



CU/HS/AH 390 LIVING SIENA: EXPLORING HISTORICAL AND CONTEMPORARY TUSCAN CULTURE
IES Abroad Siena

DESCRIPTION:

This research-based course, which combines lectures with course-related trips and seminars, uses the remarkable surroundings of Siena to examine the different meanings attached to the past in this city. This study deepens the cultural and political importance of Siena as a 'city' throughout its history, from the strategically crucial Mediaeval town on the Pilgrimage Road, through the present day. Particular emphasis is given to patterns of life and the role of Siena and Tuscany in European integration by their multi-cultural past. The experiential work component of the class is supplemented by a seminar that explores fundamental aspects of Italian and European approaches. The students will produce a project related to their academic interests based upon and correlated to the class's main topics. To this day, Siena thrives on an intense interest in culture that strongly affects its inhabitants' institutions, economy, practices, and identity. This class offers first-hand experience and involvement in Tuscan cultural institutions (including museums and churches) engaged in arts and culture.

CREDITS: 3 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 45 hours

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: English

PREREQUISITES: None

ADDITIONAL COST: None

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:

This course includes weekly in-class lectures and course-related trips. As the course progresses, a seminar-style presentation is formed, whereby students are asked to present specific objects to the class in seminar sessions. In addition, group work and presentations will provide an insightful look at topics and allow the student to practice more interactively. Lectures in class will include PowerPoint presentations, videos, and handouts. Each lesson is followed by a question and answer section. Course-related trips include palaces, museums, and churches in Siena and Florence (see below for details).

N.B. Students are kindly advised not to carry bulky backpacks or troublesome objects during course-related trips since they are forbidden in museums.

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

- Attendance, Active class Participation, and class discussion - 10%
- Oral Presentation of a Reading assignment - 20%
- Moodle Video Assignment 10%
- Written Mid-term Exam 15%
- Outline of the Research Paper 5%
- Final Research Paper 15%
- Final Exam 25%

Course Element

Attendance, Active class Participation, and class discussion (10%)

For the attendance policy, please see below. Students are encouraged to be active in class. Discussion is a crucial part of this course, so the instructor expects students to express their thoughts and perceptions and respond critically to the material under consideration. In addition, students must gain first-hand knowledge of the significant monuments and artworks treated during the course. Therefore, they must participate in class and course-related trips.

Since the class is flipped, students must watch Moodle videos and readings and fulfill assignments before class.

Oral Presentation of a Reading assignment (20%)

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The instructor will assign students ONE significant reading assignment (on **Moodle**). Students will present their assigned reading orally on the due date. This assignment aims to improve student's level of reading awareness. Consider the following steps: 1. Explain the main headings and subject areas covered; 2. You should highlight essential facts, concepts, and vocabulary; 3. You should present the natural Outline of the reading and fill in keywords, ideas, and definitions; 4. Comparing lecture notes with notes from your assigned reading would be best. Areas of overlap are especially likely to be covered on the midterm and final exams.

Oral Presentation: approx. 10 minutes in length. On the due date, students will orally present their assigned reading. **N.B.** If you are absent on the due date, please upload a written summary of your oral Presentation on Moodle).

Moodle Video Assignment (10%)

Each student will shoot TWO Moodle Videos (around 8-10 minutes long) on the iconographical analysis of one of the most important monuments in Siena and Florence related to the topics covered during the course.

Written Mid-term Exam (15%) and Final Exam (25%)

The midterm and final exams include three sections (students will write in complete sentences approximately 5-6 handwritten pages):
1. 2 Slides identification (40%): the instructor will select the artworks among those shown during lectures or seen on-site (notebook pages).

2. 2 Short questions with open answers (40%) on topics and readings covered in class

3. 1 Short essay (20%) on the seminar section of the course.

The instructor will only give credit for the course if students complete all requirements.

