

MUSIC PERFORMANCE IN CONTEXT

TRAVEL SEMINAR TO ITALY

VENICE • FLORENCE • ASSISI • ROME

OFF-CAMPUS STUDY & EXCHANGES



Music Performance in Context is a 1-credit, 200-level travel seminar (TX 200A 001) that will travel to Venice, Florence, Assisi and Rome, March 14–22, 2015. This course is open to students currently enrolled in the Skidmore Chorus (MP 288).

WHY ITALY?

One could say that Italy is synonymous with music. It can be heard from the gondoliers in Venice to the opera houses in Milan to the hymns in countless Catholic churches.

Italy has a long history as one of the premier centers of European classical music. Opera originated there in the late 16th century. And as home to Vatican City, it contains a vast treasure of music composed for the church.

This travel seminar will provide students with the rare opportunity and experience of performing music from 1450 to 1900 in unique, historical venues. In addition to performing, students participating in this travel seminar will have the opportunity visit the Galleria dell'Accademia di Firenze, the Colosseum, the Vatican (with its museum of rare musical manuscripts), St. Mark's Basilica, the Duomo, and the Imperial Forum with an experienced tour guide.



THE ULTIMATE PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

For students in the Skidmore Chorus, who prepare and perform a variety of styles and genres, it is always important to understand the cultural, social, political, historical, or spiritual elements of the music they sing. Performing the music of prominent composers in the venue where it would have been performed in their time will help today's students to put all these performance components into an organic context.

Students will participate in a Mass in a cathedral or historically relevant site in Rome, Florence, or Venice, which may include St. Mark's Basilica, St. Peter's Basilica, Saint Agapito Cathedral, Cappella Giulia, San Giovanni, or St. Maria Maggiore. Repertoire will be based on the venues that are booked, and will include selections for the entrance, offertory, communion, and recessional that includes psalms, mass movements, and motet selections by the most prominent composers associated with these venues: Palestrina, Willaert, Verdi, Monteverdi, and Josquin.

FACULTY DIRECTORS

Katie Gardiner is a lecturer in music and choral director. She earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in music education from the Hartt School of Music and a master of music in choral conducting from the Eastman School of Music. She has directed choirs at Williams College and the State University of New York at Albany. Katie has traveled to Italy on several occasions, including attendance at an international music workshop.

PRELIMINARY TRAVEL SCHEDULE *(Subject to change)*

March 14 (Sat.) Bus from campus to NYC-area airport; flight to Venice

March 15 (Sun.) VENICE MESTRE:

Late Morning: Arrival and transfer to hotel

Evening: Welcome dinner

March 16 (Mon.) VENICE MESTRE: *Benvenuti in Italia! Known as the Queen of the Adriatic, Venice consists of an archipelago carved by nearly 150 canals into 118 different islands.*

Morning: City tour of downtown Venice, including St. Mark's Square and the Basilica, and the famous Bridge of Sighs that connects the Doge's Palace to the old prison.

Afternoon: Free time (Gondola ride, anyone?)

Late Afternoon: Rehearsal for debut concert

Evening: Concert

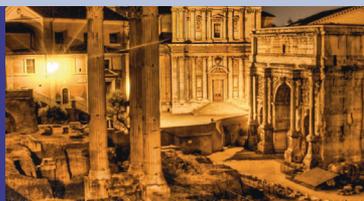
March 17 (Tue.) FLORENCE: *The Cradle of the Renaissance*

Morning: Bus from Venice to Florence; check in at hotel

Afternoon: Guided walk through the city. Students will become acquainted with Italy's "open-air art museum" and see the architecture of Brunelleschi and Alberti along the way.

Evening: Group dinner

Free time (perhaps a visit to the Boboli Gardens for its panoramic views of Florence and the Tuscan hills)



REQUIREMENTS

Students wishing to enroll in TX 200A must be concurrently enrolled in MP 288.

COSTS

The anticipated fee for the travel seminar to Italy is \$3,900 (subject to fluctuation). This includes coach to/from Skidmore's campus to NYC-area airport, round-trip airfare to Italy, all ground transportation in Italy, on-site accommodations (generally double occupancy), two meals per day, international medical insurance, entrance and performance fees, local guides, cultural excursions, Skidmore faculty on site, and the support of Skidmore's OCSE. The fee does not include passport and visa costs or personal expenses.

Financial Aid is available for eligible students.

TO APPLY

Please apply by the following deadline: **MONDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2014**

Applications are available on the OCSE Web site, www.skidmore.edu/ocse.

Applicants are required to submit a \$250 nonrefundable deposit at time of application to hold their space on the program (100% refundable if the student not accepted). This deposit will be applied to the program fee.

Candidates for the travel seminar will also have an in-person interview/audition.

March 18 (Wed.) FLORENCE

Morning: Tour of the Duomo, Ghiberti's famous Baptistry Doors, Santa Croce, and the Piazza della Signoria, the political center of the Renaissance city. Visit the Accademia to see Michelangelo's *David*.

Afternoon/evening: Free time

March 19 (Thurs.) ROME: *The "Eternal City," built on seven hills, Rome is renowned for its history, architecture, art, culture, culinary delights and exquisite shopping.*

Morning: Bus from Florence to Assisi, the birthplace of Saint Francis. Arrive and spend some time exploring the Basilica on your own. **Afternoon:** Continue to Rome; check in at hotel.

Evening: Free time

March 20 (Fri.) ROME

Morning: Tour of Rome, including the Circus Maximus, Imperial Forum, Pantheon, and the Monument of Vittorio Emanuele (Rome's "wedding cake monument"). Visit to Vatican City: museums, Sistine Chapel, and St. Peter's Basilica.

Afternoon: Perform during Mass at St. Peter's Basilica.

Evening: Free time

March 21(Sat.) ROME

Morning/Afternoon: Free time

Evening: Farewell dinner

March 22 (Sun.) Flight from Rome to NYC-area airport

Coach bus to campus



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For details about cost and travel logistics, please contact:

LISA HOBBS
FINANCE/PROGRAM MANAGER
Off-Campus Study & Exchanges
Starbuck Center 202
518-580-5355
lhobbs@skidmore.edu

For details about course content and academic requirements, please contact:

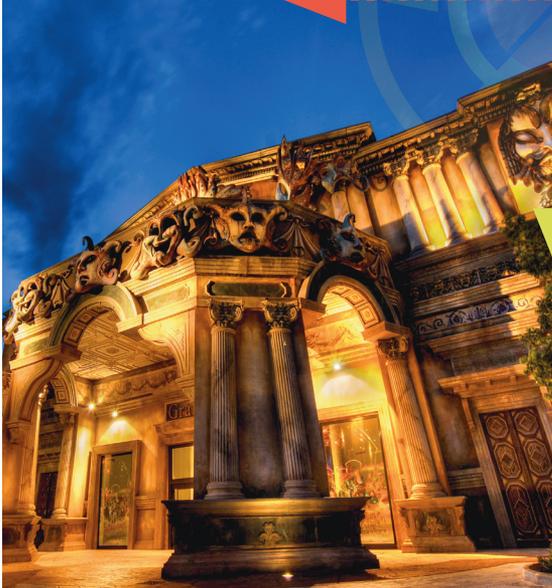
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For details on available financial aid, please contact:

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“Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts. Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one corner of the earth all one’s lifetime”

—Mark Twain,
The Innocents Abroad (1869)
Chapter LXII



Creative Thought Matters

OCSE 2013–14

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