ABOUT THE PROGRAM
Florence, Italy, the birthplace of the Renaissance and perhaps the most influential city in the development of Western aesthetics and Humanist philosophy, will immerse the student in Italian culture through an intensive synthesis of painting, sculpture, architecture, music and cultural artifacts experienced in their original context in museums, churches, villas, monasteries, piazzas and gardens, which will serve as an extension of the studio.

This historically intact city, a work of art in itself, provides the student with an experience and awareness of not only artistic precedent but of the symbiotic relationship between tradition and innovation that make its Mannerist movement a counterpart for the contemporary practice of making "art about art."

The Florentine environment and the student’s integration into the Studio Art Centers International community (www.saci-florence.org/) will provide the student with a lived education that will broaden their world view as well as provide an example of the heights of human aesthetic achievement. This program is a unique collaboration with SACI, an American art school established in Florence more than 35 years ago by the painter Jules Maidoff, who found it an essential city for any developing artist. The city is at the core of the political philosophies of Niccolo Machiavelli; the ecstatic fundamentalism of Savonarola; and the dramatic dealings of the Medici family as nascent Mafioso and supporters of the arts. The city houses innumerable masterworks by its Medieval and Renaissance inhabitants, including Giotto, Cimabue, Dante Alighieri, Giorgio Vasari, Alberti, Masaccio, Sandro Botticelli, Andrea Verrocchio, Fra Filippo Lippi, Fra Angelico, Ghirlandaio, Luca della Robbia, Paolo Uccello, Donatello, Brunelleschi, Andrea del Sarto, Leonardo DaVinci, Michelangelo Bounarotti, Galileo Galilei, Agnolo Bronzino and Pontromo, to name a few. We will stroll by Alberti's masterpiece of Humanist architecture, Santa Maria Novella, which also houses the first use of scientific perspective in Masaccio's Holy Trinity. The SACI school itself is the former house of the model who posed for the Mona Lisa. Raphael, Perugino and countless others arrived in Florence to complete feats of Humanist painting, sculpture and architecture. The collections of the Uffizi and the Palazzo Pitti run the gamut of Italian painting and sculpture, including works by Titian, Bellini, Caravaggio, Giovanna Garzoni, Parmigianino, Canova, Boldini and Duccio. Van Dyck, Rubens, Durer and van der Wyden all find homes there as well. All of this is in a setting that is a synthesis of science of science and perception - a walkable city that offers aesthetic splendor at every turn. The markets, the rose gardens on the walk up to San Miniato, the cappuccinos, the sunsets, the Giardino di Boboli and the Opera Festival will create an unforgettable experience that will follow you for the rest of your life.

In addition to the curriculum and experiences that come along with a travel program in this inviting, accessible and safe city, Florence offers a remarkable range of cultural and popular events and activities during the summer months, such as late evenings at the Uffizi, the Palazzo Strozzi and the Accademia Museums; The White Nights Festival; the famous Calcio (soccer) in Costume, during which the different quarters of the city compete in this well-known game; the Maggio Musicale, a series of outdoor and indoor events ranging from ballet to opera to symphony concerts; outdoor evening film festivals; and the Estate Fiesolana, which includes concerts, film and theater held in a Roman amphitheater.

This 5 ½ week Summer Faculty led study abroad course to Florence, Italy, takes place from May 19 to June 25, 2016. This faculty-led program will consist of a 3-credit class taught by Misty Gamble, Assistant Professor in Foundation at KCAI with an additional 3-credit course of the students’ choosing from the curriculum of the Studio Arts Centers International, Florence (SACI). All participating KCAI students will have dedicated studio spaces. Through this KCAI-led program, a partnership has been developed that allows our students full access to SACI housing including free Wi-Fi in all SACI apartments, studio facilities for SACI courses.
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taken, access to SACI’s summer curriculum, 4 SACI field trips led by art historians, security and administrative support, library, extensive gallery programs including lectures and exhibitions at 2 SACI galleries, computer lab, after hours private studio access, evening open drawing sessions with models, film nights, visiting artists lecture series, and an invaluable integration into the student body at SACI to study with artists from all over the world while still functioning as a KCAI program in every respect. SACI additionally offers the students an orientation upon arrival to acclimate students with the city, housing and SACI facilities.

