Anatomia Italiana
Connecting Art and Anatomy Along the Italian Peninsula
Summer 2022
(3 Graduate Credits or Non-credit Professional Development)

Course instructor: Kevin Petti, Ph.D.
Professor, Departments of Science and Health
San Diego Miramar College
kpetti@sdccd.edu
(619) 388-7491

WHO SHOULD TAKE THIS COURSE

• Faculty who are teaching or planning to teach courses in human anatomy, or human anatomy and physiology who:
  
  o Have an interest in the history of anatomy in the medical curriculum, as well as Renaissance art and its connection to the study of human anatomy.
  
  o Are able to participate in a 12-day experience traveling in Italy exploring the historic and cultural background to anatomy education, as well as complete a substantial online pre-travel and post-travel curriculum.
  
  o Have an interest in incorporating into their classes an art and anatomy interdisciplinary element.

COURSE FORMAT

1. Pre-travel experience: May 1 - 31, 2022
   • Learning activities of academic readings and discussions prior to attending the travel experience, conducted online asynchronously.

2. Travel experience: June 5 - 17 OR July 3 - 15, 2022
   • A 12-day travel experience in Italy visiting four university anatomy museums, as well as several arts and culture museums venues addressing art and anatomy.

3. Post-travel experience: July 24 - August 14, 2022
   • Completion of a final synthesizing project via production of a scholarly, interdisciplinary teaching element that connects art and anatomy, is grounded in the professional literature, and informed by the travel experience.
COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to provide college-level instructors with the opportunity to expand their understanding of the rich cultural heritage of anatomy education along the Italian Peninsula, and its connection with Renaissance art. This course is an international experience preceded by a series of readings in peer-reviewed journals and scholarly books intended to put the travel experience into context, and followed by the development of a scholarly, interdisciplinary teaching element that connects art and anatomy, is grounded in the professional literature, and informed by the travel experience. Readings will be discussed in online forums, experienced deeper through the international experience, and applied via a variety of options such as incorporating a teaching element into an existing or future anatomy course, grant or curriculum proposal, or academic paper for presentation at a professional conference.

After a four-week online component, students will participate in a 12-day visit to Italy. They will visit anatomy and pathology museums in Rome, Florence, Bologna and Padua that are important to the history of anatomy education. These museums include historic anatomy theaters and centuries old anatomical wax models. Traditional cultural sites that contain Renaissance masterpieces, such as the Vatican Museums and Uffizi Gallery, will also be toured. These masterpieces will be considered within the context of how they were influenced by the dissections conducted by the masters. This interdisciplinary experience allows for students to connect art and anatomy in a unique manner and from a fresh perspective. The result is a deeper and richer understanding of the historic and cultural underpinnings of anatomy education in the medical curriculum.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to:

1. Critically analyze and integrate select peer-reviewed literature and scholarly books in the history of anatomy, as well as Renaissance art.
2. Use the knowledge acquired through the assigned readings to develop a perspective that connects art and anatomy.
3. Identify and visit important venues in the history of anatomy and medical education along the Italian Peninsula.
4. Visit and reframe many of the Renaissance masterpieces within the context of how human dissection conducted by the masters influenced their works of art.
5. Consider the influence of Medieval and Renaissance art on early anatomy texts, and anatomical wax modeling.
6. Apply the knowledge acquired in the course via the production of a synthesizing, interdisciplinary, academic product.
EVALUATION

Participants will be evaluated on a “credit/no credit” basis. A total of 100 points may be earned with a passing grade being designated as a 75%. Points will be distributed as follows:

1) Participation in pre-travel experience activities 15 points
2) Participation in travel experience activities 45 points
3) Participation in post-travel experience activities 15 points
4) Final project 25 points

100 points - total

1) Pre-travel experience activities
In the weeks prior to the travel experience, students will be asked to progressively read a series of articles in the peer-reviewed literature as well as book chapters. Students will be asked to actively and substantively participate in the discussions that follow the readings. This element of the course is conducted online asynchronously.

2) Travel experience participation
Students will be expected to attend all visits to the scheduled venues, and to actively and substantively participate in the visits and the discussions that follow.

3) Post-travel experience activities
In the weeks following the travel experience, students will be asked to actively and substantively participate in discussions addressing a variety of topics. These discussions will be directed toward the development of the final project, and will include a peer-review of several early drafts of the final projects completed by other students. This element of the course is conducted online asynchronously.

4) Final project
All course participants will create a final project. The goal is to direct the students to apply what they have learned to their specific college teaching duties. The theme of these projects is to create an interdisciplinary teaching element that connects art and anatomy, is grounded in the professional literature, and informed by the travel experience. It may take any reasonable form, such as a PowerPoint or Keynote presentation for delivery in an academic setting, written grant proposal or curriculum document, specific learning activity or module, or other teaching/learning resource. Initially, students will be placed in small groups where they will peer-review each other’s projects. Students will then incorporate this feedback into their final product, and this will be submitted to the instructor.
Out of Class Student Hours: 32 Total Hours

1. Pre-travel Curriculum: 24 Hours
   The Pre-Travel Curriculum contains 12 modules with sufficient content of readings and exercises to justify an average of approximately two hours per each module for a total of 24 hours.

2. Post-travel Final Project: 8 Hours
   The Post-travel Final Project requires connecting the readings, travel experience, discussions, and journal entries into a unifying, scholarly, synthesizing project to justify eight hours.

Classroom Student Contact Hours Abroad: 40 Hours
The activities below are “classroom” hours to occur in Italy. Each activity, venue, and city is outlined below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rome</td>
<td>Vatican Museums and Capuchin Crypt</td>
<td>Connect the Renaissance masters with their understanding of human anatomy. Later tour the ossuary shrines at Santa Maria della Concezione, where the bones of 4,000 friars dating back to the year 1500 are elaborately arranged. Explore the human body in religious expression.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 contact hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 contact hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florence</td>
<td>Assisi and Basilica of Saint Francis</td>
<td>Visit Assisi, home of St. Francis, one of Europe’s most important spiritual sanctuaries. Examine Giotto’s cycle of frescos in the Basilica, the foundations of Italian art, and the accurate depiction of the human form.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 contact hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florence</td>
<td>La Specola Anatomical Wax Museum, University of Florence; Michelangelo Crucifix.</td>
<td>Museum contains 500 wax anatomical models from the 17th &amp; 18th century, including 26 whole body specimens of amazing anatomical accuracy and artistic achievement. The Basilica of Santo Spirito houses the wooden crucifix carved by 17 year-old Michelangelo in gratitude for access to corpses for dissection he conducted to heighten his art. Connecting anatomic study to art in science and religion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 contact hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florence</td>
<td>Historic Florence, Michelangelo’s David</td>
<td>A private guided walking tour of the historic center of Florence, students then visit the Accademia to see Michelangelo’s David and consider the incredible anatomical accuracy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 contact hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Destination</td>
<td>Duration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florence</td>
<td>Uffizi Gallery</td>
<td>4 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bologna</td>
<td>Historic Bologna and the Ancient Anatomy Theatre</td>
<td>4 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bologna</td>
<td>Anatomical and Pathological Wax Collections, University of Bologna</td>
<td>6 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Padua</td>
<td>Palazzo del Bo, University of Padua</td>
<td>3 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>