



Anatomia Italiana *del Sud*:

The Cultural History of Anatomy in Southern Italy

(3 Credits)

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WHO SHOULD TAKE THIS COURSE

- Faculty who are teaching or planning to teach courses in human anatomy, or human anatomy and physiology who:
 - have an interest in the history of anatomy education, as well as Italian art and culture.
 - wish to participate in a 12-day experience traveling in Italy exploring the historic and cultural background to anatomy education.
 - have an interest in incorporating into their classes an art and anatomy interdisciplinary element.

COURSE FORMAT

1. Pre-travel experience: May 22 - June 5, 2017
 - Online directed learning activities of academic readings and discussions prior to attending the travel experience. If the student is attending the HAPS Conference in Salt Lake City, a discussion session is encouraged
2. Travel experience: June 10 - June 22, 2017
 - A 12-day travel experience in Italy visiting two university anatomy museums, as well as several traditional cultural museums and other venues that address art and anatomy.
3. Post-travel experience: July 23 - August 4, 2017
 - Online discussions of topics relating to the travel experience and the course objectives.
 - Completion of a final project via production and peer-review of individual instructional modules exploring the relationship between art and anatomy.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an international experience preceded by the completion of an online curriculum that employs a series of readings in peer-reviewed journals and scholarly books that put the travel experience into context, and are followed by the development of a teaching module after the travel. This interdisciplinary experience allows for students to connect art and anatomy in a unique manner. The result is a deeper and richer understanding of the historic and cultural underpinnings of anatomy education.

Students will participate in a 12-day visit to southern Italy, with nine of those days in Sicily, and three days in Naples and the vicinity. The itinerary examines ancient Greco-Roman depictions of the human form in sculpture, painting, and mosaic – including the body as a vehicle for religious expression in two Capuchin Crypts. Also featured are university anatomy museums in Palermo and Naples, as well as the ruins of Pompeii, a city covered with volcanic ash 2,000 years ago. Highlights also include historic anatomy theaters and centuries old anatomical wax models, as well as the Riace Bronzes, 4th century BCE sculptures that are amazingly accurate anatomically as well as culturally important. These masterpieces will be considered with the context of how they were influenced by the dissections conducted by the artistic masters.

[A more detailed itinerary can be found here.](#)

COURSE 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 its connection to art and culture.
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 education along the southern Italian Peninsula.
4. Visit and reframe many of the visited artistic masterpieces within the context of how human dissection conducted by the ancient masters influenced these works of art.
5. Apply the knowledge acquired in the course through the incorporation of an interdisciplinary element into a currently taught anatomy course so as to deepen and enrich the student learning experience.

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 70%. 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	<u>25 points</u>
	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 that are delivered via an online curriculum. Students will be asked to actively and substantively participate in the discussions that follow the readings.

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.

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, written proposal or curriculum document, specific learning activity or module, or other teaching/learning resource, or the delivery of a lecture at a conference. 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.