Widely regarded as one of the most groundbreaking Renaissance artists, Leonardo da Vinci epitomized the ideal of a universal man, for whom mastery of art was also a way of mastering knowledge about the world in all of its facets. Though he was exceptional in terms of his accomplishments, his aspirations were part of a cultural mindset as well. In this course, we look at his work within that broader context and in relation to some of the other major artists of the late fifteenth- and the sixteenth centuries, such as Michelangelo, Raphael, and Titian.