Oral and Written Research Paper (Outline 5%; Final Paper 15%)

The students will produce a project related to their academic interests based upon and correlated to the class's main topics. The topics to be written must meet the instructor's approval. The ultimate choice of subject will try to cater to individual needs and interests.

The students may conveniently choose their topics from among the subjects developing a problem, an argument, etc., into an in-depth analysis in the form of a mature essay. However, since one of the tasks in the seminar will precisely be to collect secondary literature (also to be approved by the instructor) on the subject matter the student will be writing on, the instructor will give no list of secondary sources beforehand.

The primary substance of the seminar sessions would be as follows:

1. Presentation and description by the instructor of the topics the students will be working on (see below: Research Paper Topics)

2. Seminar Session: Presentation and submission of the Outline (weighting 5% total):

The Outline helps to ground students and keep them on the topic: an effective one is just that, not the entirety of what the student wants to say. Points do not need whole sentences; instead, cue words represent ideas. This way, the students can quickly glance at their papers and know where they want to go next. Students should adapt their Outline to match their presentation and train of thought. Every Outline presentation should have an introduction, a body of main points and ideas, and a conclusion. For details, see: "Making an Outline": <https://youtu.be/MEQlgWAPD9A>. The Outline must be submitted via Moodle in a Word file, which allows the instructor to edit (no PDF) on the due day. Please be aware that the instructor will not accept other formats. The Outline must be approx. 4-5 pages (approx. 1400-1500 words), with Title page (student name, the title of the Paper, course code and title, word count); Numbered Pages; 10 section headings; Font: Times New Roman; Font size: 12-point font size; margins: 1,27" on the left, right, top, and bottom; spacing: double-space everything. Plagiarism will result automatically in the grade of "F." Please remember that a delay in turning in the writing assignments will lower your grade by a half grade the day after the due date, and 2% for each following day. Oral presentation of the paper Outline: Approx. 10-12 minutes in length with a PowerPoint Presentation, which must be uploaded on Moodle before the due date. N.B. If you are absent on the due date, please upload a video with your oral presentation on Moodle, approx. 10-12 minutes in length).

3. Seminar Session: Presentation and submission of finished Essay (weighting 15% total):

To prepare the Research Paper, see: "[Cambridge University Press ELT](https://youtu.be/VK51E3gHENC): Prof. Simon Peyton Jones, How to Write a Great Research Paper": <https://youtu.be/VK51E3gHENC>. The finished Paper must be approx. 14-15 pages (approx. 4500-5000 words), with Title page (student name, the title of the Paper, course code and title, word count); Numbered Pages; Section headings; Font: Times New Roman; Font size: 12-point font size; margins: 1,27" on the left, right, top, and bottom; spacing: double-space everything.

The finished Paper must be submitted via Moodle in a Word file, which allows the instructor to edit (no PDF) on the due day. Please be aware that the instructor will not accept other formats. Plagiarism will result automatically in the grade of "F." Please remember that a delay in turning in the writing assignments will lower your grade by a half grade the day after the due date, and 2% for each following day. Oral presentation of the final Paper: Approx. 10-12 minutes in length with a PowerPoint Presentation, which must be



uploaded on Moodle before the due date. N.B. If you are absent on the due date, please upload a video with your oral presentation on Moodle, approx. 10-12 minutes in length).

Research Paper Topics:

On Political Power:

- A. Origins, Re-interpretation of the Past, and Creating Authority through imitation
- B. Republicanism and Tyranny: Wealth, social order, Common Care and Common Good

On Social Power:

- C. Hospitality and Openness, Diversity and Inclusion
- D. Women's empowerment in a patriarchal world, Gender equality, and equity
- E. Social participation, Volunteering, and Civic Rituals.

On Economic Power:

- F. Food and power, Economic power and political leadership
- G. Water and power
- H. Pawnshops and Banking

Oral presentation of the research paper: Approx. 10-12 minutes in length with PowerPoint Presentation, which must be uploaded on Moodle before the due date.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Improve their ability to think critically, engage in complex reasoning, and express their thoughts clearly through their written work
- Identify and analyze the history and culture of Italy and Tuscany with particular regard to its relevance in terms of people's social, and political identity
- Develop skills to critically evaluate Italian artworks and their historical, cultural, and socio-political connotations.

