

CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
Orange, California

University Honors & Italian Studies

In collaboration with



Leonardo da Vinci School, Rome, Italy
Interpreting the Past: An Experience of Rome
(HON 455)

Dr. Federico Pacchioni

The myth of Rome has had a lasting and broad impact on Western civilization over the centuries. This course is a study of the cultural themes and artistic patterns that spring from antiquity and have been reinterpreted during the Renaissance, the Romantic period, and modern times, across artistic media and cultural traditions. This course integrates personalized research projects with visits to the Eternal City's most representative museums and archeological sites, an overview of its ancient and contemporary urban landscape, encounters with artists and artisans, and direct experience of the city's traditions.

Course format

In this travel/study course students will spend two weeks in Rome during the interterm period. Faculty and guides knowledgeable about this city will offer tours, museum visits, and cultural and artistic outings. At the center of this course is a self-designed research project that examines a specific aspect of the life in and history of Rome. Students will closely coordinate their research with the faculty member directing the course and take advantage of peer feedback from Italian university students in Rome.

Course Learning Outcomes

- Students will become familiar with the most important sites and quarters of Rome and their function and significance.
- Students will develop their ability to plan and pursue interdisciplinary research in a foreign context, including presenting and discussing their research project to an Italian university student and integrating feedback received into their project.
- Students will develop familiarity with various periods of Roman history, culture, and urban development, as well as with the significance of the myth of Rome in Romantic, Renaissance, and modern times.
- Students will learn about the multiculturalism of ancient and modern Rome as expressed through various artistic forms, artisan traditions, and food practices.
- Students will understand the nuances of the process of preservation and reinterpretation of cultural heritage through contemporary art and artisanal traditions.
- Students will improve their ability to adapt to and live in this European city and, more generally, get the most out of any travel/study activity in another country.

Honors Program Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing a course in the University Honors Program students will have:

- a. obtained a starting point for integrative exploration of the development of cultures and intellectual achievements through a variety of disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives;
- b. sharpened their ability to critically analyze and synthesize a broad range of knowledge through the study of primary texts and through engagement in active learning with fellow students, faculty, and texts (broadly understood);
- c. understood how to apply more integrative and interdisciplinary forms of understanding in the advancement of knowledge and in addressing complex challenges shaping the world;
- d. developed effective communication skills.

Grading

Travel Skills Notes	5%	
Research Proposal (e.g., proposal, maps, and bibliography)	10%	
Annotated Bibliography	10%	
Presentations during Intercultural Workshop (2)		10%
Research Project	50%	
<u>Participation</u>	<u>15%</u>	
Total	100%	

Rules of the Road

1. No paper or project will be accepted after the day on which it is due.
2. Attendance will be taken at the beginning and the end of all formal group activities. For each missed activity, your final grade will be dropped half a letter grade. Also, students are expected to be ready for any course-related departures at least 5 minutes before the planned departure time. Activities missed because you arrived after the class has departed are treated the same as if you skipped those activities altogether.

Course Materials

- Students must acquire physical or digital copies of all their research sources before leaving for Italy (see bibliography assignment below)
- Rick Steves, *Rome* (Avalon Travel: 2017)
- Rick Steves, *Europe Through the Back Door: The Travel Skills Handbook* (Avalon Travel: 2015) [recommended]
- Detailed folding maps of central Rome

ASSIGNMENTS

Travel

Skills

Notes

Each student must assemble an approximately 10-page list of ideas on how he or she prepared for this trip to Europe using Rick Steves' *Europe Through the Back Door*. The instructor expects to see page references to, as well as short quotations from, the following chapters: Pack Light Pack Light Pack Light (4); Money (14); Your Budget (15); Shopping (16); Eating (17); Getting Oriented (19); Getting Around (20); Practicalities (21); Hurdling the Language Barrier (22); Phones, Email, and Snail Mail (23); Staying Healthy (24); Outsmarting Thieves (25); Museum Strategies (26); Travel Photography (27); Women Traveling Alone (28); Terrorism, Political Unrest, and Your Travel Dreams (34); Attitude Adjustment (35); and Understanding the European Union (36). Also, take a look at Excerpts from the Graffiti Wall at the end of the book. Travel skills notes are due via email before the start of the program in Rome.

Travel Class Participation Grade

This substantial portion of your grade is based on your professor's observations of your capacity to do the following:

- Respectfully collaborate with your group leader, GustoLab teachers and staff, and hotel staff (communicating any problem in advance, relating to them from the understanding that they are working with you and not for you, and that this is a rigorous academic experience and not a vacation).
- Constructively support your classmates' learning and overall well-being by encouraging their enthusiasm and engagement at all times, and looking out for their best interest during Chapman and non-Chapman events.
- Maintain an enthusiastic and productive mood during all class excursions and events, even in the face of uncomfortable and challenging conditions.
- Demonstrate openness and the ability to effectively adjust and relate to Rome's unique social norms, cultural values, cuisine, urban layout, walking community, and climate.

