

UNIVERSITY OF DENVER - COLORADO WOMEN'S COLLEGE
AHUM 1416: UNDERSTANDING CULTURE:
SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF VENICE AND ROME

Spring 2015: Saturdays 9:00-11:50am, Room TBD

Class Session Dates: 4/4, 4/18, 5/2, 5/16, 5/23

Travel to Italy: May 31-June 8

Instructor: Mallory Nardin, MA

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I will respond to email or voicemail messages within 48 hours.

PREREQUISITES

There are no prerequisites for this course.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

For more than two thousand years the Italian peninsula has been at the center of some of the most influential civilizations in western history. Two states in particular stand out for their extraordinary contributions to the cultural and geopolitical landscapes of their times: the Roman Empire and the Republic of Venice. More recently these unique cities have attracted and inspired artists, writers and composers of great acclaim. In this course students will examine a selection of letters, essays, poems, paintings, sculptures and musical pieces that were composed in or inspired by Venice and Rome. At the end of the course, students will experience the cities for themselves, chronicling their journeys through original compositions.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Students will cultivate global awareness through personal interaction with the art, music, literature, customs, traditions, and people of another culture.
- Students will gain insight into the world views (values, assumptions, practices, biases, perspectives and norms) of culturally diverse populations.
- Students will become more aware of their own assumptions regarding human behavior, personal values, biases, and communication styles.
- Students will develop and put into practice appropriate strategies and skills for interacting with culturally and linguistically diverse populations.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Colorado Women's College fully endorses the University of Denver's Honor Code and the procedures put forth by the Office of Citizenship and Community Standards. Academic dishonesty - including plagiarism, cheating, falsification of data and research - is in violation of the code and will result in a failing grade for the assignment or for the course. As student members of a community committed to academic integrity and honesty, it is your responsibility to become familiar with the DU Honor Code and its procedures (www.du.edu/honorcode).

INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE STATEMENT:

CWC is committed to fostering a diverse learning community that is inclusive and respectful. We encourage and appreciate expressions of different ideas, opinions, and beliefs, so that conversations and interactions that could be potentially divisive instead turn into opportunities for intellectual and personal growth. Respecting what others say, their right to say it, and listening to each other are the ways that we all can further thoughtful and enlightening dialogue.

COURSE TEXTS AND MATERIALS

1. REQUIRED:

- Barber, Annabel. *Blue Guide Literary Companion Rome*. London: 2011. ISBN 978-1-905131-39-6
- Barber, Annabel. *Blue Guide Literary Companion Venice*. London: 2009. ISBN 978-1-905131-32-7

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- Participation - 30%
- Presentations - 25%
- Travelogue - 20%
- Reflection Paper - 25%

Percentage	Grade
95-100	A
90-94	A-
87-89	B+
84-86	B
80-83	B-
77-79	C+
74-76	C
70-73	C-
67-69	D+
64-66	D
60-63	D-
0-59	F

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Attendance is mandatory in all class sessions. Active participation in class and online discussions is required and will be a major determiner in the student's final grade. An absence, for any reason - including arriving late or leaving early - will result in the forfeiting of points towards the in-class participation grade. These points cannot be made up in another class session. If an emergency arises, it is the student's responsibility to contact HER instructor.

A grade of incomplete will be granted only under special circumstances as determined by the instructor. <http://www.du.edu/registrar/records/incompletepolicy.html>

TECHNOLOGY USE IN THE CLASSROOM

In order to create and maintain an optimal learning environment, students should use technology appropriately as directed by the instructor for the purposes of the course. Work done on laptops, cell phones, and other devices that is not relevant to the class can hinder the process of communication and shared discussion of ideas that require full engagement by all participants.

ADA ACCOMMODATIONS

Students who require accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act must contact the instructor to discuss their needs. Failure to notify the instructor immediately may hinder the college's ability to accommodate accordingly. Students with learning disabilities should also contact the University Disability Services Program at <http://www.du.edu/studentlife/disability/>. University Disability Services houses the Learning Effectiveness Program (LEP) and the Disability Services Program (DSP).

OBSERVATION OF RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

Students wishing to observe a religious holiday not celebrated on the academic calendar may do so provided advanced written notice is given the instructor during the first two weeks of the quarter. With advanced written notice, the absence will be considered an excused absence. For additional information, contact DU's Center for Religious Services (<http://www.du.edu/crs/>)

COURSE SCHEDULE

A detailed schedule of reading assignments and topics of discussion will be provided at the first class meeting.