



SAN GEMINI PRESERVATION STUDIES

**(WVU) Syllabus for ARHS 459:  
Professional Field Experience:  
Restoration: Theory, Ethics, and Issues\***  
2 credit hours  
(SGPS) SG 207 – 2 Units

Summer Semester, 2022

Morning Lectures: Monday – Friday, 8:30 AM – 10:00 PM (4 weeks), plus walking tour days

Location: Piazza Vecchio, Palazzo Vecchio classroom, San Gemini, Italy

Session 2 (July 18– August 12)

Lead Instructor: Professor Max Cardillo, [mcardillo@iirpsemail.org](mailto:mcardillo@iirpsemail.org)

Office Hours: on site, TBA

**\*Must be taken with the following co-requisites:**

ARHS 457: Professional Field Experience

Traditional Materials, Methods of Painting,

**AND**

ARHS 458: Professional Field Experience

Traditional Painting Workshop (3 credit hours)

Note: this is a course that can only be completed in San Gemini, Italy and not on the WVU campus or online. There are flight, meal, and program costs related to the course. Please go to the WVU Education Abroad website for current cost information.

<https://educationabroad.wvu.edu/>

**No prerequisites required**

**Catalog Description:**

This course examines the purpose and goals of preservation. Matters of philosophy, ethics, cultural values and “best practices” that influence the work of restorers are covered because misguided restoration work is a major cause of destruction or falsification of irreplaceable cultural heritage. This course teaches students to assess the goals and values that guide and influence restoration and conservation.

**No prerequisites required.**

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

- Describe and define various transformations applicable to cultural objects
- Summarize and discuss pertinent issues related to the ethics of conservation and restoration.

- Compare and evaluate various means of integrating (retouching) art
- Critique and explain through writing various strategies and philosophical differences between Italian restoration and that practiced in in other European countries and the United States.

**Format:**

- Lectures and discussion based on readings and lecture material. Going beyond the material aspects of restoration, these lecture/discussion classes examine the various social goals, motivations, approaches, and ethical and philosophical issues that guide the complex process of preserving our cultural heritage. The philosophical differences between the Italian restoration approach and the techniques used in the Anglo-Saxon world are part of this course.
- Visiting lecturers will present various topics on preventative conservation, conservation, and restoration of historical and contemporary paintings and sculpture in different media.
- There also will be an afternoon visit to the nearby ancient Roman City of Carsulae.

**Required Text:**

Cesare Brandi, *Theory of Restoration* ICCROM (PDF provided)

**Grading**

Class participation (Class discussion of reading material) 25%

- Everyone is expected to contribute at least once to each day's discussion. On days when a reading is assigned it is to be read by class time and each student should contribute twice to the discussion. Meeting these two benchmarks equals 85%. Exceeding them meets 90-100% of the 25% class participation grade.

Written assignment (Term paper 5-page paper on a topic to be assigned) 75%

- In order to include material and readings through the last day of the course, the final paper is due within two weeks of the final day of the course. Please email it to [mcardillo@iirpsemail.org](mailto:mcardillo@iirpsemail.org)
- Your paper will be evaluated on content, organization, and clarity.

**Grading scale:**

94-100 = A  
 90-93 = 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-  
 Below 60 = F

**Late Assignment Policies**

In order to include material and readings through the last day of the course, the final paper is due

within two weeks of the final day of the course. Please email it to [mcardillo@iirpsemail.org](mailto:mcardillo@iirpsemail.org)

### Lecture Topics:

- 1) Transformation time and memory
- 2) What is the value of things we preserve
- 3) Transformations done to cultural objects
- 4) Types of restoration
- 5) Motivations behind restoration
- 6) Ethics of restoration
- 7) Wholeness in cultural objects
- 8) Phases of restoration
- 9) Cleaning
- 10) Presentation and integration of art (retouching)
- 11) Context, space, frames and borders
- 12) Museums
- 12) Copies
- 13) Completions of unfinished objects
- 14) Strategies of preservation
- 15) Cultural property
- 16) Political ideology and cultural heritage

### Course Calendar

**Date Day**    **Lecture 8:30 - 10:00 AM**    **Lecture 10:30 -12:15**    **Afternoon 3:00 - 7:00**  
**Traditional Painting**  
**Workshop**

