# History of Art in Lombardy

## Prof. Stefania Buganza

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

The course aims to explore an aspect of the history of the arts in Lombardy during the medieval and modern ages.

This year, the course will focus specifically on artistic production – particularly painting – in the last quarter of the fifteenth century in Milan and in the Duchy of Sforzesco, dominated by the figure of Ludovico il Moro and his strategy of power through images. This was a crucial moment for the future of the arts in Lombardy: thanks to the stimuli provided by the presence of Donato Bramante and Leonardo da Vinci and to the close dialogue between the Lombard masters within the ducal workshops, figurative culture would undergo profound renewal. The polyptych of San Martino in Treviglio, painted by Bernardino Butinone and Bernardo Zenale between 1485 and 1490, is emblematic of this delicate moment and has always served as a resource for those wishing to learn to distinguish between the styles of its two creators. This is an exercise that we will tackle during lectures, while at the same time exploring the fifteenth-century activity of Zenale and Butinone, contextualised within broader artistic scene of Lombardy.

By the end of the course, students will have acquired an in-depth knowledge of the history of art during the Renaissance in Northern Italy, and refined their knowledge of the methodology used in this field.

***COURSE CONTENT***

*The Treviglio polyptych: Bernardo Zenale, Bernardino Butinone and the revival of Milanese artistic culture in the last quarter of the 15th century.*

***READING LIST***

The full reading list for this course will be provided at the beginning of lectures (and simultaneously uploaded onto Stefania Buganza's Blackboard page) together with any optional background reading, in line with each individual student’s interest. There will also be a handout of course material available on the lecturer's BlackBoard page at the beginning of lectures.

As well as the texts on the reading list, students are also expected to read M. Rossi's *Disegno storico dell’arte lombarda*, Vita e Pensiero, Milan, 2005 (latest edition), which provides a general overview of the history of art in Lombardy and contextualises the topics presented in lectures more broadly.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Lectures with slides; educational visits to museums and monuments covering in lectures; talks from specialist academics.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Students will be assessed by means of an oral exam of suitable length. The exam will verify that students have assimilated the content presented in lectures and learned through reading the texts on the reading list. The exams will be based on the images shown and commented in class, and made available to students at the end of the lecture cycle and uploaded onto the lecturer’s Blackboard page. Students will be asked to discuss the works and workshops from a historical point of view and in terms of art history.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

*Prerequisites*

As an introductory course focusing on a specific aspect of Lombardy's art history, students are expected to have at least textbook-level knowledge of the medieval and modern history of Italy.

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.