Students enrolled in this interdisciplinary course will be immersed in various aspects of Italian culture, geography, basic conversational Italian, visual art and design, theatre, music, fashion, architecture, and the rich artistic history in Italy from the Roman Empire to present. The course will also serve as a foundation for experience-based educational travel to Italy, where some projects and assignments may continue.

We will explore the rich and crazy aspects of Italian culture together, and learn from our discoveries and passions.

**Students will be responsible for writing response and research papers, visual art projects, presentations, and summative assessments.** Class sessions will include lecture, discussion and critiques, role-play, project development, museum/gallery visits, café and restaurant visits, food preparation, cinema/theatre/performance attendance, and project work time.

Regular attendance, class participation, and regular journal/sketchbook entries is required, and the basis for grading. We will explore the rich and crazy aspects of Italian culture together, and learn from our discoveries and passions. Additional assessments may include response papers, group critiques, self-assessment, tests, and criteria-based rubrics. Grading will follow the point/percentage system found in Power School.

Students will be required to create a portfolio creative responses. A minimum of 15 pieces must be included in the portfolio. The portfolio will be evaluated as part of the final exam for the course. Portfolio assessment will be based on breadth of pieces, commitment to detail, educational content, and degree of effort and craft.

Portfolio pieces may include: Visual art projects (drawing painting sculpture photography video) PowerPoint presentations Research or response papers Sketchbooks Videos Theatrical skits/plays, written and performed Musical pieces Demonstrations; cooking, fashion, design Informational posters/displays Museum/gallery tour Food/restaurant reviews/critiques Film reviews Poetry, Books
Failure to submit a final portfolio will result in a failing grade for the course.

Areas of study will include:

- Italian words and phrases, basic conversation- Parlo Italiano?
- Italian art and architecture- a historical journey from Claudius to Felini
- Roman art and architecture
- Musica Italiana, Vivaldi to Boccelli
- Italian theatre- Comedia Del”Arte- Absurdist theatre
- Italian artistic periods and movements- Medieval, Etruscan, Roman, Byzantine, Gothic, Baroque, Futurism, Moderna
- The Renaissance in Italy
- Cities and geography
- Cinema Italiana
- Cucina Italiana- Mangia! Mangia!
- Italian design and fashion
- Major Italian artists, musicians, poets, performers
- Modern Italian art
- Modes of travel in Italy
- Modern Italian life

Information and guidelines for the **CHS Italy Educational Tour** will be presented, as well as the educational content of the tour.

Through active participation in this course, it is our intention that you master a new set of intellectual skills, and realize a new interest in Italian art and culture for it’s own sake, and make your own discoveries and meaning.

**Viv l’Italia!**

Steve’s contact information: coron@aaps.k12.mi.us
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Conferences by appointment.