GLOBAL LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Perspective Taking: It is the ability to engage and learn from perspectives and experiences different from one's own and understand how one's place in the world informs and limits one's knowledge. The goal is to develop the capacity to understand the interrelationships between multiple perspectives, such as personal, social, cultural, disciplinary, environmental, local, and global.

Cultural Diversity: the ability to recognize the origins and influences of one's cultural heritage and its limitations in providing all that one needs to know in the world. This ability includes the curiosity to learn respectfully about the cultural diversity of other people and, on an individual level, traverse cultural boundaries to bridge differences and collaboratively reach common goals. On a systems level, the critical skill of comparatively analyzing how cultures can be marked and assigned a place within power structures that determine hierarchies, inequalities, and opportunities and which can vary over time and place. This critical skill can include but is not limited to understanding race, ethnicity, gender, nationhood, religion, and class.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Studying at IES Abroad Siena is an academically intensive and immersive experience in which students from a wide range of backgrounds exchange ideas in discussion-based seminars. Learning in such an environment depends on the active participation of all students. And since classes typically meet once or twice a week, even a single absence can cause a student to miss a significant portion of a course. Therefore, class attendance at the center or online is mandatory, and the instructor will take attendance at the beginning of each class. Furthermore, the successful progress of the program depends on the full cooperation of both students and faculty members: regular attendance and active class participation are essential parts of the learning process.

More than **TWO** absences will lower your grade by two percentage points for every absence.

N.B. In case of absence, regardless of the reason, the student is responsible for completing missed assignments, getting notes, and making up missed work promptly based upon a mutually agreed-upon schedule between the faculty member and the student. Regardless of whether an absence is excused, it is the student's responsibility to catch up with the missed work.

CONTENT:

	Content	Assignments
Week 1	Unit 1: (Mon. 30.01.23, h 9-10.50 am) - H 9:00-10:00 am Lesson: Introduction: getting acquainted, discussing coursework. Presentation and description of the topics the students will be working on (see: Research Paper Topics). Venue: in class. - H 10.00-10.50 am Course-related trip: Siena's she-wolves statues (I): Piazza Tolomei. Unit 0: (Wed. 01.02.23, h 9-10.50 am): - no class	
Week 2	Unit 2: (Mon. 06.02.23, h 9-10.50 am) - H 9:00-10:00 am Lesson: Topic: On Political Power: A. Origins, Re-interpretation of the Past and Creating Authority through imitation (I). Venue: in class. - H 10.00-10.50 am Course-related trip: Siena's she-wolves statues (II): Piazza del Campo, Duomo Square, and Duomo's floor. Unit 0: (Wed. 08.02.23, h 9-10.50 am): - no class	<u>Assignments to be due before class:</u> A. Videos on Moodle: - Romulus and Remus Legend - She-Wolf and Cities, Siena Duomo B. Reading: - Catoni, G., <i>The She-Wolf: a Link between Siena and Rome</i>, in Catoni, G. – Piccinni, G., <i>An Illustrated History of Siena</i>, Pisa Pacini ed., 2008, pp. 1-26
Week 3	Unit 3: (Mon. 13.02.23, h 9-10.50 am) - H 9:00-10:50 am Lesson: Topic: On Political Power: B. Republicanism and Tyranny: Wealth, social order, Common Care and Common Good (I). Authority through imitation. Venue: in class. Unit 0: (Wed. 15.02.23, h 9-10.50 am) - no class	<u>Assignments to be due before class:</u> A. Videos on Moodle: - Catholicism - History of Siena - Imperialism - Republicanism C. Assignment: - Reading assignment assigned

