

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY
Survey of Art History 1

spring, 2007
AH 1541

Course Instructor: Dr. Stephanie Smith
T/TH 9:30-10:45; 11-12:15; 2-3:15

Classroom: McDonough 3000

Office: Bliss 4007

Office Hours: By appointment. Appointments can be made in the Dept of Art main office (Bliss 4001) or by phone 330-941-3627.

Office phone: 330-941-1547

e-mail: ssmith@ysu.edu (please note that e-mail must include “ART 1541” in the subject line or it will not be opened)

Prerequisites

None

Course Description

This course will provide an introduction to the art of the prehistoric Paleolithic period to the French Gothic period. Material will include architecture, painting, sculpture, and the craft arts. The course will approach all work within its historical context and introduce key concepts, methods, and the vocabulary for the historical study of art.

This Course as a General Education Requirement

Knowledge Domain: Artistic and Literary Perspectives

GER Goals: 1. Write and speak affectively.
3. Reason critically.
8. Grasp and appreciate artistic expression in multiple forms and contexts.
10. Understand the development of cultures and organizations of human societies throughout the world and their changing interrelationships with Western society.

Required Texts and Readings

Gardner's Art Through the Ages, 12th edition, Kleiner and Mamiya, 2004, volume 1.
Available at the bookstore.

Your textbook comes “bundled” with both a resource pamphlet (*Art Basics*) and a CD-ROM (*Art Study*). NOTE: THE BOOKSTORE WILL NOT BUY BACK YOUR TEXTBOOK WITHOUT *ART BASICS* and *ART STUDY*.

Recommended for consultation

A variety of handbooks dealing with issues associated with writing about art are on reserve in MAAG library.

Problem-Based Learning

Traditionally, Survey of Art History 1 is taught as a lecture and discussion course with quizzes and examinations spaced throughout the semester. In an attempt to make the course more stimulating and thus more meaningful I have adopted an approach known as

Problem-Based Learning (PBL). As the instructor, I will function as a teacher and facilitator and although I will give very few lectures, I will be with you during every class and via email. There will be no quizzes or exams. You will work in small groups throughout the semester, researching topics that I assign. Together with your group, you will write two papers and make one group oral presentations during class and one group oral presentation during the final examination time slot. Everyone in your group will receive the same grade. Your research will be directed but open-ended.

Attendance and Participation

- For individual, unexcused absences, I will take points off of your individual grade for the current unit.
- Unexcused absences include: scheduled dentist and doctor's visits; personal vacations, etc.
- Excused absences include: a death in the family; your serious illness requiring a doctor's visit; a family emergency (child or spouse's illness).
- If you notify me via email or telephone before or soon after a missed class for a valid reason, I will excuse your absence. Be prepared to provide documentation.

My definition of participation is:

- (1) Staying on the task at hand
- (2) Asking me or each other questions about the assignment
- (3) Providing each other with important information or insights
- (4) Reading and taking notes during class time
- (5) Staying the whole class time

Course Requirements and Grading

- Attendance and Participation at all classes (20% of your grade)
- Two group-written papers (60% of your grade)
- One oral presentation during the semester (factored into most recent paper grade)
- One oral presentation at the final exam (20 %)

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES IN THIS COURSE (IF YOU KNOW THAT YOU CANNOT MEET THESE RESPONSIBILITIES, THEN I SUGGEST THAT YOU DROP THIS COURSE)

- Checking your YSU email daily (M-F).
- Working smoothly and responsibly in your small groups.
- Communicating on-line with members of your group.
- Scheduling time to be on campus to use computer lab if you do not have access to a computer and/or the internet from home.
- Submitting written papers on-line through the university portal.

Students with Disabilities

In accordance with University procedures, if you have a documented disability and require accommodations to obtain equal access in this course please contact me privately to discuss your specific needs. According to University policy, you must be registered

with the Disability Services Office in Wick House, and provide a letter of accommodation to verify your eligibility (330-941-1372)

Research Units

Unit One: Paleolithic through Bronze Age; Archaic and High Classical Greece

Unit Two: Hellenistic through Republican Rome; Imperial Rome through Early Christian

Unit Three: Islam and Byzantium; the Migration periods, the Carolingian through Romanesque and Gothic periods

Topics for the Units

1. The role of technology in producing art and architecture
2. Iconography and the non-verbal language of art
3. Religion's impact on art
4. The representation of the human figure in art (sculpture and painting)
5. Trade and artistic exchange
6. The invention of pictorial strategies
7. War and propaganda in art

Tentative Schedule

UNIT ONE

Week One

Tues., January 16

- Introduction to course
- Explanation of Problem-Based Learning

Thurs., January 18

- First background lecture for Unit One

Week Two

Tues., January 23

- Second background lecture for Unit One
- Student Questionnaire Due

Thurs., January 25

- Third background lecture for Unit One

Week Three

Tues., January 30

- Assignment of small groups
- Assignment of topics to small groups
- Discussion of Unit One topics

