



FNAR 343: Baroque Art

John Felice Rome Center

Spring 2025

Tuesday | 9:00am - 12:00pm

Instructor: Ms. Christina Mifsud

Office Hours: By appointment +39.338.74.54.230

Email: cmifsud@luc.edu

Course Description

This course is the study of painting, sculpture and architecture from the late sixteenth to the mid-eighteenth centuries, the period labeled *Baroque* in art history. Our investigation of this period concentrates on the aspects of these visual arts particularly within the city of Rome.

The Baroque has been seen as the expression of the form of the restorative aspect of the Roman Catholic Counter Reformation which affirmed that the pictorial arts do indeed have an essential role as a stimulus to devotion as well as a means of religious instruction. Thus, the ecclesiastical patronage of Popes, Cardinals and the new orders of the Catholic Church, like the Jesuits, were crucial to the creation of the art of this period and the discovery of talents such as Caravaggio, Annibale Carracci, Francesco Borromini, Pietro da Cortona and, in particular, the great master Gian Lorenzo Bernini of whom has been called the “artistic dictator” of Rome during this period.

The Baroque of the 17thC is considered the first international art movement that spread far and wide throughout Europe and even to South America. This course introduces various aspects of international Baroque.

The course consists of classroom activities, discussions, lectures but especially on-site visits for direct contact with the masters of the Roman Baroque and their legacies left in their artistic contributions to the palaces, galleries, squares, fountains, churches and chapels of the Eternal City.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of the course students will be able to:

- Articulate the basic problems of art historical study in terms of historical context, the roles of artist and patron, techniques, iconography and style.
- Understand the distinctive features of the arts in the Baroque period within the context of Rome’s Christian heritage, the role of the Papacy, and the renewal in the Church following the Counter Reformation.
- Participate in direct acquaintance with painting, sculpture, and architecture through on-site visits and lectures.
- Develop an enhanced appreciation of the role of art in this crucial period of European history.
- Gain an enriched knowledge and experience of Rome, its artistic, religious and cultural traditions, and enduring contribution to Europe and the world.

Required Text / Materials

Hibbard, Howard. *Bernini*. Penguin.
Weekly Field Notes

Reserve Readings / Uploaded Materials/SAKAI

Supplementary Readings from the list below provided in SAKAI.

Bazin, Germain. *Baroque and Rococo*.

Blunt, Anthony. *Borromini*.

Hibbard, Howard. *Caravaggio*.

Morrissey, Jake. *The Genius in the Design: Bernini, Borromini & the Rivalry that Transformed Rome*.

Varriano, John. *Italian Baroque and Rococo Architecture*.

Wittkower, Rudolf. *Art and Architecture in Italy 1600-1750*.

Attendance Policy

In accordance with the Loyola University of Chicago - John Felice Rome Center's mission to promote a higher level of academic rigor, all courses adhere to the following absence policy. Prompt attendance, preparation and active participation in course discussions are expected from every student. If you are unwell, please stay on campus, take care of yourself, *and alert the instructor*.

For all classes meeting once a week, students cannot incur more than one unexcused absence. The final course grade will drop by 1% for each additional absence.

Participation

Active Participation is encouraged on site. This includes but is not limited to asking questions, making observations, taking notes on site, showing interest, showing up on time and responding correctly when called upon during the visit.

In the event a student is absent, there is a grade of zero for that day for participation. This includes excused absences. An excused absence is allowed, but it does affect participation.

<u>Assessment Components</u>		<u>Grading</u>
• Participation	20%	94-100: A
• Mid-Term Examination	30%	90-93: A-
• On Site Presentation	20%	87-89: B+
• Final Examination	30%	84-86: B
		80-83: B-
		77-79: C+
		74-76: C
		70-73: C-
		67-69: D+
		60-66: D
		59 or lower: F

Academic Honesty

Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are unacceptable at the John Felice Rome Center and will be dealt with in accordance with Loyola University Chicago's guidelines.

Please consult Loyola's standards and guidelines here:

http://www.luc.edu/academics/catalog/undergrad/reg_academicintegrity.shtml.

Students are responsible to comply with the LUC Student Handbook.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly activity in an open, honest, and responsible manner.

Academic integrity is a guiding principle for all academic activity at Loyola University Chicago, and all members of the University community are expected to act in accordance with this principle.

Failing to meet the following academic integrity standards is a serious violation of personal honesty and the academic ideals that bind the University into a learning community. These standards apply to both individual and group assignments. Individuals working in a group may be held responsible if one of the group members has violated one or more of these standards.

1. Students may not plagiarize; the use of AI is considered plagiarism too and treated as such.
2. Students may not submit the same work for credit for more than one assignment (known as self-plagiarism).
3. Students may not fabricate data.
4. Students may not collude.
5. Students may not cheat.
6. Students may not facilitate academic misconduct.

Follow this link for more details about these standards, sanctions, and academic misconduct procedures:

(https://www.luc.edu/academics/catalog/undergrad/reg_academicintegrity.shtml)

Late or Missed Assignments

Late or missed assignments will not be accepted for grading without the authorization of the instructor.

Accessibility Accommodations - Student Accessibility Center

The Student Accessibility Center at Loyola Chicago will alert faculty at the John Felice Rome Center for students who require academic accommodations.

If you are a SAC enrolled student at Loyola Chicago, you are required to make an appointment with the Associate Dean of Academic Programs at the JFRC within the first week of classes. This meeting will allow the Dean to assess what accommodations are needed and help the faculty implement them correctly.

Please note: SAC students are required to actively get the special assistance they need to achieve their academic goals. This means meeting with the Associate Dean and talking directly with their professors.

