

Lorenzo de' Medici

Summer Workshops 2011

Cultural Experience and Creative Skills under the Italian Sun

The LdM Summer Workshops provide an exciting opportunity for people of varying ages and backgrounds to deepen their personal cultural experience and creative skills. Each workshop is a month-long exploration, balancing studio and classroom instruction on the school premises in Florence with field work in one or more inspiring Italian location.

4-Week Program - 6 Credits – 90 Contact Hours

FLORENCE AND SOUTHERN ITALY RESTORATION WORKSHOP

June (May 26 – June 25)

July (June 30 – July 30)

FLORENCE AND SOUTHERN ITALY WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP

June (May 26 – June 25)



LdM

Lorenzo de' Medici

The Italian
International
Institute

FLORENCE AND SOUTHERN ITALY RESTORATION WORKSHOP

Course code: RES 225 F

Contact hours: 90; **Credits:** 6

Instructor: Prof. Lorenzo Casamenti

Duration JUNE session: check in: Thursday May 26 – check out: Saturday June 25, 2011.

Class starts: May 30; **class ends:** June 23.

Field week: June 5 - 11

Duration JULY session: check in: Thursday June 30 – check out: Saturday July 30, 2011.

Class starts: July 4; **class ends:** July 29.

Field week: July 10 - 16

Location: regular classes take place in the LdM premises in Florence on the 1st, 3rd and 4th week; the field week will take place in Rocca Imperiale and Amendolara in the 2nd week.

Class time: regular classes in Florence typically MON-THUR 1:00-3.30PM; field week usually fulltime from MON to FRI.

Estimated additional costs: approx 50 Euro for materials and visits/entry fees

Description

During the three weeks in Florence students will learn the ancient technique of fresco by using original techniques from the mixing of fresco mortar (intonaco), its application on support, and the use of pigments for painting fresco.

Each participant will make a “sinopia” (preliminary painting for fresco), and complete a small fresco on a terracotta support using the participant’s choice of subject matter.

The course will then focus on the detachment of the student’s own fresco from its support, learning the method used in wall painting conservation.

The course will also briefly survey the ancient techniques used for making oil and tempera paintings. The participants will learn to recognize the century in which the paintings were created. The participants will have the unique chance to work on original paintings from the 16th – 17th century and learn how to use all modern painting restoration techniques to bring the antique paintings back to their original states. Scheduled museum visits will help enlighten the techniques used in class.

The field week will take place in Rocca Imperiale, a characteristic medieval hill town located in the region of Calabria, in the Taranto Gulf, 4 km from the sea. It is a very important archaeological area since there was an important Greek settlement because of its fertile earth and strategic position. The most important monument of Rocca Imperiale is the medieval fortress.

The participants will have the challenging task to rediscover and restore 15th century frescoes in the St. Francis church of the nearby village of Amendolara.

The participants will learn how to acquire confidence and practical knowledge in working with authentic and antique works of art, through a true hands-on approach to restoration and conservation.

As a first step, a complete study of the art work will be carried out in order to understand dates and conservation conditions.

Then the participants will concentrate on cleaning the art work and consolidate it with the proper materials. For the next step, the students will learn to use different products for the restoration of the surface layers. As the last step students will also work on the pictorial layer and, if necessary, will do some in-paintings with appropriate colors.

Cultural and recreational activities will be included in the program, such as visiting a farmhouse, going for a swim in the Mediterranean sea, meeting the towns major, having a picnic in the countryside, etc.

Exact daily schedule along with subject matter, topics and workshop details can be found on the class syllabus to be requested separately.

Prerequisites and Requirements

There are no formal academic requirements but the course is recommended for participants with artistic interests and some artistic and art historical background, as well as a sensitivity to color.

Equipment

All the necessary restoration materials are provided by the school and available directly in class and on site, for which each participant pays a lab fee of approx. 50 Euro (not included in the tuition fee).

An exact list of used tools and materials is available on the class syllabus (on request).

Participants should provide an adequate lab coat.

For the field week we suggest bringing strong and comfortable walking shoes/hiking boots, sunscreen, mosquito repellent, a swimsuit, a light sweater for cool evenings. More details given during the first classes.



FLORENCE AND SOUTHERN ITALY

COLOR AND LIGHT

WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP

Course code: PDM 208 F

Contact hours: 90; Credits: 6

Instructor: Prof. Marsha Steinberg

Duration: check in: Thursday May 26 – check out: Saturday June 25, 2011.

Class starts: May 30; **class ends:** June 23.

Field week: June 5 - 11

Location: regular classes take place in the LdM premises in Florence on the 1st, 3rd and 4th week; the field week will take place in Rocca Imperiale and Amendolara in the 2nd week.

Class time: regular classes in Florence typically MON-THUR 1:00-3.30PM; field week usually full-time from MON to FRI.

Estimated additional costs: approx 226 Euro for materials and visits/entry fees

Description

This special summer course takes place both in Florence and in Southern Italy. Basically this workshop focuses on observation with emphasis on the creative interpretation of the figure, architecture, object compositions, nature and open air painting. Form, value, line and proportions will be studied as means of determining space, shape, volume and composition. The lessons include the study of watercolor and mixed media techniques, the study of color theory (tone, light, value as well as interaction of color) and the analysis of the structure of a painting in its whole, in detail, and in the relationship between details. All work is based on observation and not on concept.

Three of the four course weeks will be held in Florence, where the students will work in the studio at the school premises, and one week (the second) will be held at Rocca Imperiale, Calabria, and its surrounding area. Rocca Imperiale is an ancient town grown at the base of a medieval castle of Emperor Frederick II, dominating the Gulf of Taranto and 4 km from the sea. The fertile region and the strategic position attracted important Greek and medieval settlements. From the top of the castle the participants will have a breathtaking view and receive inspiration for their drawing projects.

During the Calabria stay participants will learn how to draw, sketch and paint by practicing during daily field trips in the charming streets of the town, its ancient castle, the surrounding countryside and the seaside. During this week the students will be housed in a local bed-and-breakfast.

The culture and history of the region will be analyzed for a better understanding of the geographical and cultural environment.

During the Florence class, the participants will work with models, still life and other set-ups in the studio, and occasionally, working outdoors in ancient gardens, churches, museums and other places of historical importance.

Cultural and recreational activities will be included in the program, such as visiting a farmhouse, going for a swim in the Mediterranean sea, meeting the towns major, having a picnic in the countryside, etc.

Exact daily schedule along with subject matter, topics and workshop details can be found on the class syllabus to be requested separately.

Prerequisites and Requirements

The course is for participants of all levels. Minimum drawing ability required.

A positive attitude to walking is necessary, since walks of up to 4 hours will be scheduled during the week in the countryside. Please be aware of attendance rules and assignment duties.

Equipment

Each participant will need proper working tools (paper, colors, pencils, brushes, etc) which are not included in the tuition fee. A list of necessary materials is inserted in the course syllabus, to be requested separately. The estimated cost for materials purchased on location in Florence may reach 220 Euro.

Any participants who need to purchase materials are strongly advised to wait until their arrival in Florence before buying since the instructor will give further details and suggestions on what to purchase, stores and costs.

For the field week we suggest strong and comfortable walking shoes, sunscreen, mosquito repellent, a swimsuit, a light sweater for cool evenings. More details on the syllabus.



LdM Student Services + Academic Relations
3600 Bee Caves Road
Suite 205B
Austin, TX 78746

P: 512.328.4636
info@lorenzodemedici.org