This 3-credit upper-level undergraduate lecture course introduces students to the art of 17th-century Europe, with emphasis on the origins of the Baroque style in later 16th- and early 17th-century Italy, but also reviewing developments in France, Spain and the Netherlands. Examination of major works of painting, sculpture and architecture, also touching upon luxury arts and costume, the course seeks to capture the remarkable splendor and exuberance of the period. Major developments in techniques of painting and sculpture revolve around a remarkable new naturalism, exemplified by the works of such painters as Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio, Artemisia Gentileschi, Diego Velázquez, Charles Le Brun and Johannes Vermeer. Controversies between Roman Catholicism and northern Protestantism, as well as new ideas in science (from Galileo to van Leeuwenhoek), philosophy (from Pomponazzi to Descartes) and literature (Marino, Milton), announce the origins of modernity, and provide a backdrop for the artistic innovations of the period.

The course is designated as GenEd DSHU.