Lack of communication from the SAC student with the Associate Dean and/or the faculty can result in SAC requirements not being met.

Course Schedule

Week 1: Tuesday, January 21st: Classroom. John Felice Rome Center.
Lecture: Introduction to Baroque Art. Syllabus Review. Historical Timeline.
Readings: Bazin. Introduction. Terms Handout.

Week 2: Tuesday, January 28th: On Site.
Visit: St. Peter's Basilica
Meeting Point: Galleria San Pietro. Largo del Colonnato, 5.
Readings: Bernini. 75-88. 105-110. 151-167. 198-217.

Week 3: Tuesday, February 4th: On Site.
Visit: Piazza Navona. S. Agnese. S. M. della Pace. S. Agostino. S. Luigi dei Francesi.
Meeting Point: Al Sogno, Piazza Navona, 53.
Readings: Bernini. 23-29. 116-125. Caravaggio. 91-117. 184-191.

Week 4: Tuesday, February 11th: On Site.
Visit: Il Gesù. St. Ignatius' Rooms. Church of Sant' Ignazio. S. M. Sopra Minerva.
Meeting Point: The Steps of the Church "Il Gesù".

Week 5: Tuesday, February 18th: On Site.
Visit: Ponte S. Angelo. Basilica di S. Giovanni dei Fiorentini. Oratorio di S. Filippo Neri. Chiesa Nuova. S. Andrea della Valle. S. Ivo alla Sapienza
Meeting Point: The Ponte Sant' Angelo on the Castel Sant' Angelo side.
Readings: Varriano. Chapter 3 - Francesco Borromini.

Week 6: Tuesday, February 25th: Classroom. Lecture. Mid-Term Review. Presentation Handouts.

Week 7: Tuesday, March 4th: Mid - Term Examination. Classroom.

Week 8: Tuesday, March 11th. NO CLASS. Spring Break.

Week 9: Tuesday, March 18th: On Site.
Visit: Galleria Doria Pamphilj.
Meeting Point: Galleria Doria Pamphilj, via del Corso, 3.
Readings: Bernini. 185 - 195. Caravaggio. 118- 137.

Week 10: Tuesday, March 25th: On Site.
Visit: Galleria Borghese. Piazza Barberini. Triton Fountain. Palazzo Barberini.
Meeting Point: Entrance to the Galleria Borghese.
Readings: Bernini. 34 - 40. 45 - 64. 89 -96. 110 - 114.
Caravaggio. 15 - 23. 65 - 69. 197 - 198.

Week 11: Tuesday, April 1st: On Site.

Visit: S.M. Angeli. S.M. Vittoria. S. Susanna. S. Carlo alle Quattro Fontane. S. Andrea al Quirinale.

Meeting Point: Santa Maria degli Angeli.

Readings: Bernini. 128 - 150. Blunt and Morrissey.

Week 12: Tuesday, April 8th: On Site.

Visit: S. Giovanni in Laterano and the Lateran Baptistery.

Meeting Point: Piazza San Giovanni in Laterano. In front of the Church.

Readings: Varriano. 172 - 184.

Week 13: Tuesday, April 15th: On Site Presentations.

Visit: The Church of Santa Maria del Popolo. Via del Corso. Piazza di Spagna. Spanish Steps.

Propaganda Fides. The Church of Sant' Andrea delle Fratte. Trevi Fountain.

Meeting Point: In front of the Church of Santa Maria del Popolo.

Week 14: Tuesday, April 22nd: Classroom.

Lecture: Baroque Art Outside of Italy. Review for Final Examination.

Week 15: Tuesday, April 29th: Final Examination. Classroom.

Site Visit Important Information

1. CREDIT. Site visits are equivalent to being in the classroom for both contact hours and credit. Please be prompt, prepared and dressed properly for each visit. Please eat BEFORE you arrive at the meeting point.
2. LOGISTICS. Students are responsible for arriving at the sites. Plan the route the night before and allow ample time to arrive on site. Public transportation may be unpredictable and "getting lost" is not an acceptable excuse for tardiness. Buy bus tickets ahead of time. LEAVE EARLY.
3. ID & SAFETY. Always have a student ID or a photocopy of a photo ID while on site. Students should be aware of their surroundings and should remember to keep belongings close and locked, especially on public transportation and crowded sites.
4. NO NO NO. Food, drink, chewing gum and smoking are not allowed during lectures or on site visits.
5. BACKPACKS. Cumbersome objects like umbrellas and large backpacks are often prohibited or are required to be checked at the cloakroom in many museums, churches and monuments. Bring only what is necessary for the visit.
6. WHISPERS. Listening devices are mandatory during the visits. Each student must come prepared to class with their headset fully charged.

7. **BEHAVIOR.** The churches and museums we visit are public monuments and places of worship. It is imperative to respect others' rights to visit these places in peace. Modify behavior accordingly and limit talking while the instructor is lecturing. We also must be mindful of all the rules and cultural norms of the local customs in the churches of Rome.
8. **DRESS CODE.** Many churches enforce a dress code. Therefore, students are expected to wear proper attire to all site visits. Shoulders, midriffs and thighs must be covered. Baseball caps and sport visors/caps are not allowed to be worn in churches. If dressed improperly students will be denied entrance and subsequently receive an absence for that visit.
9. **SMARTPHONES.** Students are asked to put their cell phones on mute or switch them off and store them for the duration of the visit. The instructor will leave an allotted time for taking pictures at the end of each visit. Please note flash photography is forbidden in churches and museums.
10. **RESTROOM.** Please use the restroom before the visit begins. Most churches do not have facilities. We will try to have breaks, but it is not always feasible.