

# SCENOGRAPHY AND STATECRAFT

## on the Italian Peninsula

2019 Spring Travel Course

Faculty: Brittany Utting



### Travel Dates:

May 05-26 (21 Nights)

### Student Budget:

(estimated and subject to change)

<b>Airfare:</b>	Detroit > Milan	\$650-
	Rome > Detroit	\$650-
<b>Transit:</b>	Eurail Italy Rail Pass	\$400-
	Intracity Transit	\$200-
<b>Hotels:</b>	2 Students/Rm, \$50 each	\$1100-
<b>Insurance:</b>	Through University	\$25-
<b>Visas:</b>	Varies by Nationality	\$0-
<b>Data Plan:</b>	International Data Plan	\$50-
<b>Food:</b>	\$28/day	\$600-
<b>Admissions:</b>	Museums, Tours, Events	\$300-
<b>Cost per student:</b>		\$3975-
<b>Taubman Scholarship:</b>		-\$1000-
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>\$2975-</b>

This travel course will investigate architecture's participation in the geopolitical scenography of the Italian Peninsula. Within the palazzos of the Renaissance prince, the villas overseeing Italy's agro-economies, and the alignments/misalignments of the Fascist state and post-war housing, the political arena of Italy has continuously positioned the built environment as an instrument of state-building. From Machiavelli to Mussolini, Italian architecture has been continuously re-appropriated as both political object and cinematic frame, instrumentalized to produce ideological, symbolic, and territorial identity. This course will travel throughout Italy to study these scenographic tactics and how architecture reproduces the spatial and territorial logics of power. In Milan, we will visit housing by Terragni, Moretti, and Rossi, projects that span from Fascist Rationalism to the new Tendenza. Traveling to Como, we will see the Casa del Fascio to understand it as an architectural infrastructure that produces a collective and participatory urban space. We will also visit projects such as OMA's Prada Foundation in Milan and Fiat's Lingotto Factory in Turin to understand the relationship between production and consumption in the built environment. We will then travel to Mantua and the Veneto to see work by Romano and Palladio, investigating the role of the villa as a colonizing agent of the Italian countryside. In Florence, we will see the palazzos of the city-state to study the relationship of power, patronage, and architectural agency in Medieval and Renaissance Italy. Moving to Rome and EUR, we will experience the symbolic and archaeological tensions between the ancient Roman Empire and Mussolini's Fascist state. Finally, we will end in Capri at Casa Malaparte, a villa that expresses the monumentality and potential scenography of political exile and dissent. As architecture increasingly participates within systems of capital and power, these projects offer new opportunities to reposition the role of space in the construction of the city and its political subjects.

### Course Itinerary:

May 05	<b>MILAN</b>	Architecture and Revolution
May 07	<b>COMO</b>	A-Political Object
May 08	<b>TURIN</b>	Art, Fashion, & the Factory
May 09	<b>MANTUA</b>	The Humanist and the Heretic
May 11	<b>VICENZA</b>	Villa as Geopolitical Project
May 14	<b>FLORENCE</b>	Patronage and Power
May 20	<b>ROME</b>	Cinema and Empire
May 25	<b>CAPRI</b>	Scenography of Exile