Early Renaissance in Italy
FAH 31/131, Fall 2009
Mon/Wed 1:30-2:45, Aidekman Arts Center 13

Professor Kimberley Skelton
Office Hours:  Wed, 3:00-4:00, Art History Building Room 117
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This course examines shifts in artistic as well as architectural theory and practice across early modern Italy. It begins in the early fifteenth century, as new political and philosophical changes were sparking a reconception of the individual’s place in the world, and ends with the Sack of Rome in 1527. Artistic and architectural change will be placed in an interdisciplinary context of social, political, religious and philosophical developments. Themes to be considered include: the rise of anthropocentrism, shifting relationships between private and public, humanist court culture, international circulation and regional reinterpretations of Classical Antiquity, new conceptions of the past, and the professionalization of artist and architect.

Course Requirements
Object Analysis Paper 15%
Research Proposal 10%
In-class Midterm Exam 20%
Final Research Paper 25%
Take-home Final Exam 20%
Class Participation 10%

Required Texts
Additional readings are available on the Blackboard website.
COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1: September 9

Introduction

Week 2: September 14, 16

A Theocentric World

Anthropocentric Eyes
Turner, 9-21, 91-115.

Week 3: September 21, 23

Building Anthropocentrism

Reinventing Civic Identity

Week 4: September 28, 30

The Authority of Tradition
**Private/Civic Boundaries**
Heydenreich, 34-44.
Turner, 122-141.

**Week 5: October 5, 7**

**Courtly Networks**

➤ **Object Analysis Paper due**

**Defining Political Boundaries**

**Week 6: October 13, 14**

**Regional Lenses**
Brown, 9-37, 83-89, 91-100.
Heydenreich, 86-101.

**Locality in International Networks**

**Week 7: October 19, 21**

**At Once Local and Universal: Papal Rome**
Heydenreich, 55-73.
Partridge, 9-17, 109-118.

**Midterm**
Week 8: October 26, 28

**Defining a Past**

**Constructing Present from Past**
Heydenreich, 49-52, 120-124.

Week 9: November 2, 4

**Print and International Circulation**

→ **Research Proposal due**

**The Professional Architect**

Week 10: November 9, 11

**Through the Lens of Political Change**
Turner, 143-167.
Building Autonomy

Week 11: November 16, 18

Artistic Style and International Politics

Internationalizing Local Identity
Brown, 134-167.

Week 12: November 23, 25

Design Exchanges: Italy and the North

⇒ Rough Draft of Final Paper due for FAH 131 students, Optional Outline of Final Paper due for FAH 31 students


No class

Week 13: November 30, December 2

A European Leisured Elite

Skill as Design Criterion
Week 14: December 7, 9

**Artistic Branding as Status Symbol**
Partridge, 92-95.

**New Political and Visual Worlds**
➔ **Final Paper due**

**Wednesday, December 16: Take-home Final Exam due via email**