Studio Art Centers International is a directly accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD) and a United States non-profit 501c(3) educational entity incorporated in 1976. SACI began by painter Jules Maidoff to facilitate international artistic collaboration and production in Florence Italy. SACI offers semester abroad programs, full-year abroad programs, late spring and summer sessions, MA, MFA, and post-baccalaureate certificate programs. Courses are offered in the following areas: 2D, 3D, Media, Design, Conservation, Art History, and Italian Language & Culture.

INSTRUCTOR

Misty Gamble, Assistant Professor, School of the Foundation Year, mgamble@kcai.edu

APPLICATIONS

Spaces are limited so apply as soon as possible. Applications are available on the KCAI website at http://www.kcai.edu/academics/enrichment-exchange/faculty-led-travel-programs.

Applications are due no later than 4:00pm on February 15th. Students will be notified the following week regarding acceptance into the program. A $250 program deposit is also due in the Business Office on February 15th. If you are not admitted to this travel program your deposit will be refunded to you in full. A $70 application fee (non refundable) due when the student files the online application with SACI.

COURSES:

Composition, Form and Content From the City of Florence. Credits: 3 (300 level for all KCAI students) or (400 level of the same course: for graduate credit; repeating credit; units towards graduation) AND Students’ choice from the curriculum of the Studio Arts Centers International, Florence (SACI) (Please see listings below)

This 3-credit studio course will be an open elective where the instructor will operate as a guide to the student's discovery of form and research in the City of Florence. Students will work in a variety of media in the designated studio in addition to using drawing and photography at on-site locations. This course would focus on the student's independent and guided research in Florence using multiple media as a vehicle to create both form and content. Art supply stores are available in Florence, but students are encouraged to bring with them basic art supplies such as camera, pencils, etc. Perceptual studies, both two and three dimensional, will be encouraged as well as lens based work. The focus of this course is not as much on a specific media as a tradition but on a contemporary interdisciplinary approach that the student will help to realize. In addition the
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Saci designated studio space operates as an investigative space to experiment and synthesize the experience of being a student in Florence. In the field, we will use the City of Florence as our studio and source. Students will visit sites and study work to appropriate and bring back into the studio experience. Students will be evaluated through individual and group critiques and are expected to maintain a consistent studio practice that will culminate in a final project. Students will be expected to work outside of class during provided hours. Students will additionally have an Art Historian led trip each Sunday to the different venues and sites in Tuscany, which will be integrated into the course content as these cities play a particular role in the development of what we have come to know as the Florentine Renaissance.

SACI late spring 2016 course offerings: Credits 3 (levels appropriate to student experience) Please note that the KCAI course schedule may overlap 1 or 2 SACI courses. The schedule will be finalized prior to your SACI registration. Additional course fees (to be paid directly to SACI) and information about provided materials are listed below for each course.

Painting (all levels), Drawing (all levels), Sculpture (all levels), Printmaking Workshop, Photography, Fresco Painting, Communication Design, Batik, Serigraphy, Jewelry Design, Conservation I, Renaissance Art History Survey, Italian Language (all levels)

Tuition fees cover all materials commonly used by students in classes. For example, in sculpture, clay and stone (or marble), stone carving equipment; in ceramics, clay and kilns; in black-and-white photography, chemicals used for film development, enlargers, paper, but not cameras, which students retain; in Etching, presses, paper, ink; in design, computers, software, printers, paper, ink; in painting and drawing, easels and taboret, but not chalk, pencils, pens, brushes, or paints, which students retain. Materials used personally and normally retained by students for personal use in future such as chalk, pens, brushes, or paints are not supplied.

TOTAL TRIP COST:

$6090.00 not including airfare / 6-credit hours

Cost includes tuition, lodging with wireless internet, land travel, material fees, museum fees, excursion/day trip fees, orientation, welcome and farewell dinners, open model sessions, movie nights, free-printing in SACI computer lab.

