



**LIBERAL ARTS & STUDIO ARTS  
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS 2016-2017**

***Liberal Arts Courses***

ACCF FDTC 390: History of 20th Century Fashion  
ACCF HSTS 330: History of Tuscany  
ACCF ITLN 101: Elementary Italian I  
ACCF ITLN 102: Elementary Italian II  
ACCF ITLN 201: Intermediate Italian I  
ACCF ITLN 202: Intermediate Italian II  
ACCF ITLN 301: Advanced Italian  
ACCF AHRA 310: Italian Renaissance Art  
ACCF AHMI 310: Life and Works of Michelangelo  
ACCF LIIT 320: Italian Literature in the 20th Century  
ACCF LIIT 321: Italian Literature 1200 - 1500  
ACCF MSIC 310: Italian Cinema  
ACCF POIT 350: Italy in the European Union  
ACCF SOIT 360: Italian Style

***Studio Arts Courses***

ACCF SALD 110: Life Drawing I  
ACCF SALD 210: Life Drawing II  
ACCF SAPT 110: Painting Techniques I  
ACCF SAPT 310: Painting Techniques II  
ACCF SASF 110: Sketching Florence  
ACCF SAMM 310: Mixed Media - Contemporary Art Lab  
ACCF SAPF 310: Photographing Florence  
ACCF SAPT 110S: Painting Techniques – Summer  
ACCF SAPF 310S: Photographing Florence - Summer

**ACCF FDTC 390: History of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fashion**

This course aims to provide an overview of the historical development of fashion in the 20th century. This course examines both high and popular fashion, primarily in Europe, placing fashion products and concepts in the context of society, culture and economics. In this introductory course the emphasis is on these interconnections, but some elementary notions of fashion theory, especially in regard to gender and to marketing, are addressed.

**ACCF HSTS 330: History of Tuscany**

This course aims to provide students with an overview of the evolution of Florentine political, cultural and social history from the rise of the Medici to the Grand Duchy of Tuscany. Many of the events of this period still condition our lives today – one has just to remember our perceived importance of Renaissance ideas, the Medici, Machiavelli, Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo Buonarroti.

**ACCF ITLN 101: Elementary Italian I**

This introduction to the Italian language uses innovative methods to make learning lively and effective. The course begins from the most elementary communicative needs for salutations and personal identification. Students learn to form questions and answers about information relative to the world in which they find themselves. This work is backed up by an in-depth study of grammar to provide the student with a morpho-syntactical basis. Exercises will include games, situational studies, instruments through which the student has the possibility to use the grammatical structures and the vocabulary acquired up to that point. Course work corresponds to European Framework level A-1.

**ACCF ITLN 102: Elementary Italian II**

This course is a continuation of ITLN 101, with emphasis on conversation and the use of elementary and intermediate grammar covered during the lessons. Audio-visuals are used such as films and video clips to simulate typical situations and to stimulate conversation. Course work corresponds to European Framework level A-2.

**ACCF ITLN 201: Intermediate Italian I**

The intermediate course in Italian language, grammar, vocabulary and conversation is supported by video presentations of topical situations for conversation and increasing comprehension. Exercises will include reading newspapers, games, texts, situational studies, instruments through which the student has the possibility to use the grammatical structures and the vocabulary acquired up to that point. Course work corresponds to European Framework level B-1.

**ACCF ITLN 202: Intermediate Italian II**

The intermediate course in Italian language, grammar, vocabulary and conversation is supported by video presentations of topical situations for conversation and increasing comprehension. Exercises will include reading newspapers, games, texts, situational studies, instruments through which the student has the possibility to use the grammatical structures and the vocabulary acquired up to that point. Course work corresponds to European Framework level B-2.

**ACCF ITLN 301: Advanced Italian**

Advanced course in Italian language. Advanced composition skills and conversation supported by video presentations of topical situations for conversation and increasing comprehension. Course work corresponds to European Framework level C-1.

**ACCF AHMM 210: Italian Renaissance Art**

This course offers an introduction to the painting, sculpture and architecture of the 15th and 16th centuries. Special attention is given to Florence and its monuments and to key figures including Donatello, Botticelli, Leonardo and Michelangelo. The primary focus will be on stylistic and typological developments. Artwork will be considered within the contexts of patronage, biography, and the broader cultural and social life of the period.

**ACCF AHMI 310: Life and Works of Michelangelo**

This course examines the life and work in painting, sculpture and architecture of Michelangelo Buonarroti. In the course of examining his individual works, we will consider how the political and cultural context influenced his artistic production and his response to these factors as well as the particularities of each commission. We will discuss the relationship of his work to that of his contemporaries and successors, both in terms of style and the myth of the artist.

**ACCF LIIT 320: Italian Literature in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century**

This course aims to introduce students to modern Italian literature. The course will focus mainly on the development of Italian narrative from the end of the 19th to the end of the 20th century. Authors studied will include classics such as Svevo, Pirandello, Calvino, Gadda, Morante as well as contemporary authors such as Ammanniti and Camilleri. The course and readings will be in English.

**ACCF LIIT 321: Italian Literature 1200 – 1500**

This course provides an introduction to Italian Medieval and Renaissance literature. The first part of the course will be dedicated to Dante Alighieri (the Divine Comedy) and will continue with short stories (*la novella*) written by some of the most important prose writers in history, including Giovanni Boccaccio (Decameron), Lorenzo il Magnifico and Niccolò Machiavelli. It will explore the relationship between literature and the new mercantile class (*i mercatanti*).

