Students are eligible to receive ONE equivalent per course. Additional equivalents may be established beyond those listed.

RESPONDING TO CONTEMPORARY ART: A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE  
**Instructor:** Laurie Beth Clark, Michael Peterson  
**UW Equivalents:** Art 448: Special Topics, 3 credits

While Italy is home to the most important exhibition in the world for global contemporary art—the Venice Biennale, which takes place every two years and brings together more than 80 nations and hundreds of thousands of visitors—most students and tourists who come to Florence expect to engage the art of the past. This course complements the offerings in Italian Art History taught by Florence-based instructors by exposing students to currents and issues in art making since 2000. Like the practice of contemporary art itself, the course will draw examples not only from Italy but from all over the world. The course will help students to recognize and understand the art that has been made in their own lifetimes. Our readings on contemporary art will be supplemented by internet research, exhibition visits, and if possible, guest artists and field trips to Milan and Rome.

FOOD WAYS AND FOOD STUDIES  
**Instructor:** Laurie Beth Clark, Michael Peterson  
**UW Equivalents:** Art 448: Special Topics, 3 credits

Who can come to Italy, home to one of the world’s great cuisines, and not think about food? Italy is not only a famous place for eating, but also for investigating food and food politics (the “slow food” movement, for example, was founded in Italy in 1986). This course takes a very global perspective, but foods that are in or from Italy will provide many of our case studies. The Italian restaurants that proliferate in almost every country in Europe and the Americas and in major cities in Africa and Asia allow us to think about diasporic cuisines, while the impact of immigration and globalization can be witnessed in Italy through the diversification of its cuisines, which had traditionally attended only to regional distinctions within the peninsula.

Done well, food studies (and even food tourism) can lead to a deep investigation of culture and society. We will read significant literature in food studies, from a global perspective, and develop critical written reflections on local and global food culture. We will also shop, cook, and eat together in order to gain embodied knowledge about where our food comes from and why we care.

**This course may have significant content overlap with CET’s Food and Culture and Italian Cuisine courses. Students seeking to diversify their academics should carefully consider their course selection.**

FLORENCE AND THE “SENSE OF PLACE”  
**Instructor:** Laurie Beth Clark, Michael Peterson  
**UW Equivalents:** Art 448: Special Topics, 3 credits

How to be “at home” while abroad? Become comfortable with the unfamiliar, and familiar with the new. In the words of legendary UW Geography professor Yi-Fu Tuan, “all places are small worlds.” This course will use the city of Florence as a lab for applying practices derived from human geography, auto-ethnography, and even the creative urban explorations of the surrealists. Our goal is to understand the ways in which Florence’s newly culturally diverse identity is emerging, in the midst of its history-laden and tourist-filled milieux. We will leverage critical readings to bring sensitivity and nuance to the fieldwork that will be the core method of our work. The class will “map” Florence (using both physical and virtual media) to engage touristic as well as “authentic” local resources. We’ll chart and reflect on the paths worn by study-abroad students based in Florence and move beyond these sometimes limited itineraries to comprehend other facets of the evolving city. Later in the semester, we will shift from exploration as research to finding ways to share our “local knowledge” in constructing diverse modes of “guiding” others to experience Florence.
UW in Florence  
Spring 2018  
UW Professor Course Descriptions  

**You are eligible to receive ONE equivalent per course.**

**The Florentine Renaissance**  
**Instructor:**  
Kristin Phillips-Court, Dept. of French & Italian, Art History  
**UW Equivalents:**  
Art History 320: Italian Renaissance Art (Humanities Breadth)  
Art History 322: Italian Art from Donatello to Leonardo da Vinci, 1400-1500 (Humanities Breadth)  
Literature in Translation 256: Images of the Individual in the Italian Renaissance (Literature Breadth)  

This introductory course examines the artistic, literary, and philosophical developments that took place in Florence during the Renaissance and how they uniquely defined the idea of the Italian Renaissance for centuries. We will study Florentine painting, sculpture, architecture, urban planning, and literature both inside the classroom and on-site in Florence. In addition to introducing students to the numerous artistic treasures of Florence, this course also aims at and broadening their appreciation of the enduring capacity of the arts to feed the human need for aesthetic and intellectual fulfillment. Lectures, discussions, and activities will focus on building a practical knowledge of Florentine Renaissance art and culture, as well as on developing students’ analytical skills.

**Political Controversy & Political Skills**  
**Instructor:**  
Ricardo Galliano Court, Dept. of Political Science  
**UW Equivalents:**  
Political Science 401: Selected Topics in Political Science – Political Controversy  
Political Science 590: Study Abroad Topics in Political Science – Political Theory (Humanities Breadth)  

This course presents a choice between enjoying the sensation of ‘being right’ and the possibility of moving one’s personal and political agenda forward in concrete ways. Lately, political culture has been almost exclusively about the former to the detriment of the latter. In this course, participants will exercise political skills in the classroom and apply them outside the classroom in community service and in political advocacy. This course stresses the radical difference between political skills and political punditry, one requiring practice and application, the other requiring only primitive rhetorical skills.

This course will ask students to develop their civic knowledge, communication abilities, and networks of relationships that will define their role as an active civic actor, providing genuine hands-on experience as an engaged citizen. Despite the recent claims of higher education, the teaching of skills is not a frequent focus of undergraduate education in the liberal arts. Teaching methods involved in imparting skills are necessarily different from those employed in imparting knowledge. As such, participants have to take active responsibility for their own development.

This course will develop political skills discussing and debating—from multiple perspectives—four contemporary controversies, Healthcare as a Right, International Free Trade Agreements, the War on Terrorism, Immigration and Assimilation, The European Union: Does it have a future? Moving from lesser to
greater complexity, from understanding and application, to analysis, synthesis, and evaluation, the each of these four units will ask, *Where are we? How did we get here? and Where are we going?*

Participants will read a combination of policy briefs, academic articles, and long-form journalism. Each week students will engage in a discussion followed by a debate. Students will rotate between advocating for a political view, to rebutting that view, to being the ‘Devil’s Advocate’ developing complex intellectual and social skills. This class follows a ‘flipped’ format with time in class devoted to discussion and debate—course content, recordings, readings, quizzes, and reflective exercises online. Twice a week, students will also be required to find and submit a reading that they intend to apply to the next day’s discussion or debate. At the end of the course, students will give a presentation of their advocacy work and how they have been able to move their own political agenda forward.

**Machiavelli and His World**

**Instructor:**
Kristin Phillips-Court, Dept. of French & Italian, Art History; Ricardo Galliano Court, Dept. of Political Science

**UW Equivalent:**
Literature in Translation 400: Machiavelli and His World (*Literature Breadth*)
Philosophy 464: Classical Philosophers (*Humanities Breadth*)

This course introduces students to the major works of Machiavelli through the close reading and discussion of his writings in their cultural and historical contexts. First, students will encounter Machiavelli’s texts on their own, with guidance from lectures. Students will have the opportunity to react to Machiavelli’s writing before grappling with its reception and interpretation. Students will then deepen their understanding of Machiavelli’s thought by considering historical, literary, cultural, artistic, feminist, and political-theoretical points of view. Discussion and targeted writing assignments will aim at cultivating in students a broad understanding of Machiavelli’s principal intellectual (literary, political-theoretical, historical) attitudes. The course aims at developing students’ analytical reading, writing and discussion skills. The outcome will be a deeper understanding of the controversies surrounding Machiavelli, and the ability to articulate with subtlety some complexities in his political thought.