You are encouraged to approach your professor regularly to receive feedback on your ongoing performance in the travel class.

THE PROJECT

The course orbits around a central project, which can be a scholarly research paper or a scholarly/creative project (e.g., video essay, creative writing, performance, etc.). The project is organized in various phases entailing the following:

- A proposal packet, including a rationale for the topic chosen, supportive maps, and bibliography (due before fall final exam week)
- An annotated bibliography (due before start of the program)
- Two presentations scheduled to be delivered during the program in Rome
- The final product (submitted on March 1)

During their residency in Rome, students will advance in their project by conducting research and by individual conferences with their professor.

Proposal, Maps and Bibliography

Each student will be asked to put together a one-page research proposal (double-spaced with one-inch margins and using a 12-point Times New Roman font) describing how he or she plans on pursuing his or her research topic while in Rome, a map of Rome indicating on it the places that will be visited while there, and a 10- to 15-item bibliography of books and articles on his or her research topic (the bibliography should be in the *MLA Handbook* form). All three items are due in the week before final exams during the fall semester. Students will find a list of suggested research topics below. No two students can select the same topic. Some students will want to do some of their Italian capstone project research while

abroad. This can be done in lieu of a standard research paper in consultation with the instructor teaching the course. Otherwise, a research topic must be chosen in consultation with this instructor during the fall semester before the course is being offered.

The Annotated Bibliography

Each student will submit a fully annotated bibliography by the beginning of the program in Rome (email submission). The Annotated Bibliography should include a brief synopsis of each source and an explanation of why it might be useful for the project. Of course, this is just a tentative list—students will undoubtedly add and delete sources as the project progresses.

Intercultural Research Workshop Chapman University/Roma Tre University.

While in Rome, students will meet with Italian students from the University of Roma Tre to receive feedback on their project. During the first meeting, each student will need to present his or her project idea, while the second workshop will require a presentation on the project's progress. In addition to the group workshops, students will be paired with an Italian student who will follow their progress and provide additional feedback electronically or in person during their stay in Rome.

The Final Product

In consultation with the professor, students will decide the best medium to document and elaborate their research, which can be a scholarly paper or a video essay. The research project is due on March 1.

- **Scholarly Paper:** Students produce a scholarly paper that points to an original contribution to the field of cultural studies and incorporates their original preliminary research, bibliography, and field research in Rome. The paper will be 15–17 pages plus a works cited page, double-spaced with one-inch margins and using a 12-point Times New Roman font, and in the MLA citation style.
- **Creative Project + reflection paper:** Students with a strong background in a specific artistic medium (advanced control of the medium's conventions and techniques) can discuss the possibility of a project documenting and elaborating their research through their artistic medium. This project requires a thorough integration between the research and creative component, where the former supports the latter and the latter fuels the former. Whatever the medium, the final product must be recorded and submitted in CD, DVD, or web transfer. Furthermore, the final product will be accompanied by a three-page informal reflection paper elaborating on the learning outcomes of the creative project vis-à-vis course objectives and subject matter.

Suggested Research Topics

- The myth of foundation of Rome
- Roman street names
- Roman traditional festivities
- The domes of Rome
- The obelisks of Rome
- The commemorative arches of Rome
- The commemorative columns of Rome
- The popes of Rome
- The mosaics of Rome
- The allegorical statues of Rome
- Castel Sant'Angelo
- St. Peter's basilica
- The Roman Forum
- The Colosseum
- Il Monte dei Cocci
- Saint Michael Protector of Rome
- Themes from Ovid's *Metamorphosis* in Rome
- Emperors of ancient Rome
- Powerful women of ancient Rome
- Legendary Beasts
- Legendary Plants
- The myth of Egypt in Rome (including artifacts and pyramids)
- Gothic churches in Rome
- Baroque churches in Rome
- Public museums in Rome
- Military memorials in Rome
- The medieval walls of Rome
- Roman aqueducts
- Art museums in Rome
- Papal Palaces in Rome
- Public parks in Rome
- Private art collections
- Cemeteries in Rome
- Parliamentary buildings in Rome
- Outdoor markets in Rome
- Railroad stations in Rome
- Life along the river Tiber in Rome
- The great piazzas in Rome
- The great music and opera buildings of Rome
- The historic Jewish quarters of Rome
- Food production in Rome and Lazio
- Bread: cultural, political and historical implications.
- Subterranean Rome
- Subway systems of Rome
- Street Art and Graffiti in Rome
- Artisans of Rome
- Riots and revolutions in Rome
- Governmental palaces in Rome
- Botanic gardens of Rome
- Waterworks and fountains in Rome
- Bookstores and libraries in Rome
- Romantic writers in Rome (Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, John Keith, Percy Bysshe Shelley, Lord Byron, etc.)
- American writers in Rome (Henry James, Mark Twain, Edith Wharton and Nathaniel Hawthorne, etc.)
- Pier Paolo Pasolini in Rome
- Federico Fellini in Rome
- Traditional cuisine of Rome
- Fascist architecture in Rome
- Rome in WWII
- Cinecittà and its myths
- Rome as cinematographic set

