

Italian

Module descriptors for Inbound Students.

Name	Florence and the Birth of the Renaissance
Code	ITU11092
Semester	2
ECTS credits	5
Pre-requisite	A1+ proficiency in Italian required
Module Coordinator	Contact Inbound Italian Study Abroad Coordinator.

Module Content

The Birth and rise of the Italian Renaissance are strictly linked to the political developments as well as the economic and cultural growths in late medieval and early modern Florence. The city's pre-modern history represents an apt case study for investigating the connections that link politics, economics, and the arts together in the pre-modern world. If masterworks such as Dante's Divine Comedy or Machiavelli's The Prince were written when their authors were out of office and in exile, others such as Ficino's Platonic Theology and Pico della Mirandola's Oration on the Dignity of Man were, on the contrary, among the most important intellectual achievements of the Medici patronage.

The introductory module aims to raise interest in, and provide background knowledge on, historical and literary questions and problems concerning the birth and development of Florentine medieval and early-modern culture from late 13th to early 16th centuries.

Aims

- To build foundational critical skills in interpreting historical sources and literary texts.
- To study the Florentine historical, economic, and cultural growth that will lead to the birth of Italian Renaissance.
- To introduce students to medieval and Renaissance Italy through the case study of Florence.
- To encourage students, through their assessment, to become reflective and critical researchers.



Learning Outcomes

Assuming you have attended all or most lectures, completed their assignments and engaged in independent learning, at the end of this module you should be able to:

- Read, comprehend and assimilate a selection of short Italian texts from the medieval and Renaissance periods;
- Supplement their knowledge of these texts by making appropriate use of published scholarship and criticism;
- Present their knowledge in written form, displaying an understanding of literary techniques and critical approaches;
- Write clear and coherent analyses of texts under test conditions.