IMPORTANT TRIP DEADLINES AND COST:

February 15, 2016
Application and accompanying documentation must be submitted to Nancy Noble in the Academic Affairs office on the second floor of the Janes Library no later than 4:00 p.m., PLUS a $250 program deposit is due in the Business Office, located on the second floor of Vanderslice Hall. If the student is not accepted into the program this deposit will be refunded. Cash, check or credit card are accepted.
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March 1, 2014
Student selections will be made and confirmations or non-acceptance will be sent via email by the VPAA’s office.

March 1, 2016
A non-refundable payment, half of the TOTAL trip fee (minus the $250.00 deposit) is due in the Business Office by 4:00pm. Cash, check or credit card accepted.

Get passport by this deadline.

April 1, 2016: Remainder of program cost due to KCAI
April 15, 2016: Remainder of program cost due to SACI
April 2016: Students register with SACI and make refundable housing payment

Dates of Departure and Arrival
May 18: Leave Kansas City
May 19: Arrive in Florence, get keys, move into apartments, welcome dinner.
May 20-21: Orientation, course and city tour and intro
May 23: Classes begin
June 24: Last day of classes, SACI Garden Party
June 25: Departure date, housing closes, leave Florence, return keys, deposits are returned to students via check or credit.

March 1-15, 2016
Students will create and account on the SACI website in order to complete the SACI application paperwork. A $70 application fee (non refundable) due when the student files the online application with SACI. At this time students will list their preferred course and housing preferences. Once this is completed the students will need to send SACI an unofficial transcript and 2 passport photos for their city registration and SACI ID. The students will receive an application packet with several forms to fill out including a health form which must be signed by their doctor. There will also be a form to submit the $400 refundable SACI housing deposit which is due prior to registration. Once the student has completed all of their SACI paperwork they can begin to register. At this time, KCAI students will also fill out a confidential passport info and health questioner page created for them on the SACI website. They will find their website password in their packet of application materials.

March 1-15, 2016
Begin looking for Airline tickets and keep watching the fares!
Students will continue to complete their SACI paperwork and make travel plans. SACI registration continues for accepted students who have completed all of their paperwork. The SACI registrar will work individually via email with each KCAI student to register them for their chosen SACI courses and the KCAI registrar will also work KCAI students to make sure that SACI course you are interested in will fulfill necessary program requirements. Registration continues until after you arrive at SACI so it remains possible to change course choices. It is possible for SACI to add additional sections if popular course fills up. On rare occasions SACI courses have been cancelled due to low enrollment.
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ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
In order to be considered for the Faculty Led Travel Program you must:

• Submit the completed application by the specified deadline.
• Have completed at least one semester at KCAI; Have at least a 2.0 minimum GPA. Be in good standing and not currently on Disciplinary Probation.
• Freshmen are eligible for participation in this program.
• Students who are in their last semester of school, OR who will have graduated at the time of the program are eligible to apply.
• Alumni and students currently in graduate programs are eligible to apply.
• Students who are currently attending other institutions are eligible to apply.
• Students who have previously participated in this program are eligible to apply.

If the applicant’s academic or behavioral record is such that it would not be appropriate for the applicant to participate, the applicant’s deposit will be refunded to them. As representatives of KCAI, students are expected to conduct themselves in a mature and respectful manner. If a student is in good standing when accepted into the program but jeopardizes that status through inappropriate conduct prior to the start of the program. This prohibition may include forfeiture of all program fees previously paid. If you have graduated the semester before this program, or will use 3-6 credits towards the completion of your degree the remaining 3-6 KCAI credits will appear on your transcript as a 400 level course towards graduation or can be used as transfer credit at a later date towards graduate school. The number of students who can participate in this program is limited to 15, therefore, all application materials must be turned in to the Academic Affairs Office by the deadline. Course deposits must be paid to the Business Office by the deadline. In the case of a large group of students are interested in this program apply and meet the criteria stated above, a second section may be opened.