Thurs., February 1

- Researching Unit One in MAAG Library

Week Four

Tues., February 6

- Researching Unit One in MAAG Library

Thurs., February 8

- Researching Unit One in MAAG Library

Fri., February 9 Must be received by 10 PM

- *Annotated outlines of paper sent to me via YSU e-mail for feedback*

Week Five

Tues., February 13

- Researching Unit One in MAAG Library
- Annotated outlines will be returned in class

Thurs., February 15

- Final research day for Unit One in MAAG Library

Week Six

Mon., February 19 Must be received by 10 AM

- ***FINAL COPIES OF PAPERS SENT TO ME VIA YSU E-MAIL***

Tues., February 20

- Oral Presentations and discussion of Unit One topics in classroom during class (required to attend and participate whether or not your group is presenting).

UNIT TWO

Thurs., February 22

- First background lecture for Unit Two

Week Seven

Tues., February 27

- Second background lecture for Unit Two

Thurs., March 1

- Third background lecture for Unit Two

Week Eight

Tues., March 6

- Fourth background lecture for Unit Two
- Assignment of topics to small groups
- Discussion of Unit Two topics

Thurs., March 8

- Researching Unit Two in MAAG Library

Week Nine

March 13-SPRING BREAK

March 15-SPRING BREAK

Week Ten

Tues., March 20

- Researching Unit Two in MAAG Library

Thurs., March 22

- Researching Unit Two in MAAG Library

Sun., March 25 Must be received by 10 PM

- ***Annotated outline of paper sent to me for feedback***

Week Eleven

Tues., March 27

- Researching Unit Two in MAAG Library
- Annotated outlines will be returned in class

Thurs., March 29

- Final research day in MAAG Library

Week Twelve

Mon., April 2 Must be received by 10 AM

- ***FINAL COPIES OF PAPERS SENT TO ME VIA YSU E-MAIL***

Tues., April 3

- Oral Presentations and discussion of Unit Two topics in classroom during class (required to attend and participate whether or not your group is presenting).

UNIT THREE

Thurs., April 5

- First background lecture for Unit Three

Week Thirteen

Tues., April 10

- Second background lecture for Unit Three

Thurs., April 12

- Third background lecture for Unit Three

Week Fourteen

Tues., April 17

- Assignment of Topics to small groups
- Discussion of Unit Three topics
- Researching Unit Three in MAAG Library

Thurs., April 19

- Researching Unit Three in MAAG Library

Week Fifteen

Tues., April 24

- Researching Unit Three in MAAG Library

Thurs., April 26

- Researching Unit Three in MAAG Library

Week Sixteen

Tues., May 1

- Researching Unit Three in MAAG Library

Thurs., May 3

- Final research day for Unit Three in MAAG Library
- Outline of presentation due in class
- Each group will meet with instructor to go over outline of presentation

Week Seventeen-*EXAM WEEK (please be on time and be prepared to stay entire time)*

9:30-10:45 class: Tuesday, May 8 (8-10)

- FINAL PRESENTATIONS
- Research summary due at beginning of exam time slot

11-12:15 class: Tuesday, May 8 (10:30-12:30)

- FINAL PRESENTATIONS
- Research summary due at beginning of exam time slot

2-3:15 class: Tuesday, May 8 (1-3)

- FINAL PRESENTATIONS
- Research summary due at beginning of the exam time slot

Learning Objectives

To learn the following skills in studying a work of art:

- Description: what exactly do you see?
- Analysis: how does the artist design and compose the work of art?
- Compare and contrast two works of art
- Synthesize: to make connections between subjects and works of art, across cultures and time periods.

To learn about the influences on art of:

- Cultural preferences in subject matter
- Cultural preferences in materials and techniques
- The culture's contact with other cultures
- History, in particular warfare, religion, and government
- The artistic tastes and ambitions of people who commission and pay for art
- The role of the artist in shaping the work of art

To learn the following skills that you can apply to any subject:

- Develop an idea
- Ask a question
- Research a topic
- Read a book for information
- Use the library's print collection, the stacks and the reference collection.
- Use the class's reserve books in your research
- Select appropriate websites for research
- Read each other's papers
- Make a brief but informative presentation to the whole class

Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism

According to YSU's *The Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct*

Students suspected of academic dishonesty shall be charged
with a violation of University conduct regulations under
Article IV, Section A.1.

Plagiarism on assignments in this class will result in a grade of 'F' for the assignment.

What is Plagiarism

Plagiarism occurs when you present the ideas of someone else as your own in either written or spoken word.

In order to avoid plagiarizing, one must:

- give credit when you use another person's idea, opinion, or theory.
- give credit when you use information that is not common knowledge.
- give credit when you directly quote or paraphrase another person's spoken or written words.

See the course website for additional, online resources that define plagiarism and present strategies for avoiding it.