	Content	Assignments
Week 4	Unit 0: (Mon. 20.02.23, h 9-10.50 am) - no class Unit 4: (Wed. 22.02.23, h 9-10.50 am) - H 9:00-10:00 am Lesson: Topic: On Political Power: B. Republicanism and Tyranny: Wealth, social order, Common Care and Common Good (II). Oral presentation of Reading (GRP 1). Venue: in class. - H 10.00-10.50 am Course-related trip: Town Hall Museum (Palazzo Pubblico: Sala del Buongoverno, Taddeo di Bartolo's Ancient Roman Heroes, and Beccafumi's Concistoro Hall).	<u>Assignments to be due before class:</u> A. Videos on Moodle: - Lorenzetti, Buongoverno B. Reading: - Polzer, J., <i>Ambrogio Lorenzetti's "War and Peace" Murals Revisited: Contributions to the Meaning of the "Good Government Allegory"</i>, "Artibus et Historiae", Vol. 23, No. 45, 2002, pp. 63-105 C. Assignment: - Reading assignment due (GRP 1)
Week 5	Unit 5: (Mon. 27.02.23, h 9-10.50 am) - H 9:00-10:00 am Lesson: Topic: On Social Power: C. Hospitality and Openness, Diversity and Inclusion (I). Venue: in class. - H 10.00-10.50 am Course-related trip: Siena Synagogue. Unit 6: (Wed. 01.03.23, h 9-10.50 am) - H 9:00-10.50 am Lesson: Topic: On Economic Power: F. Food and power, Economic power and political leadership (I). Oral presentation of Reading (GRP 2). Venue: in class.	<u>Assignments to be due before class:</u> A. Videos on Moodle: - Openness - Hospitality through ages - History of the Jews in Italy - Siena Synagogue B. Reading: - Salvadori, R.G., <i>The Jews of Florence</i>, Firenze 2001, s.p. - Botticini, M., <i>A Tale of "Benevolent" Governments: Private Credit Markets, Public Finance, and the Role of Jewish Lenders in Medieval and Renaissance Italy</i>, "The Journal of Economic History", Vol. 60, No. 1, March 2000, pp. 164-189 <u>Assignments to be due before class:</u> A. Videos on Moodle: - Hospitals during the Dark Ages and Middle Ages - Medicine evolution C. Assignment: - Reading assignment due (GRP 2)

	Content	Assignments
Week 6	Unit 7: (Mon. 06. 03.23, h 9-10.50 am) - H 9:00-10:00 am Lesson: Topic: On Economic Power: F. Food and power, Economic power and political leadership (II). Venue: in class. - H 10:00-10.50 am Course-related trip: Santa Maria Della Scala Hospital Museum. Unit 8: (N.B. Wed. 08.03.23, h 8 am-1 pm) Course-related trip to Florence -1: - Innocenti Institute Museum. Concepts to be explained and discussed: On Social Power: C. Hospitality and Openness, Diversity and Inclusion (II). Venue: TBA.	<u>Assignments to be due before class:</u> A. Videos on Moodle: - Spedale Santa Maria Della Scala B. Reading: - Orlandini, A., <i>Foundlings and Pilgrims</i>, Siena 2002, s.p. - Baron, J.H., <i>The Hospital Of Santa Maria Della Scala, Siena, 1090-1990</i>, "British Medical Journal", Vol. 301, No. 6766 (Dec. 22 - 29, 1990), pp. 1449-1451 <u>Assignments to be due before class:</u> A. Videos on Moodle: - Institute of the Innocents Museum B. Reading: - Filipponi, S., Maggi, A. Sandri, L., <i>The Renaissance of the Children (Istituto degli Innocenti)</i>, 2007, 6-33
Week 7	Unit 0: (Mon. 13.03.23, h 9-10.50 am) No class. Unit 9: (Wed. 15.03.23, h 9-10.50 am) H 9:00-10:00 am Lesson: Topic: On Social Power: D. Women's empowerment in a patriarchal world, Gender equality, and equity. Paper Outline assigned. Venue: in class. H 10:00-10.50 am Course-related trip: Santa Caterina's House.	<u>Assignments to be due before class:</u> A. Videos on Moodle: - Saint Catherine of Siena - Women's role in Medieval Times - House of Saint Catherine B. Reading: - Scott, K., <i>Urban Spaces, Women's Networks, and the Lay Apostolate in the Siena of Catherine Benincasa</i>, in Matter, E.A. - - Coakley, J. W., <i>Managing Holiness: Raymond of Capua and Catherine of Siena</i>, in <i>Idem, Women, Men, and Spiritual Power Book. Female Saints and Their Male Collaborators</i>, Columbia University Press, 2006, pp. 170-192 C. Assignment: - Paper Outline assigned. Please see the Grading Rubric on Moodle.

