

History 3460 (Spring 2016): Late Medieval & Renaissance Italy

Prof. Kenneth Gouwens (clement.7@uconn.edu)

Office Hours: Wednesdays, 10:30am-noon, & by appointment (Wood Hall #318, tel. 486-3750)

TA: Jessica Strom (jessica.strom@uconn.edu)

Office Hours: Wednesdays, 1-3pm, & by appointment (Wood Hall #3c (basement level))

Required Books:

Thomas V. Cohen, *Love and Death in Renaissance Italy*

Paula Findlen, ed., *The Italian Renaissance: Essential Readings*

Kenneth Gouwens, ed., *The Italian Renaissance: Essential Sources*

Antonio Manetti, *The Fat Woodworker*

Lorenzo Valla, *Correspondence*

Course Requirements: The final grade comprises: participation (in-class writing assignments and informed engagement in discussions), 20%; two midterm examinations, 20% each; and a two-hour comprehensive final examination, 40%. Discussions of the readings are integral to this course, and so you need to finish readings *before* the class sessions for which they are assigned. The examinations consist mostly of essays. The essay on the first exam and one of those on the final are textual explications. You are responsible for all materials covered and handouts distributed in class. Following an absence, you may want to arrange to copy notes and handouts from one of your peers.

Academic Misconduct: See http://www.community.uconn.edu/student_code.html, Appendix "A."

Policy on Cellphones: The use of cell phones, including for text messaging, is prohibited in this class. Please turn cell phones completely off, including vibration setting, and put them away. It is disturbing to the entire class — and disrespectful to the instructor — when students get up during class to receive phone calls or when they are text-messaging during lecture. If you have a particular emergency, please inform the instructor before class that you are expecting a call, set the phone to "vibrate," and quietly leave the room before responding to the call.

Policy on Laptop Computers: Their use in class is prohibited. Recent research has shown that even for those students who resist the temptation to multitask when taking notes, the use of laptops "results in shallower processing." See Pam A. Mueller and Daniel M. Oppenheimer, "The Pen is Mightier than the Keyboard: Advantages of Longhand Over Laptop Note Taking," *Psychological Science* 25:6 (June 2014): 1159-1168. Students with a documented medical need for using a laptop in class may do so in the front row.

Recording Devices: Students who either need or wish to record the lectures are asked to submit a request in writing to the instructor via email, stating their reasons for doing so. This applies only to audio recording. Video recording will not be permitted under any circumstances.

Responses to E-mails: It is a privilege rather than a right to receive rapid responses to queries sent via email. Emails sent Thursday through Sunday may not be answered until Monday. The professor will respond promptly to emails on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Schedule of Classes

<i>Date</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Readings</i>
Jan 20 (W)	Introduction	-----
Jan 25 (M)	Dante, Giotto, & Italy ca. 1300	Gouwens, 1–23
Jan 27 (W)	Petrarch & Humanism	Findlen, 3–7, 219–36; Gouwens, 24–38
Feb 1 (M)	Florentine Politics to 1434	Findlen, 7–16, 43–63; Gouwens, 43–47
Feb 3 (W)	Florence under the Medici	Findlen, 64–90, 299–316; Gouwens, 94–95
Feb 8 (M)	State Dynamics in 15th Cent.	Findlen, 16–26; Gouwens, 51–70
Feb 10 (W)	Quattrocento Art & its Significance	-----
Feb 15 (M)	Encountering Ancient Texts	Findlen, 215–18, 237–72
Feb 17 (W)	Savonarola, Florence, & Invasion	Findlen, 26–33
Feb 22 (M)	First Examination	
Feb 24 (W)	Merchants, Artists, Urban Values	Gouwens, 96–107; Manetti
Feb 29 (M)	The Role of the Family	Findlen, 93–123; Gouwens, 108–25
Mar 2 (W)	Religion and Morality	Findlen, 124–66
Mar 7 (M)	Crime and Sexuality I	Cohen, 1–70
Mar 9 (W)	Crime and Sexuality II	Cohen, 173–227
(March 14 & 16: Spring Break; no class meetings)		
Mar 21 (M)	Wives & Mothers	Findlen, 169–91; Gouwens, 137–69
Mar 23 (W)	Learned Women	Findlen, 273–91; Gouwens, 197–205
Mar 28 (M)	Philology as Tool & Weapon	Valla, <i>Correspondence</i> , selections TBA
Mar 30 (W)	Second Examination	

Apr 4 (M)	Neoplatonism & Harmony	Gouwens, 187–96
Apr 6 (W)	Renaissance Rome & the Papacy	-----
Apr 11 (M)	Renaissance Roman Art	-----
Apr 13 (W)	Patronage & Gender	Findlen, 295–98, 317–40; Gouwens, 224–43
Apr 18 (M)	Machiavelli & Politics	Gouwens, 71–90, 126–34
Apr 20 (W)	The Sack of Rome (1527)	Gouwens, 206–18
Apr 25 (M)	Remembering the Renaissance	Gouwens, 223, 244–77; Findlen, 33–40
Apr 27 (W)	The Importance of Historical Memory	

(TBA) **Final Examination** (TBA)

If you cannot take the final exam as scheduled, you must visit the Dean of Students Office, which will provide further instructions. Vacations, previously purchased tickets or reservations, weddings (unless part of the wedding party), and other large or small scale social events, are not viable excuses for missing a final exam. Contact the Dean of Students' office with any questions.