

# VENICE BEYOND THE MASK: ART, MUSIC AND THEATRE

TRAVEL SEMINAR TO VENICE, ITALY



**“Venice Beyond the Mask: Art, Music and Theatre”** is a 2-credit, 200-level travel seminar (TX 200B) that will travel to Venice, Italy, May 12–21, 2014.

Did you know that the best-known Italian name throughout the world is Marco Polo? In the 13th century this Venetian merchant traveled to the Orient and returned with precious silks and spices. The Venetian Republic remained the crossroads of the world until the Age of Discovery. It was a meeting place for western and eastern cultures, each infused with the shimmering reflected light of the Adriatic Sea. In later centuries the attraction of Venice continued, and the city was a destination for world travelers including Henry James and Thomas Mann.

Guided by two Skidmore professors, students explore the intersection of cultures epitomized by this unique city. They visit important historical sites (Piazza San Marco, Palazzo Ducale, Basilica of Santa Maria della Salute, etc.), attend an opera at La Fenice, and travel by boat up the Brenta River to see the neoclassical architecture of the Palladian villas along its banks. They go on a treasure hunt of Canaletto paintings, which they document with snapshots of both the artwork and the actual scene. Through the narrow streets and along the canals, students uncover the past of La Serenissima. They document their experiences in an online blog, post images of their findings as postcards from Venice, and interview another student (not American) in Venice to reveal the multicultural dimension of the city today.

OFF-CAMPUS STUDY & EXCHANGES

WHY VENICE?



## PRELIMINARY TRAVEL SCHEDULE *(subject to change)*

- May 12 (Mon.) Flight from NYC-area airport to Venice, Italy (arrive Tuesday).
- May 13 (Tue.) Day 1: Arrive Venice airport; bus to Venice and vaporetto to hotel.
- May 14 (Wed.) Day 2: Visit Santa Maria della Salute; Piazza San Marco; San Marco; Palazzo Ducale Museum.
- May 15 (Thurs.) Day 3: Galleria dell'Accademia (find Canaletto and Guardi paintings); exit museum and find images of paintings in Venice at large. *Cicchetti* (Venetian pub food) crawl.
- May 16 (Fri.) Day 4: Boat to Murano (glass), Burano (lace), Torcello, and Lido (setting of *Death in Venice*).
- May 17 (Sat.) Day 5: Cannaregio and the Jewish ghetto. Tour churches with paintings by Giorgione, Titian, and Tintoretto (Venetian School of art). La Fenice Theater: visit building and attend opera (Puccini).
- May 18 (Sun.) Day 6: Venetian holidays: review Canaletto bucintoro paintings (*Wedding of Venice with the Sea*); travel to the Redentore Church on Giudecca island; discuss Carnival and masks. Visit Ca'Rezzonico exhibit.
- May 19 (Mon.) Day 7: Boat to Brenta; travel river to Padua; return to Venice by train.
- May 20 (Tue.) Day 8: Lecture by Save Venice expert: review specific architectural mandates of building on/in the water.
- May 21 (Wed.) Day 9: Flight from Venice to NYC-area airport.





## FACULTY DIRECTORS

**Shirley Smith** is an associate professor of Italian. At Skidmore she teaches a course titled “British Love Affair with Italy: the Grand Tour.” Fall semester 2013 students took a virtual tour of Venice. One of their projects was a Google Earth collage in which together they also visited (online) the Palladian villas along the Brenta. Before Skidmore, Smith taught in Italy at the University of Calabria for more than a decade. She has traveled to Venice many times.

**Barbara Garbin** is a visiting assistant professor of Italian. She is originally from the Veneto region and graduated from Ca’ Foscari University in Venice. At Skidmore, Garbin teaches courses both on Italian Renaissance and Modern Italian Literature and History.

## REQUIREMENTS

There are no language or course prerequisites for this summer program.

## COSTS

The anticipated fee for the travel seminar to Venice is \$3,000 (subject to fluctuation). This includes round-trip airfare from a New York City–area airport to Venice, ground transportation for program excursions, on-site accommodations (generally double occupancy), two meals per day, entrance and performance fees, local guides, cultural excursions, international medical insurance, Skidmore faculty on site, and the support of Skidmore’s OCSE.

The fee does not include transportation to and from the New York City–area airport, passport and visa costs, or personal expenses.

FINANCIAL AID IS NOT AVAILABLE FOR THIS PROGRAM.

## TO APPLY

Please apply by the following deadline: **Wednesday, February 26, 2014.**

Applications are available on the OCSE Web page at [www.skidmore.edu/ocse](http://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 not accepted to program). This deposit will be applied to the program fee.



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION,

For details about cost and travel logistics, please contact:

**LISA HOBBS**

**FINANCE/PROGRAM MANAGER**

**Off-Campus Study & Exchanges**

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For details about course content and academic requirements, 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

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