	Content	Assignments
Week 8	Unit 10: (Mon. 20.03.23, h 9-10.50 am) - H 9:00-9:30 am Lesson: Topic: On Economic Power: G. Water and power. Video on Gaia Fountain assigned. Venue: in class. - H 9.30-10.50 am Course-related trip: Civic Fountains (Fonte Serena, Fontebranda, Fonte Nuova). Unit 11: (Wed. 22.03.23, h 9- am) - H 9:00-10.50 am Seminar Session: Oral Presentation of the Outline with a PowerPoint presentation (5% of the total grade). Venue: in class.	<u>Assignments to be due before class:</u> A. Videos on Moodle: - Politics of Water, Noah Theriault, 2016 - Fontebranda, Fonte del Casato, Fonte Nuova d'Ovile B. Reading: - Hoch, A.S., <i>Duecento Fertility Imagery for Females at Massa Marittima's Public Fountain</i>, "Zeitschrift für Kunstgeschichte", 69, 4, 2006, pp. 471-488 C. Moodle Assignment: - Gaia Fountain Video assignment assigned. <u>Assignments to be due before class:</u> C. Assignment: - Paper Outline due, to be uploaded on Moodle <u>on Tues. 21.03.23</u>. Please see the Grading Rubric on Moodle. - PowerPoint presentation for the Oral Presentation of the Paper Outline due, to be uploaded on Moodle <u>on Tues. 21.03.23</u>.
Week 9	Unit 12: (Mon. 27.03.23, h 9-10.50 am) - H 9:00-10.50 am Midterm Review. Make-up Oral assignments, if necessary. Venue: in class. Unit 13: (Wed. 29.03.23, h 9-10.50 am) - H 9:00-10.50 am Written Midterm exam. Please see the Grading Rubric on Moodle. Venue: in class.	
Week 10	Unit 14: (Mon. 03.04.23, h 9-10.50 am) - H 9:00-10.50 am Lesson: Topic: On Economic Power: H. Pawnshops and Banking (I). Venue: in class. Unit 0: (Wed. 05.04.23, h 9-10.50 am): - No Class. Spring Break.	<u>Assignments to be due before class:</u> A. Videos on Moodle: Medieval and Renaissance Banking

