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THE WORLD OF THE MEDICI

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M. Mazzaoui

This seminar will explore the society of Renaissance Florence from the vantage point of its famous ruling family. We will discuss the rise of Cosimo de' Medici to power, the court of Lorenzo the Magnificent, the fall of the dynasty, Machiavelli and the restoration of the Republic, the Medici popes and the Grand Dukes of Tuscany. The imprint of the Medici on the art, architecture, culture, intellectual and ritual life of the city will be examined in detail.

Readings include both primary and secondary sources. Grades will be based on oral reports and brief written papers. There are no examinations.