



HIS4935 Senior Seminar: Renaissance Florence

Dr. James Palmer

MW 3.05-4.20pm

Bellamy 030

My senior seminar is on Florence during the Italian Renaissance (roughly 1250-1550). Students will familiarize themselves with that stretch of the city's history. We'll look at lots of different kinds of primary sources, ranging from chronicles to notarial documents, to private diaries, to the works of famous humanists and thinkers like Machiavelli. Students will build a research paper on any topic related to renaissance Florence. The course is structured so that topics are chosen early and there are incremental assignments meant to ensure timely completion of a well-polished paper. It's a heavy reading course early on, but there are weeks at the end of the semester devoted entirely to writing and meeting with me one-on-one. So, it balances out.