



BA/HONOURS-, MA AND RMA COURSE
Royal Netherlands Institute in Rome
19 June – 2 July 2018

Larger than Life

Saints & Heroes in Modern Rome, 1800-2018

CREDITS

6 ECTS

MORE INFO

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APPLY BEFORE

15 April 2018

TEACHING STAFF

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Personality cults play a crucial part in our media-driven society and politics. Creating identities and making sense of a complex world takes place and shape through our relation towards exemplary men and women, whether icons, idols, heroes or saints. These age-old mechanisms assumed particular traits in the modern era, with the rise of the nation state, a new mass audience, modern media and secularization, leading to a fascinating interplay of both traditional and new, secular and religious forms of hero worship.

The city of Rome offers an outstanding opportunity to study this phenomenon against the backdrop of a millennial tradition. In this intensive two week-course we will discuss and research the dynamics of modern heroism and sainthood, and related concepts such as sacrality, martyrdom, rituality and mythification. Following introductory courses at the Royal Netherlands Institute in Rome, the group will visit several sites where the cults of modern heroes and saints have left their marks, from Garibaldi and pope Pius IX to Padre Pio, Silvio Berlusconi and Francesco Totti.

