

MAN AND ART,
THE RENAISSANCE AND NOW

An advanced general program in the Humanities and Fine Arts.
Open to 60-100 students.
One full year with foreign study optional in the second year.

Art and Artist

The relationship between the artist or writer and his surroundings is a complex and controversial one. In the view of some, the artist is a spokesman or interpreter of his time and age. Others see him as a kind of revolutionary attempting to overthrow established order.

The problem of how the artist functions in his society will be analyzed in this program from a number of perspectives. Chiefly, the study will focus on painters, sculptors, musicians, architects, and writers of the Renaissance (15th and 16th Centuries) in and around Florence and London, and their 20th century counterparts in the geographical localities of Paris, London, and the United States. The (rather loose) geographic limitations have been chosen mainly in order to limit the scope of the study but also to provide a focus for subsequent overseas study in Europe planned for 1972-73.

Particular artists of the two periods — Renaissance and Modern (post 1900) — will be studied in depth. Their biographies (or autobiographies), their works, their social, political and intellectual environment, will all be considered. The modern artist will be juxtaposed to the renaissance artist in an attempt to see what they have in common and what distinctive features set them apart. Thus, for example, an intensive two- or three-week study of Michelangelo may be followed by study of Frank Lloyd Wright's architecture and Picasso's painting. Study of the renaissance music of Monteverdi will be

linked with study of Stravinsky; Shakespeare with Beckett, DaVinci with Duchamp. And so forth.

In the course of the study a number of choices will be developed: relations between art and technology, the nature of artistic creativity style and form in the arts, the emergence of individualism in the Renaissance, the character of modern experience, Paris as it was in the 1920's, etc.

Concerts, Exhibits, Special Events

An extensive series of public concerts, visits by musicians and artists and writers, painting, sculpture and other media showings, films, museum visits, and the like is planned as an integral part of the program. Something will be "doing" every week. Students in the program will be given special rates for all public events relating to the program for which admission is charged. It is expected that during the year exhibits relating to the program (some of which will be designed by students in the program themselves) will be available at all times and will change each month. When concerts occur involving rock music and modern music, students will be given a chance to meet separately with the musicians in order to discuss the composers and their works. At least one of the concerts is expected to be a madrigal concert by students of the program themselves. Resources permitting, an effort will be made to stage a dramatic production or, at least, a series of readings. A student-faculty publication in poetry, writing, and the visual arts will be developed if interest warrants. And as a finale to the year's work, members of the program will stage a Renaissance Fair for the entire community.

The objective of the program will be to provide a rich and varied experience in art and culture as well as to give an opportunity to

discover what the role of art and the artist in modern society might be.

Talents and Experiences

A student entering the program will not be assured to have special ability in the arts or music or literature. However, he will be expected to have a mature interest in the arts and some college-level experience in analyzing works of art, literature, or music. A student who does have special talents -- or who may want to find out if he does -- will have excellent opportunities in the form of special interest groups devoted to particular art forms. Groups in madrigal singing, painting, drawing, creative writing, drama, and film and photography will be formed at various times during the year. Work of these groups will be coordinated with the seminars; for instance, the group in drawing will not simply study drawing in general, but will focus on things like renaissance technique in perspective or cubist approaches to drawing in the 20th century. It will be a general requirement for all students in the program that they contribute to or produce some artistic work or performance during the year. These will be evaluated by the faculty in light of individual limitations and abilities, not in terms of absolute standards.

Language and Study Abroad

The program is especially designed to enable students interested in study in Italy (or France) to prepare for a trip abroad in the Fall of 1972. Details of this study trip, including costs, will be announced later. In order to prepare for it, however, students entering Evergreen in the Fall of 1971 and enrolling in this program will be asked to undertake autotutorial study of Italian (or French) as part of their study program through the year. Then, in the summer of 1972, those electing to go to Europe will participate in a

"total-immersion" study of the language and customs of the country they will be visiting. This means that for the greater part of the summer they will have to be prepared to join an isolation group in which nothing but Italian (or French) is spoken & all facilities of diet and life are those of the country to be visited. Full credit toward graduation will be given for this subsequent time spent in study overseas.

A student not interested in going abroad in 1972 may, of course, enroll in this program for 1971 anyway and will be expected to carry out the autotutorial language studies during the school year as part of his general education. He will not have to participate in the total-immersion study during the summer, but may if he wishes receive additional credit.

Work Loads

Enrollment in this program represents a substantial commitment to hard, but rewarding work. Reading assignments will necessarily be heavy, in order to come fully to grips with the individual artist and the world in which he lives and works. As many as four or five discussion and work seminars will be held per week in order to share understandings of what is read and seen and heard. Occasional lectures, slide-talks, and demonstrations will be scheduled. In a given week, a student may be expected also to attend a concert and follow-up discussion, view and discuss a feature-length film, work a little on a creative project, and keep abreast of his language study. Considerable time will also be devoted to examining slides and reproductions pertaining to music tapes and records, and browsing in area museums and private galleries. Papers will be assigned from time to time in order to bring into sharp relief the ideas and concepts which emerge in discussions. In short, it will be a very busy year.

Part-Time Students

Students enrolled in the college on a part-time basis may participate in this program by special arrangement. One standard option, for example, would consist of attendance at all concerts, exhibits, evening films, lectures, and post-lecture discussions plus language tutorial and successful completion of all written assignments of the program. This option, which would constitute a one-third credit effort, would be suitable for students who could not generally attend daytime seminars, workshops, and lectures. For further information on this option and others contact Professor Charles Teske, Dean of Humanities.

W. Humphreys
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