# History of Architecture

## Prof. Stefano Margutti

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

The course aims to introduce students to the history of architecture, providing them with the basic techniques for understanding monuments, structures and plans, formal, spatial and typological elements, building techniques as well as cultural contexts and relationships with the figurative arts, by examining some of the works and leading architects of the modern age (15th-18th centuries).

Lectures will also include the discussion of historical-critical positions and the various modes of studying history, alongside the direct study of buildings and the use of appropriate architectural vocabulary.

By the end of the course, students will be able to: recognise and historically contextualise the main monuments studied; use specialist architectural language to analyse historical buildings in terms of type, structure and form; make connections between building system, typology and historical context; and evaluate and interpret data and information as a premise for formulating an independent appraisal of the figures and works in question.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course will take a chronological approach to Italian architecture between the 15th and 18th centuries, examining the leading architects working within this timeframe, including (but not limited to) Filippo Brunelleschi, Leon Battista Alberti, Francesco di Giorgio Martini, Giuliano da Sangallo, Mauro Codussi, Donato Bramante, Raffaello Sanzio, Giulio Romano, Jacopo Sansovino, Michele Sanmicheli, Andrea Palladio, Michelangelo Buonarroti, Jacopo Vignola, Pellegrino Tibaldi, Carlo Maderno, Gian Lorenzo Bernini, Francesco Borromini, Pietro da Cortona, Guarino Guarini, Bernardo Vittone, Filippo Juvarra and Luigi Vanvitelli.

There will be a particular focus on the buildings of Filippo Brunelleschi, Donato Bramante and Michelangelo Buonarroti.

***READING LIST***

Students must study the following textbooks:

– For the 15th century: C. L. Frommel, *Architettura del Rinascimento italiano,* Skira, Milan-Geneva, 2007, pp. 15-155.

– For the 16th century: C. L. Frommel, *Architettura del Rinascimento italiano,* Skira, Milan-Geneva, 2007, pp. 157-340, or W. Lotz, *Architettura in Italia 1500-1600,* edited by D. Howard, Rizzoli, 1997 (unabridged)

– For the 17th century and 18th century: R. Wittkower, *Arte e architettura in Italia. 1600-1750,* Einaudi, Turin, 1972, pp. 92-108, 147-205, 233-253, 317-375.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Lectures and educational visits to the Lombard monuments on the syllabus

A visit study to Florence could be planned if compatible with the organisation of the course.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Students will be examined by means of an oral exam designed to evaluate their assimilation of the content presented in lectures and on the reading list. Assessment criteria include: ability to present key information about architects and their works, and to describe buildings, including through the use of images and using appropriate architectural terminology (images will be selected from those featured in the essays on the reading list and shown in lectures, which will be available to students on Blackboard).

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

*Prerequisites*

As an introductory course, there are no prerequisites terms of content. Students are nevertheless expected to demonstrate an interest in and intellectual curiousity about the subject.

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.