	Content	Assignments
Week 11	Unit 0: (Mon. 10.04.23, h 9-10.50 am): - No Class. National Holiday (Easter Monday) Unit 15: (Wed. 12.04.23, h 9-10.50 am) - H 9:00-10:00 am Lesson: Topic: On Economic Power: H. Pawnshops and Banking (II). Video on Gaia Fountain due. Venue: in class. - H 10:00-10:50 am Course-related trip: Chigi Saracini Palace, or Salimbeni Palace (Monte dei Paschi di Siena).	<u>Assignments to be due before class:</u> A. Videos on Moodle: - Monte dei Paschi di Siena (MPS), Rocca Salimbeni B. Reading: - Catoni - Merlini, <i>Monte de' Paschi</i>, Siena 2009, s.p. - Quaglia, L., <i>The Italian Banking System: Monte dei Paschi's Scandal and the Euro Area's Sovereign Debt</i>, "Italian Politics", Vol. 29, <i>Still Waiting for the Transformation</i>, 2013, pp. 216-232 C. Moodle Assignment: - Gaia Fountain Video assignment due.
Week 12	Unit 16: (Mon. 17.04.23, h 9-10.50 am) - H 9:00-10:50 am Lesson: Topic: On Social Power: E. Social participation, Volunteering, and Civic Rituals (I). Venue: in class. Unit 17: (N.B. Wed. 19.04.23, h 8 am-1 pm) Course-related trip to Florence - 2: - Davanzati Museum. Video on Neptune Fountain assigned. Concepts to be explained and discussed: On Social Power: D. Women's empowerment in a patriarchal world, Gender equality and equity. Venue: TBA.	<u>Assignments to be due before class:</u> A. Videos on Moodle: - Community Engagement - Benefits of Volunteering B. Reading: - Drechsler, W., <i>The Contrade, The Palio, And Ben Comune: Lessons From Siena</i>, "Trames", 2006, 10, 60/55, 2, pp. 99-125 - Pomponio Logan, A., <i>The Palio of Siena: Performance and Process</i>, "Urban Anthropology," 7, No. 1, Spring 1978, pp. 45-65 <u>Assignments to be due before class:</u> C. Moodle Assignment: - Neptune Fountain Video assignment assigned
Week 13	Unit 0: (Mon. 24.04.23, h 9-10.50 am) - No class. Make-up class, if necessary. Unit 18: (Wed. 26.04.23, h 9-10.50 am) - H 9:00-9:30 am Lesson: Topic: On Social Power: E. Social participation, Volunteering, and Civic Rituals (II). Focus on the Palio Horse Race. Venue: in class. - H 9.30-10.50 am Course-related trip: "Contrada" Museum.	<u>Assignments to be due before class:</u> A. Videos on Moodle: - Contrada della Giraffa and Palio C. Moodle Assignment: - Neptune Fountain Video assignment due.

	Content	Assignments
Week 14	Unit 0: (Mon. 01.05.23, h 9-10.50 am) - No class. National Holiday. Labor Day. Unit 19: (Wed. 03.05.23, h 9-10.50 am) - H 9:00-10.50 am Lesson: Seminar Session: Oral Presentation of the Paper with a PowerPoint presentation. Venue: in class.	<u>Assignments to be due before class:</u> C. Assignment: - Written Research Paper due, to be uploaded on Moodle <u>on Tues. 02.05.23</u>). - PowerPoint presentation for the Oral Presentation of the Research Paper due, to be uploaded on Moodle <u>on Tues. 02.05.23</u>).
Week 15	Unit 20: (Mon. 08.05.23, h 9-10.50 am) - H 9:00-10.50 am: Final Review. Venue: in class. Unit 21: (Wed. 10.05.23, h 9-10.50 am) - H 9:00-10.50 am: Final Exam. Venue: in class.	<u>Assignments to be due before class:</u> C. Assignment: Make-up Oral assignments, if necessary.

COURSE-RELATED TRIPS:

Course-related trips take students to see masterworks by the artists in the original context of Florence and Siena.

- Siena: Palazzo Pubblico (Civic Museum, Town Hall), “Santa Maria Della Scala” Hospital, Siena Fountains (Serena Fountain, Fontebranda, Gaia Fountain), Synagogue, Saint Catherine’s House, Siena Cathedral, Chigi Saracini Palace, “Contrada” Museum.
- Florence: Innocents Institute Museum, Davanzati Museum.

REQUIRED READINGS:

Students find the required readings on the syllabus and Moodle under the due week. A hard copy of them is also available for consultation on IES Abroad Siena campus. Students must keep up with the readings as they serve as the basis for class discussion. Please see details of them in the week-by-week breakdown.

RECOMMENDED READINGS:

The instructor may give additional material to complement classwork during the course on Moodle.