**Draft of Schedule
January 7–January 20, 2019**

December 1st	Proposal packet due.
Saturday, Jan 5	Dr. Pacchioni arrives in Rome. Annotated bibliography due.
Sunday, Jan 6	Students arrive in Rome. Accommodation.
Monday, Jan 7	Morning/afternoon: Course Orientation Day and Scavenger Hunt. Afternoon: Chapman class meeting with Prof. Pacchioni Evening: Free time
Tuesday, Jan 8	Morning: Tour of Colosseo and Fori Afternoon: Independent work on research projects Evening: A Cultural Feast: “The Ancient Roman Meal”
Wednesday, Jan 9	Morning: Tour of San Clemente Afternoon: Intercultural research workshop Chapman University/Roma Tre University. Evening: Free time
Thursday, Jan 10	Morning: Tour of Musei Capitolini Afternoon: Faculty-student conferences on research project Evening: A Cultural Feast: “The Family Trattoria”
Friday, Jan 11	Morning: Tour of Palazzo Massimo Afternoon: Nature and history through herbs presentation Independent work on research projects Evening: Free time
Saturday, Jan 12	Morning: Tour of San Pietro and Vatican Museum Afternoon: Via Appia’s history and agriculture. Independent work on research projects Evening: A Cultural Feast: “The Roman Tradition of Pizza”
Sunday, Jan 13	Free day to explore Rome.
Monday, Jan 14	Morning: Tour of Quartiere Monti (including local artists and artisans, mosaic-making workshop) Afternoon: Faculty-student conferences on research project Evening: A Cultural Feast: “Mercato Centrale”
Tuesday, Jan 15	Morning: Tour of Quartiere San Lorenzo (including art district and meeting with contemporary artists) Afternoon: Independent work on research projects Evening: Free time

Wednesday, Jan 16	Morning: Tour of Quartiere Esquilino (including diversity and integration initiatives) Afternoon: Intercultural research workshop Chapman University/Roma Tre University. Evening: A Cultural Feast: “Roman-Jewish cooking practices”
Thursday, Jan 17	Morning: Tour of Monte dei Cocci and Testaccio (including Macro Future, city of alternative economy, and market) Afternoon: Faculty-student conferences on research project Evening: A Cultural Feast: “Creative Dinner with Chef Stellato”
Friday, Jan 18	Morning: Tour of Ostiense (including street art and Centrale Montemartini) Afternoon: Independent work on research projects Evening: A Cultural Feast: “Eataly”
Saturday, Jan 19	Morning: Tour of MAXXI Afternoon: Independent work at research projects Evening: Free time
Sunday, Jan 20	Morning: free time Afternoon: Independent work at research projects Evening: Farewell dinner
Monday, Jan 21	Students and faculty return home from Rome.
March 1	Project due.

University Policy

Student Code of Conduct and Expulsion. Faculty have the authority to remove a student from their course, which would mean that the student could be sent home, as well as be given a failing grade. If a student's behavior violates the conduct or academic integrity policies of the University, faculty may bring forth charges that could lead to academic probation or expulsion. Faculty is authorized to make this immediate decision. If expelled from the travel course, forfeiture of overseas housing, meals, excursions, transportation and all things related to travel courses might occur. The student is then sent home at their own expense and the additional expense is charged to their Chapman account.

Students with Disabilities. In compliance with ADA guidelines, students who have any condition, either permanent or temporary, that might affect their ability to perform in this class are encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Services. If you will need to utilize your approved accommodations in this class, please follow the proper notification procedure for informing your professor(s). This notification process must occur more than a week before any accommodation can be utilized. Please contact Disability Services at (714) 516-4520 or visit www.chapman.edu/students/student-health-services/disability-services if you have questions regarding this procedure, for more information, or to make an appointment to discuss and/or request potential accommodations based on documentation of your disability. Once formal approval of your need for an accommodation has been granted, you are encouraged to talk with your professor(s) about your accommodation options. The granting of any accommodation will not be retroactive and cannot jeopardize the academic standards or integrity of the course.

Chapman University Academic Integrity Policy. Students must be aware that any form of cheating and/or plagiarism (i.e., copying another's work or failure to appropriately attribute sources) will subject the student in question to a failing grade and possible dismissal from the university. Students who may be confused about Chapman University's policy regarding academic integrity should immediately consult with the instructor and the Office of the Dean of Students.

Equity and Diversity. Chapman University is committed to ensuring equity and diversity. Students and professors are reminded to show respect at all times as outlined in Chapman's Harassment and Discrimination Policy: <http://tinyurl.com/CUHarassment-Discrimination>. Any violations of this policy should be discussed with the professor or the Dean of Students and/or otherwise reported in accordance with this policy.