Date	Day	Lecture 8:30 - 10:00 AM	Lecture 10:30 -12:15	Afternoon 3:00 - 7:00 Traditional Painting Workshop
7/14	Sun	Arrival in San Gemini		Orientation
7/15	Mon	Brief Historical Overview of Umbria <i>Cardillo</i>	Urban Evolution of San Gemini <i>Cardillo</i>	Urban Evolution of San Gemini <i>Cardillo</i>
7/16	Tue	Time, transformation, and memory	F. Vitale	Introduction to the studio work <i>Vakalis</i>
7/17	Wed	What objects do we conserve and how we establish value READ: C. Brandi Theory of Restoration Chapters: 4, 5, 6	<i>F. Vitale</i>	<i>Studio: T Mascolo</i>
7/18	Thu	Ethics of restoration	<i>F. Vitale</i>	<i>Studio: T Mascolo</i>
7/19	Fri	Approaches to restoration and the goals motivating the restoration.	Visiting Lecturer TBD	<i>Studio: T Mascolo</i>

7/20	Sat	Max Cardillo 8:00PM-1:00PM Visit to Roman city of Carsuale	No class	No class
7/21	Sun	No class	No class	No class
7/22	Mon	Wholeness the "potential unity of art" and deterioration  READ: C. Brandi Theory of Restoration Chapters:1,2,3	F. Vitale	<i>Studio: T Mascolo</i>
7/23	Tue	Visiting Lecturer: 2022: Fabiola Jatta (Architect ISCR): Restoration of the Aurora By Guido Reni	F. Vitale	<i>Studio: T Mascolo</i>
7/24	Wed	Presentation of the restored object - Integration (retouching), completions	F. Vitale	<i>Studio: T Mascolo</i>
7/25	Thu	Unfinished objects, historicization and completions	F. Vitale	<i>Studio: T Mascolo</i>

7/26	Fri	Visiting Lecturer: 2022- Chiara Compostella: Restoration of wall paintings, case studies  READ C. Brandi Theory of Restoration Appendix 5, 6	Visiting Lecturer TBD	<i>Studio: T Mascolo</i>
7/27	Sat	No class	No class	No class
7/28	Sun	No class	No class	No class
7/29	Mon	Context and space of art. Frames and spatial transition	<i>F. Vitale</i>	<i>Studio: T Mascolo</i>
7/30	Tue	Museums and decontextualization  READ C. Brandi Theory of Restoration Appendix 1	<i>F. Vitale</i>	<i>Studio: T Mascolo</i>

7/31	Wed	Collections  READ C. Brandi Theory of Restoration Chapter:7, Appendix: 7	<i>F. Vitale</i>	<i>Studio: T Mascolo</i>
8/1	Thu	Guest Lecture-2022 Mark Gittings:- Restoration of Panel Painting	<i>F. Vitale</i>	<i>Studio: T Mascolo</i>
8/2	Fri	Restoration and Change	Visiting Lecturer TBD	<i>Studio: T Mascolo</i>
8/3	Sat	No class	No class	No class
8/4	Sun	No class	No class	No class
8/5	Mon	Restoring written documents, books or printed art	<i>F. Vitale</i>	<i>Studio: T Mascolo</i>
8/6	Tue	Visiting Lecturer: 2022 Antonio Rava Restoration of Modern Art  READ Italian restoration Chart of 1987	<i>F. Vitale</i>	<i>Studio: T Mascolo</i>
8/7	Wed	Copies, reconstructions, and additions	<i>F. Vitale</i>	<i>Studio: T Mascolo</i>
8/8	Thu	The concept of collective cultural property: the case of the Elgin Marbles	<i>F. Vitale</i>	<i>Studio: T Mascolo</i>
8/9	Fri	Strategies for the preservation of cultural heritage. Cultural heritage, identity, politics and nationalism,	Visiting Lecturer TBD	Studio Cleanup <i>T Mascolo</i>

**For all WVU Academic Policies and Syllabus Statements Please go to:**

<https://tlcommons.wvu.edu/syllabus-policies-and-statements>