



Temple University Seminars in
Art and Culture



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We are happy to announce the twentieth annual Seminar in Art and Culture. This six-credit graduate seminar is designed to bring together the disciplines of aesthetics and cultural studies. In its interdisciplinary thrust, the seminar is intended to serve as a foundation for advanced study in the human sciences and to reflect the most current trends of thought in postmodern culture. This year's topic is "Vision and Rationality." The seminar convenes from June 1 to 25, 2009 at Temple University's campus in Rome, the Villa Caproni.

The Temple Seminars in Art and Culture welcome applications from advanced undergraduate, graduate and postdoctoral students in fields such as literature, film studies, philosophy, art and social theory. The seminar entails an intensive program of classwork, field trips and guest lectures. The city of Rome is used extensively as a resource. The Villa Caproni overlooks the River Tiber and is located just off the Piazza del Popolo and the Borghese Gardens. Accommodations can be arranged in a Temple student *residenza* or students can make their own living arrangements in advance. All classes are taught in English.

Vision and Rationality

This year's topic will focus on the troubled relation between perception and cognition of three historical moments in western culture: the Renaissance and the birth of single point perspective; the Baroque and Counter-Reformation; and the postmodern critique of Enlightenment rationality. We will speculate about how our culture has been shaped by collaboration and conflict among visual, visionary, ideological and rational ways of knowing the world. The scope of our inquiry will embrace literary, philosophical, painterly and cinematic texts.

Among the questions to be raised are: what is the relation between visual and verbal representation? Is the perceptual realm of sight necessarily subordinated to rationality? What is the place of visual representation in the tug-of-war between imaginary and real spheres of being? What historical and ideological exchanges between vision and rationality continue to affect our social and political orders? What role does aesthetics play in the making of a public sphere?

Working Reading List for Summer 2009

Selections from *On Painting*
by Leonbattista Alberti

Vision and Visuality, edited by Hal Foster

Selected writings by Teresa of Avila

Selected poetry by John Donne
and Richard Crashaw

"The Analytic of the Sublime"
from Immanuel Kant's *Critique of Judgment*

Selections from *Four Fundamentals*
of *Psychoanalysis* by Jacques Lacan

Force Fields by Martin Jay

"Ideology and Ideological State
Apparatuses" by Louis Althusser

The Inhuman by Jean-François Lyotard

Film: *The Draughtsman's Contract*
by Peter Greenaway

Format

The seminar will be conducted through lecture/discussion sessions and closely coordinated field trips. The class sessions will focus upon the above-listed readings in the theory of ideology and the history of art. The field sessions will focus upon Roman illusionist painting; Caravaggio and the Counter-Reformation; Baroque sculpture and architecture; and the holdings in futurism and abstraction at the Museum of Modern Art in Rome.

Faculty and Staff

Brunella Antomarini (Lecturer in Aesthetic and Contemporary Philosophy, John Cabot University) *La percezione della forma in Hans Urs von Balthasar; Pensare con l'errore*. Most recent article: "The Acoustical Pre-History of Poetry," *New Literary History*.

Robert L. Caserio (Professor and Head of English, Pennsylvania State University) *Plot, Story and Novel; The English Novel 1900 - 1950*; articles in *Antaeus, Contemporary Literature, Grand Street, Modern Fiction Studies, Novel, Raritan, SAQ, Western Humanities Review*.

Allen Dunn (Professor of English, University of Tennessee) Editor of *Soundings: An Interdisciplinary Journal*; co-editor of *Literary Aesthetics: A Reader*; articles in *Southern Humanities Review, The Journal of Modern Literature, Boundary 2, and Shakespeare Studies*.

Alan Singer (Professor of English, Temple University) *A Metaphorics of Fiction; Discontinuity and Discourse in the Modern Novel; The Subject As Action: Transformation and Totality in Narrative Aesthetics*; articles in *Novel, Philosophy and Social Criticism, Substance*.

Field Trips

1. The Advent of Single-Point Perspectives: paintings by Giotto, Lippi, Michelangelo—including the Sistine Chapel (Rome)
2. Baroque Painting and the Counter-Reformation: the incarnational image in the work of Caravaggio. Also trompe l'oeil works by Pozzo, Borromini, the anamorphic experimenters
3. The Tradition of Roman Illusionist Painting (Pompeii)
4. The Uffizi, Brancacci Chapel (weekend trip to Florence)

Special Events

In past years we have invited guest lecturers and artists to conduct a one-day workshop in relation to the issues of the seminar, and we hope to continue this practice. Previous guests include: Rodolphe Gasche (theorist, philosopher), Juliet Mitchell (psychoanalyst), Jacqueline Rose (literary critic), Anthony Giddens (political theorist), Jean-Marie Straub (filmmaker), Marco Bellocchio (filmmaker), Enzo Cucchi (painter), Kristin Jones and Andrew Ginzel (installation artists), Peter Greenaway (filmmaker), Bernardo Bertolucci (filmmaker), Michael Fried (art historian), Peter Flaccus (painter), the Brothers Quay (filmmakers), Mieke Bal (theorist and art critic), Stefano di Stasio (painter), Jannis Kounellis (sculptor) and Sandro Chia (painter and sculptor).

Tuition

6 graduate credits

in state: \$3,438

out of state: \$5,022

An additional \$250 program fee applies to fellowship and non-fellowship students alike. Students are also responsible for the costs of housing (estimated at \$1,200), meals, a computer fee (\$90), the International Student Identity Card (currently \$22), living expenses, personal travel, insurance, and transatlantic airfare. All students should expect to pay \$100 to \$150 for Italian immigration and visa-related expenses.

To speak with program faculty

Alan Singer, Temple University, 215-204-7575 or alsinger00@comcast.net

Application Procedure and Deadline

Applications are available at www.temple.edu/studyabroad. Non-Temple University students must submit an official university transcript and a non-refundable \$50 application fee by check made payable to Temple University. Completed applications must be received by International Programs by February 15. Applications received after the deadline will be considered as space permits.

Fellowships

This year the English Department will offer one tuition fellowship to a graduate student of English. The award will be made on a competitive basis taking into account grades and faculty recommendations. Students who wish to be considered for the award must indicate interest on the application form and submit the application to International Programs by February 15. A limited number of \$500 scholarships, awarded on the basis of academic merit and financial need, are available to qualified Temple students. Scholarship eligibility: Applicant must be enrolled as a full-time, matriculated student at Temple University at the time of application; have a 3.0 cumulative GPA; enroll as a full-time student while abroad; demonstrate financial need; and be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident. Eligible Temple students will be considered for a scholarship if they indicate interest on the program application and submit the essay to International Programs by February 15. Students who hold Temple University Fellowships or Future Faculty Fellowships may be able to apply tuition waivers to the Rome program, subject to the stipulation of their awards.

For further information

International Programs, Temple University, 200 Tuttleman Learning Center

1809 North 13th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19122

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