trips. In Siena: in the Refugio.
– Amelia’s office hours are TBA or by appointment. In Siena: in the Refugio.
– Corrado’s office hours are TBA. In Siena: in the Refugio.

#: indicates events that are meant for entertainment and are not part of the course.

No prerequisites
This is a very interdisciplinary course, and it is intended for and geared towards students with many different academic backgrounds. No prior courses in the humanities or economics are required. Actually, part of what makes the discussion in this course rich and incisive is the very fact that our group will be composed of students in the arts and humanities, laboratory sciences, and social sciences, all together in one classroom.
**Week 5**

Monday, July 15

Sections (schedule TBA).

- **Savor Siena walk** (2 hours; first group: 9:00 AM; second group: 11:00 AM; third group: 1:00 PM): taste cheeses, salami, ham, bread, olive oil, aged vinegar, wine, coffee, cakes, honey, saffron—with an emphasis on what is typical of Siena.


Tuesday, July 16 (room 149)


- 7:00 PM: Dinner at Contrada del Bruco (via del Comune 30). During the dinner each student is assigned to a *contrada* and will then participates in the preparations for the Palio and the ceremonies and events that precede it.

Wednesday, July 17 (room 149)


- 4:00 PM: Italy on screen (Padiglione esterno, room B): *Lazzaro felice*, directed by Alice Rohrwacher (2018).

Thursday, July 18

- **Field trip:** *Florence*.
  - 8:00 AM: Bus leaves from Roma in front of former Ospedale Psichiatrico (where the bus left us after our trip from Milan).
  - 10:00 AM: TBA
    - Reading: Jeffrey Schnap, “The Romance of Caffeine and Aluminium.”
  - 1:00, 3:00, and 5:00 PM: Discovery *coffee course* at the Espresso Academy, in Florence (2 hours). Instructor: *Gabriele Cortopassi*, barista, restaurant manager, coffee expert. See how coffee is blended and roasted. Learn the main types of coffee and the techniques for preparing espresso, cappuccino, latte. Then make your cappuccino with the heart.

Friday, July 19 (room 356)


**Week 6**

Monday, July 22

Sections.

Tuesday, July 23

Guest lecturer: Christopher Brown, *Bells of beauty*.

- 3:00 PM, Santa Maria della Scala, Sala S. Ansano: Guest lecturer: *Pier Luigi Sacco*, *Culture and health*.
- Guided tour of *Santa Maria della Scala*, former hospital of the city, now a museum.

- Italian dinner at Il Pomonorino (via Camporegio 13).

Wednesday, July 24 (room 101)

Guest lecturer: Pier Luigi Sacco, *The creative city*.

Reading: Pier Luigi Sacco et al., “Two Versions of Heterotopia: The Role of Art Practicoes in Participative Urban Renewal Processes.”

- 3:00 PM: Italy on screen (location: Padiglione esterno, room B): *La dolce vita*, directed by Federico Fellini (1960). Discussion to follow at the Refugio.

- 7:30 PM: Aperitivo and techno dj set with *The Misha Sessions feat. PLS*. At Cacio e pere (via dei Termini, 70).
Thursday, July 25 (room 149)
Guest lecturer: Pier Luigi Sacco, Heritage and public spaces.
Reading: Yujie Zhu, “Performing Heritage: Rethinking Authenticity in Tourism.”

Friday, July 26
LONG WEEKEND: NO CLASSES

Week 7
Monday, July 29
Sections.

Tuesday, July 30 (room 149)

Wednesday, July 31 (room 149)

3:00 PM: Italy on screen (Padiglione esterno, room B): Le fate ignoranti, (The Ignorant Fairies / His Secret Life), directed by Ferzan Özpetek (2001).
8:30: Italian dinner at Trattoria Fonte Giusta (via Camollia 102).

Thursday, August 1 (room 356)

4:00 PM: Visit to Palazzo Pubblico. With a close analysis of Lorenzetti’s Allegory of Good and Bad Government.

Friday, August 2
Field trip: Lucca

8:00 AM: Coach bus leaves from Porta Romana.
10:00 AM: Guided visit to Piaggio Museum in Pontedera and to its collection of Vespa scooters.
Lunch at Trattoria Giulio in Pelleria (Lucca, via delle Conce 45).
Riding the medieval walls of Lucca on bike, tandem, or four-wheeled bicycle.
Lecture by Emanuele Vietina (Lucca Comics and Games) and Cosimo Lorenzo Pancini (Studio Kmzero), “E3 – Exhibition, Event, Experience: Art & Gaming: a new perspective on dealing with a constantly changing audience.”

Saturday, August 3, and Sunday, August 4
[ Antiques market in Arezzo.]

Week 8
Monday, August 5
Sections.

Tuesday, August 6 (room 149)
– Reading: Crispin Sartwell, Six Names of Beauty, chapters 1, 2, and 3 (and Foreword).

8:15 PM: Italian dinner at Osteria Castelvecchio (via Castelvecchio, 65).

Wednesday, August 7 (room 149)
– Reading: Sartwell, Six Names of Beauty, chapters 4, 5, and 6 (and Coda).

3:00 PM: Italy on screen (Padiglione esterno, room B): La grande bellezza (The Great Beauty), directed by Paolo Sorrentino (2013).

Thursday, August 8 (Padiglione esterno, room B):
– Slideshow and discussion of the final projects.
— Slideshow and discussion of the logo projects.

  8:15 PM (sala S. Ansano, Santa Maria della Scala): Guest lecturer: Silvana Kühtz (Università della Basilicata/Associazione Leggo quando voglio), Sensory concert: A reading of Italian poetry. With Susanna Crociani, sax.

Friday, August 9 (room 356)

  2:30 PM: Guided tour of Monte dei Paschi di Siena, the oldest bank in the world still operating (it was founded in 1472).

Week 9

Monday, August 12

Field trip: The Val d’Orcia and Montalcino. With archeologist Stefano Campana (University of Siena).

  • Along the old Via Francigena, through the Crete Senesi hills.
  • Visit to the hot springs of Bagno Vignoni, and the Abbey of San’Antimo.
  • Wine tasting in Montalcino, home of the famous Brunello wine. Free time to visit the medieval town.

[Palio events: 7:00 PM presentation of the drappellone (banner) in Cortile del Podestà, in Palazzo Pubblico].

Tuesday, August 13

Review section (at the Regugio).

  • 2:30 PM: Italy on screen (screening will take place in the Hotel NH Siena): The Place, directed by Paolo Genovese (2017).

[Palio events:
1:00 PM (be there 20 minutes earlier): La tratta (selection of the horses).
7:00 PM: first trial].

Wednesday, August 14

Final exam

[Palio events: second and third trials.] 

Thursday, August 15

Ferragosto: national holiday

[Palio events: prova generale (final trial); and cena della prova generale, open-air dinner in each contrada].

Friday, August 16

The Palio

Saturday, August 17

The Palio: rain date

Sunday, August 18

Program ends.