FINANCIAL AID OPPORTUNITIES
The Kansas City Art Institute is pleased to be able to offer you the opportunity to participate in Travel Programs. As a participant you may receive a total of six hours of academic credit. Federal funding is available for this program through the Federal Stafford Loan Program; you must be admitted to the KCAI BFA degree program and participate in the program for 6 credit hours in order to qualify. In addition, private alternative loans are available to those who qualify. In order to qualify for a Federal Stafford Loan you must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by March 1. For more information or details, stop by the Financial Aid Office or contact Lori Baer at 816-8023558 or lbaer@kcai.edu. KCAI scholarships are not applicable toward the cost of this program, however there are other scholarships available. Benjamin A Gilman award, Rotary Club Scholarships and additional travel scholarships can be found on the SACI website. All of these links are below.

TIPS FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL:
Please make use of SACI’s amazing and informative website that provides information for all questions pertaining to SACI and travel fro American students in Italy.
www.saci-florence.org
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Passport

- Make sure you have a passport that is valid for at least six months past the dates of your trip.
- Make sure you have signed your passport
- Make sure to fill in the Emergency Information page.
- Make sure to make photocopies of your passport prior to departure. Leave one copy with a friend or family in U.S. or scan an image of your passport and email it to yourself prior to departure, and keep one stored with you on your trip in a separate location from your actual passport.
- Make sure to procure any required visas for entry into the countries you will be traveling to prior to departure. There are no VISA requirements for an American traveling through Europe up to 90 days.

Pre-Departure Preparation

- You will meet with Misty Gamble several times prior to departure to complete all of your paperwork and to discuss European travel. There is a list of useful travel links at the end of this document as well as on the SACI website.
- Leave a copy of your itinerary with a friend or family member in the U.S. so that you can be contacted in case of an emergency. The SACI main desk telephone number is the emergency number and contact number for anyone to use. The SACI address can be used for sending packages and connecting with students. Palazzo dei Cartelloni, Via Sant’Antonino 11, 50123 Firenze (Florence) tel: 055-28994

Health

- Italy is famous for its winding mountain roads! The weekly fieldtrips include driving up and down nearby Tuscan mountains. Students who get easily carsick should bring dramamine or homeopathic remedies for car-sickness to make themselves comfortable on these amazing trips.
- If you have a pre-existing medical condition, you should carry a letter from your
  1. attending physician describing the medical condition and any prescription
  2. medications, including the generic names of prescribed drugs.
- Any medications being carried overseas should be left in their original containers and be clearly labeled.
- Carry medications in your carry-on luggage so you will have them with you in case your checked luggage is lost.
- Check with the foreign embassy of the country/ies you are visiting to make sure any required medications are not considered to be illegal narcotics.
- If you have allergies, reactions to certain medications, food, or insect bites, or other unique medical problems, consider wearing a “medical alert” bracelet. You may also carry a letter from your physician explaining required treatment should you become ill.
- If you wear corrective lenses, be sure to pack an extra pair in your carry-on luggage so you will have them with you in case your checked luggage is lost.
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Traveling
- Do not leave your luggage unattended.
- Do not accept packages from strangers, don’t wear conspicuous clothes or expensive jewelry, and do not carry large amounts of cash or unnecessary credit cards.
- SACI can help facilitate the shipment of and carrying of art out of Italy
- Cash machines are preferred in Europe to the fees associated with changing money.
- If you are arrested in transit outside of the United States, contact the nearest American Consulate. If you are arrested while in Florence and attending SACI, call the 24-hour emergency phone number on your SACI keychain.

ADDITIONAL INTERNET LINKS:
SACI Studio Art Centers International (travel tips, scholarship, health) www.saci-florence.edu
Jules Maidoff: The Founder of SACI www.julesmaidoff.com
The 72 Museums of Florence: Images, Hours, Floorplans and History www.museumsinflorence.com
The 77th Maggio Musicale: The Theater and Opera festival in Florence www.maggiofiorentino.com
The weekly English speaking newspaper of Florence www.theflorentine.net
Benjamin A Gilman Award www.iie.org/GILMAN

More information about consular assistance for victims of crime abroad can be found at:

The U.S. Department of State has also developed a travel website specifically geared towards U.S. students studying abroad. You can peruse their Student Study Abroad site at:
http://www.studentsabroad.state.gov/

If you have any questions about this program please feel free to contact:
Misty Gamble, School of the Foundation Year, mgamble@kcai.edu