**ACCF MSIC 310: Italian Cinema**

This course aims to provide an overview of Italian Cinema, from the silent era to the present, assessing its impact on Italian culture and society. This course will include analytical screenings of the films of the masters: Rossellini, De Sica, Fellini. Particular emphasis is on Italian Neorealism and its world-wide influence. Successful film genres, such as *comedy*, *spaghetti western* and *poliziesco* are also introduced.

**ACCF POIT 350: Italy in the European Union**

This course is organized on the historical development of national and international interests in both Italy and Europe as a whole between WWII and the present. With Italy as a founding EU member committed to the project of peaceful unity, the narratives intertwine. Various issues - cultural, social, political, economic - are addressed. Topics include: the EU and major problems in contemporary Italy; the preservation of Italian national interests; the EU in global and American perspective.

**ACCF SOIT 360: Italian Style**

The course examines basic aspects of Italian culture, leading the students towards an understanding of the most common perceptions of Italy and Italians, comparing their respective images, as projected throughout the world and perceived from outside. Students will be encouraged to make connections and ask questions and, by the end of the course, are expected to have accumulated a series of elements which allow them to consider the Italian identity from an informed point of view.

**ACCF SALD 110: Life Drawing I**

This is an intensive drawing course in which students draw daily and do weekly exercises and assignments in order to learn and improve their skills for realistic drawing. In this course each student will complete more than 100 drawings. The course is suitable for all skill levels, from beginning students to professional artists who wish to focus on how to draw and render from life. Students will work in the studio and at home from subjects which include still-life, portrait and the nude model.

**ACCF SALD 210: Life Drawing II**

This advanced drawing course is an investigation of what drawing is and what it can be. Students gain experience in drawing from the model and discover their own modes of expression through experimentation, discussions and extensive drawing. During class students will review and critique each other's work and draw from the nude model using various techniques. Students will also draw from life daily in a sketchbook which will be reviewed regularly.

**ACCF SAPT 110: Painting Techniques I**

This is an introductory level course in which students work individually and in groups, in the studio and at home. Students work in watercolor, oil, acrylic, large-scale scenic painting and mixed media. Each technique is demonstrated by the professor who is a working artist. Students follow structured assignments in and out of class. Although there is a strong emphasis on materials and their uses, the formal aspects of painting are also covered in discussions on composition, color, perspective and fundamentals of two dimensional design.

**ACCF SAPT 310: Painting Techniques II**

This class is a continuation of SAPT 110 Painting Techniques I. This course aims to help each student develop a project from concept to finished work with all the preparation, work and revision that requires. Students will learn the practical, professional and organizational aspects of being an artist while at the same time developing their own artistic vision. At the end of the course, students understand their own working processes better.

**ACCF SASF 110: Sketching Florence**

In this course students will learn the basics of sketching from real life with the most beautiful and important sites of historical Florence as subject matter. The classes will begin indoors, in museums such as the Bargello or the Accademia, where students will stand face to face with the masterpieces that have characterized Florentine sculpture, and in some of the most impressive churches (S. Maria Novella, Santa Croce, etc.) and will then work their way outdoors, where, weather permitting, the focus will be on the study of the surrounding architecture and environment. The itinerary will include the church of Santo Spirito, the Loggia dei Lanzi, the San Miniato cemetery, Fort Belvedere, and so on. The class will meet at the studio in the morning and will begin the day's sketching excursion from there.

**ACCF SAMM 310: Mixed Media – Contemporary Art Lab**

This is a studio art course designed for beginning and intermediate students, although more advanced students will be given the opportunity for individual guidance. The course is structured on five projects. Each one will involve the use of different techniques and materials. The projects are: plaster cast, clay modeling, 3D collage, lino cut and micro installation.

**ACCF SAPF 310: Photographing Florence**

This course is an introduction to photography. Through the construction and the use of the pinhole cameras we will approach the technical basis of photography. We will create at least three/four urban landscape images, and then we will go "digitally", exercising on the theme of "street photography": the places inhabited. We will gain an understanding as to which are the variables that determine the rendering and the specificity of the photographic images, as well as the technical basis specific of digital photography (how to set the camera, the numbers, the format, rudiments of the post-production software). The course takes advantage of the opportunity of being in Florence and of the usual holiday snap shooting, to introduce the ideas of a photo project: sequences of photos, documenting a place, telling stories and atmosphere.

**ACCF SAPT 110S: Painting Techniques – Summer**

This course provides students with a solid understanding of various painting techniques and how they are used to create expressive paintings. An understanding of the terminology and basic organization of the two dimensional surface is gained through first-hand experience and group discussion. Students learn to approach the broad subject of painting from their own point of view.

**ACCF SAPF 310S: Photographing Florence – Summer**

In this course students will learn the basics of photography from light source to subject, through the lens and ultimately into the camera. They will understand how each one of these 4 elements is essential to create a photograph and, consequently, how they can be modified to take control of the final image. The course will be directed in an open and fresh manner, providing the students with lectures and critique based on the progressive development of the class as the students discover not only the secrets of photography, but of one of the most beautiful cities in the world. Each student will be provided with a tailored approach in this summer course where the wonderful scenery of Florence will not just function as a frame but as the subject itself.