Apply now for the international class Challenging Eternity! Deadline 13th of January 2020.

Study the complex interrelations between urban development, politics and the preservation and transformation of cultural heritage in Rome, the Eternal City.
Instruction general

Course elements: Ten-days excursion to Rome (20-30 April 2020). Students from Dutch universities also take a preparatory three day course in Amsterdam (18-20 March 2020).

Credits: 9 ects for students registered at Dutch universities and 7 ects for students studying abroad (who don’t take the three day course in Amsterdam).

Language of tuition: English.

Coordinator: Prof. Gert-Jan Burgers.

Teaching staff: Prof. Gert-Jan Burgers (coordinator), Dr. Tesse Stek and visiting teachers.

Teaching method(s): Seminar, excursion, lectures, student presentations, assignments and essays.

Place: Amsterdam, Rome.

Course material: Reader.

Site visits: In Rome, apart from excursions to the major archaeological monuments, visits will be arranged to sites that have aroused debate from a heritage perspective or at which particular management and presentation programs can be examined at first hand.

Examinations: On-site student presentations, paper, reflective essay [all in Rome].

Course objective
Rome is the city par excellence to study the complex interrelations between urban development, politics and the preservation and transformation of cultural heritage. The aim of this course is a better understanding of the historical roles that cultural heritage has fulfilled within the broader framework of national and European identity construction. Next to that, the students develop their own view of how ancient and recent heritage can be preserved and transformed within a setting of urban dynamism and rapid transformations.

Course content
Rome is one of the oldest cities in Europe and its cultural heritage embodies classical and modern ideals, which have left their imprint on the city. But its appearance and structure are also shaped by the daily realities typical of an ever expanding Mediterranean metropolis. Rome is a city of contrasts where old and new, past and present, come together and sometimes clash.
The course elaborates on the following themes:

1. *Sites and monuments*: Making the students familiar with the major sites, monuments and urbanistic interventions in Rome
5. *Heritage, History and the Public*: Ethics and methods of communication with the audience.
6. *Challenges for future management*: Wedding urban development with heritage management; new heritage concepts (landscape), urban landscape archaeology, outreach, heritage management and citizenship.
7. *Design Interventions*: programming old and new functions and spatial claims of stakeholders and preparing interventions for/with designers.

**Highest ratings in student evaluations**

Since the first edition of Challenging Eternity, in 2012, the course has attracted hundreds of students from all over the world. Student evaluations have invariably been extremely positive, with highest scores, much above the average, for course content, organisation, lecturing and assignments.

**Form of tuition**

An introductory seminar and a three-days crash course on heritage issues and Rome’s history and topography will be presented at Amsterdam for students from Dutch universities (18-20 March 2020). Students studying at non-Dutch universities only participate in the ten-days excursion to Rome (20-30 April 2020).

**Type of assessment**

On-site oral presentations, active contribution to plenary discussions, assignments and a reflective essay. The complexity of the topic of discussion varies according to the student’s curriculum. Participants receive credit after submitting their final paper.

**Admission and application**

The course is a joint initiative of CLUE+, the Royal Netherlands Institute in Rome (KNIR) and the master Heritage Studies at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. It is open for credit to 20 students from the Netherlands and abroad (in particular Master and Research Master students), with an interest in the relation between Archaeology, [Art and Architectural] History, Heritage Studies and Urban Planning and Urban or Landscape Design. The deadline for application is the 13th of January 2020. Selection (of a maximum of 20 students) will close before January, 16. Students can apply via https://www.knir.it/en/cursusaanbod-2019-2020/. Include in your application:

a) a letter of motivation
b) a cv
c) a recent list of grades officially provided by your university
Facilities in Rome
All students will be housed in the Royal Netherlands Institute in the Villa Borghese Park. From there, it is only a short walk to the historical center of Rome. The accommodation consists of shared bedrooms (bedding and towels are present) and includes a bathroom, washing machine and wireless internet. Furthermore, all participants have access to the library of the Royal Netherlands Institute. No meals are provided, but the accommodation includes ample cooking facilities. Students are responsible for their own airfare and travel to Rome, meals and other consumptions.

Fees
1. €400,- for all those who are not a (subsidiary) student at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, University of Groningen, University of Leiden, University of Amsterdam, Radboud University Nijmegen or Utrecht University, needing accommodation in Rome.

2. Students studying at the above mentioned universities, upon selection will be exempted from paying fees.

The above includes tuition fees, accommodation, most excursions (including most entry fees for museums and archeological sites) and a syllabus with course material. Travel expenses and meals are excluded.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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About the organizing institutions

CLUE+ is an interfaculty research institute at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. CLUE+ stands for the research Institute for Culture, History and Heritage. CLUE+ initiates, carries out and coordinates research into the historical development, the heritage and the present-day transformation of the cultural landscape and urban environment. The focus is on the long-term history of (urban) landscapes and areas, as well as on the historical backgrounds of contemporary spatial planning issues, such as the rapid urbanization of regions and the problem of water management. CLUE+ also investigates how new social and cultural phenomena, such as globalization, the new media and the rise of international tourism influence our interaction with landscapes and heritage. By placing these themes at the heart of its research, CLUE+ aims to provide the historical, social and spatial sciences with a new impetus and to deliver an innovative contribution to the thinking on spatial and cultural problems of today.

The Royal Netherlands Institute in Rome (KNIR) is an interuniversity research and educational institute specializing in history, art history and archaeology. It is primarily a research and educational institution, acting as a liaison between Dutch universities and academic institutes in Italy. It also plays a cultural and social role. The Institute’s academic staff consists of specialists in the fields of archaeology, history and art history. In addition to acting as intermediaries for their Dutch colleagues they also conduct their own research projects, tutor PhD students and develop courses for Dutch university students. The research and educational activities conducted at the Institute have a strong focus on the history and culture of Rome, often in relation to the Netherlands.

The master’s degree in Heritage Studies (MA) at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam is a oneyear, interdisciplinary course open for archaeologists, art- and architectural historians, (historical) geographers, historians, policy makers and designers (planologists, architects, landscape architects and city planners). The training centres on the field of conflicting interests between the preservation and the renovation of archaeological, urban and landscape monuments and ensembles.

Herity International (from heritage + quality) is the International Organization for Quality Management of Cultural Heritage. Its mission is to inform the public on the state-of-the-art of a heritage object (whether a landscape, site, museum, monument, library or archive) with regard to its perceived value, conservation status, communication capabilities and services. Herity also aims to assist those responsible to better manage the assets they are in charge of. To those aims a HGES (Herity Global Evaluation System) is used, which makes it possible for cultural assets all over the world to be certified.

The Faculty of Architecture of RomaTre specialises in architecture, town planning, architectural design, restoration and the relation between city, archaeology and landscape.