Description of the course
Padua can be considered the perfect case-study in order to analyze Italian renaissance Art and Culture. Art in Padua was strongly influenced by the two most important Schools of Renaissance Art: Florence (the Lily) and Venice (the Lion). The Best artists from those two towns came to work in Padua, such as Giotto, Giovanni Pisano, Donatello, Filippo Lippi from Florence, Titian from Venice; and they instilled Renaissance ideals and style into the very fertile context of local culture and art. Thanks to its Roman origins, Padua was also a very important center for "antiquarian" Renaissance culture, testified by the activity of Mantegna. The old and renowned university with their scholars made Padua a focal point for Renaissance Italy, too. This course offers the students a journey through the rich pageant of Renaissance art and culture, giving them the critical tools with which to analyze, understand and appreciate more fully the works of art produced in Padua and the Veneto region from the 14th to the 16th centuries. We will look closely at the way in which changing styles in art reflected contemporary history and cultural attitudes. With power point presentations and also visits to museums, churches and other places of historical or artistic interest in and around Padua, this course give the students every opportunity to place their studies from the classroom in context and to see works by the great masters in the original.

Objectives
By the end of this course, students have acquired:
1. General knowledge of early and late Renaissance art in Italy.
2. Specific knowledge of Medieval and Renaissance art in Padua and Veneto Region.
3. Extended familiarity with backgrounds, styles and works of the great Renaissance masters who worked in Padua, such as Giotto, Donatello, Mantegna, Titian, Palladio.
4. Critical tools necessary to understand and appreciate Renaissance Italian Art

Instructional Methodology
Acquisition of knowledge and understanding is promoted through a combination of lectures, excursions, in-class discussions and active involvement. Students participate in group discussions on assigned readings, with further information and data provided by the instructor through lectures and electronic slides presentations. The teacher will distribute handouts, and other material in order to stimulate discussion on the most relevant topics covered during the course. Lectures do not simply explain the readings, but complement them and present different material. Taking notes during classes, as well as actively participating in the in-class discussions and during excursions and visits to museums and churches, is highly recommended, as the topics raised there will constitute integral part of the exams. Student participation is encouraged, appreciated and rewarded.
Course Requirements
The students are expected to read the pages and/or material listed for each class and to engage in active discussions on relevant issues.

Students are required to write two short papers related to the looking assignments about an art piece of an artist discussed during class. The first assignment (Reaction Paper) will be 3-4 pages long; the second assignment will be 5-6 pages long. Students should select the art piece from those discussed in class, either in the classroom or on site, and analyze it using the skills they have learned in class, focusing on the following points: 1) style 2) subject 3) technique 4) cultural and historical background 5) student's personal ideas 6) extra bibliography.

N.B. Students have to communicate for approval to the teacher the topic of their paper one week before the due date.

The class includes a midterm and a final. The midterm and the final comprise two sections—slide identification (40%) and two essay questions (30% each). The final exam is cumulative for material covered over the course of the entire term.

Methods of Evaluation
The final grade shall be determined as follows:

Attendance and Participation: 10%
Oral Presentation & Reaction Paper: 15%
Writing Assignment 2: 20%
Midterm: 25%
Final Exam: 30%

Grading scale:
A+: 98-100% C+: 77-79%
A: 93-97% C: 73-76%
A-: 90-92% C-: 70-72%
B+: 87-89% D+: 67-69%
B: 83-86% D: 63-66%
B-: 80-82% D-: 60-62%
F: 59% and below

Bibliography

- *The Great Masters of Art Series (Giotto, Donatello, Mantegna, Titian)*

N:B all the materials (pdf version of the texts, videos, and all the powerpoint presentations of the course can be downloaded at this website: http://sdrv.ms/XyOerk
Outline of Course Content

Week 1
Course Introduction: The significance of Renaissance. History of Padua from the Origins to the end XVI century.
On Site lecture: Ancient Roman Padua: visit to the Archaeological Museum.

Week 2
Giotto and the beginning of Renaissance Art.
On Site lecture: Giotto in Padua. The Scrovegni Chapel. Students have to visit by themselves the Scrovegni Chapel and to prepare an oral presentation and a reaction paper for the next class about a detail of the frescoes.

Week 3
Oral presentation and discussion on the Scrovegni Chapel. Reaction Paper.
Giotto's followers in Padua: Giusto de' Menabuoi, Jacopo Avanzi and Altichiero.

Week 4
On Site lecture: Visit to the Palazzo della Ragione
The International Gothic Style

Week 5
On Site lecture: Visit to the Museo Diocesano
MIDTERM

Week 6
Donatello and XV century Renaissance Sculpture.
On Site lecture: Visit to the Santo.

Week 7
Followers of Donatello in the Veneto Area. The Small bronzes tradition. Lombardo, Bellano, Riccio.
The “Antiquarian” painting in Padua: Marco Zoppo, Squarcione and Mantegna.
*On Site lecture: Visit to the Ovetari Chapel.

Week 8
On Site lecture: Visit to the Scuola del Santo

Week 9
XVI Century painting in Padua: Padovanino and Campagnola.
On Site lecture: Visit to the Scoletta del Carmine
Assignment 2 Due.

Week 10
Palladio and the Renaissance Villa.
On Site lecture: Loggia and Odeo Cornaro.

Week 11
FINAL REVIEW
FINAL EXAM
**Excursions:** Mantova (Sant'Andrea, Ducal Palace; Te Palace)
Vicenza and Villas by Palladio
Verona?