**History of Artistic Techniques**

Prof. Chiara Spanio

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The aim of the course is to provide students with an introduction to artistic techniques through examples of investigations into individual pieces. The course will address various techniques from painting and sculpture to goldsmithing and enamelling, enabling students to become accustomed to this field of study.

At the end of the course, students will be able to navigate the main sources of literature and recognise and describe the main artistic techniques, having learned the critical observation of works of art as an inseparable combination of thought and material.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The aim of the course is to provide a general introduction to the most important works on the techniques and methods of observation and enquiry. The course will then focus on some of the various techniques more specifically via the in-depth analysis of prominent works.

A single-subject section will be devoted to marquetry and wooden sculpture between Bergamo and Brescia between the 16th and 18th centuries.

***READING LIST***

As well as lecture notes, students should refer to the following texts:

F. Negri Arnoldi, *Tecnica e scienza*, in *Storia dell’arte italiana*, part 1, vol. 4, Einaudi, Turin 1980 p.103-224

A. Conti, *Manuale di restauro*, Einaudi, Turin 1996 (ch. 4 *Documentazione*; ch. 7, *L’affresco*; ch. 8, *Tecniche*)

*Arti e Storia nel Medioevo. Del costruire. Tecniche, artisti, artigiani, committenti,* edited by E. Castelnuovo and G. Sergi, Einaudi, Turin 2003 (an essay of choice)

B.S. Tosatti, *Trattati medievali di tecniche artistiche,* Jaca Book, Milan 2007 (only the sectionavailable from the UC copy shop)

Single-subject section:

* G. TESTORI, *Beniamino Simoni a Cerveno,* Brescia, Grafo 1976
* R. BOSSAGLIA (a cura di), *I Fantoni: quattro secoli di scultura in Europa*, catalogo della mostra, Vicenza, Neri Pozza 1978
* C. SPANIO, *Giovanni Giuseppe Piccini scultore,* Bergamo, Bolis 2011
* C. BENIGNI-M. ZANCHI, *Lorenzo Lotto. Lettere. Corrispondenze per il coro intarsiato,* Roma, Officina Libraria 2023

The textbooks indicated in the reading list under the title *Single-subject section* are just for reference. Further information will be made available during the course.

In order to prepare for the final exam, non-attending students will have to study a customised reading list, that will be provided by the lecturer.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Lectures supplemented with photographic documentation and, where possible, organised visits for direct observation of the pieces. There will also be a number of visits to museums and churches.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Oral exam. Assessment of content, skills of analysis and observation, presentation skills and grasp of specific terminology.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Students should have knowledge of basic artistic history. Students who have not completed the History of Art examination may still attend the course but they must inform the lecturer, so as to receive all the necessary tools.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.