

Art Appreciation (VISU 1000)
Section H
7th Period, T & TH, 6:00-7:15 p.m.
110 Goodwyn Hall

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Office Hours: 4-5:30 p.m. T & TH,
or by appointment on Fridays

Course textbook: *Artforms*. Revised 7th Edition. Duane Preble, Sarah Preble, and Patrick Frank. New Jersey: Pearson, Prentice Hall (2004). ISBN: 0-13-183090-2.

Course description: Art Appreciation is an introduction to key works of art from all over the world, as well as an introduction to the artistic process as critical thinking and problem solving. The class will enhance students' perceptual skills, and encourage insight and greater understanding of visual expressions.

Format: Course meetings will consist of lecture presentations of works of art and ideas, class discussions, and possible video presentations, in order to challenge and stimulate students to apprehend visual expression and to develop aesthetic insight and discernment. Textbook reading assignments to be completed before class periods will complement the information addressed during class. As a core course, Art Appreciation includes writing in the discipline as well as critical thinking in the study and analysis of visual art forms.

Course goals and objectives: Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Identify a selected number of key works of art.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of artists, art terms, themes, forms (the various media and styles), and historical contexts.
3. Apply critical thinking skills to the analysis and evaluation of works of art.
4. Write and speak sensitively as well as intellectually about personal aesthetic experiences.
5. Formulate knowledgeable opinions regarding the use and social value of art, the creative spirit, and local artworks

Core Competencies:

Aesthetics: Artworks are presented within cultural/historical and theoretical frameworks to aide in the development of the knowledge and appreciation of visual arts traditions. Knowledge of visual elements, design principles, and aesthetic customs will be obtained through objective memorization of artworks and terms, which will be evaluated on examinations. Appreciation of aesthetics is encouraged during classroom discussions and subjective writing assignments and /or studio projects.

Class rules and requirements:

1. Bring the textbook to each class meeting.
2. Bring a blank blue-book to each exam.
3. Email and internet access.
4. Visitation of the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts (admission is free).
5. Viewing of select local public art/monuments.
6. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class meeting and noticed after any breaks. Be on time for class and especially exams. Failure to attend class will be viewed as a lack of commitment to the course. More than 6 absences will have a negative effect

- on students' performance and average. It is the student's responsibility to obtain any missed notes from a classmate and any handouts from the instructor.
7. Class attentiveness and participation during group discussions. Please be respectful of the classroom learning environment. Turn off all cell phones, beepers, etc. before entering the classroom. No eating, sleeping, non-Art Appreciation reading, crossword puzzles, etc. should occur during class time.
 8. Since art is a creation of individuals as well as cultures, we may discuss aspects of identity such as nationality, ethnicity/race, religion, gender, sexuality and class. While I hope that our discussions of these issues will be lively and enriching, it is very important that our dialogue be respectful.
 9. Academic honesty and integrity. Cheating and plagiarizing are unacceptable and will be handled according to official AUM policies.
 10. All written assignments must be typed, double-spaced, with 1 inch margins, and 10 or 12 pt font.
 11. No late work will be accepted unless discussed with the instructor before the due date. Late work that is accepted will receive an appropriate grade deduction.
 12. No make up exams will be allowed unless there is a documented medical emergency or family death. Any allowed make up exams will be given at my convenience.
 13. A student who wishes to withdraw from the course or who has missed too many classes to pass must complete the standard process for dropping a class by the withdrawal dates for the term (published in the current AUM Catalog and current Schedule of Classes).
 14. All lecture classes in the Department of Fine Arts require three hours of work each week for each credit hour; thus, a three hour course (VISU 1000) requires nine hours of work each week. Plan on working approximately 6 hours outside of class each week (reading, studying, completing assignments, etc.).

Accommodations for special needs: Faculty in the School of Liberal Arts makes every effort to accommodate unique and special needs of students with respect to speech, hearing, vision, seating, or other possible disabling conditions. Please notify me as soon as possible of requested accommodations or ways to help.

Important Dates and Grade Breakdown

Further description and criteria of assignments will be given as handouts throughout the term.

Tuesday, September 21st: Exam 1 = 10%

Tuesday, October 5th: Museum Formal Analysis Paper = 20%

Tuesday, October 19th: Exam 2 = 15%

Tuesday, October 26th: Website Review Assignment = 5%

Tuesday, November 23rd: Extra Credit Due

Thursday, December 9th: Theme Paper = 20%

Tuesday, December 14th: Final Exam = 25%

All Semester: Attendance, Participation, and Other Credit = 5%

Exams will test your understanding of the material presented in class and in the textbook. The format of the exams may include true/false, fill-in-the-blank, matching, multiple choice, and essay/discussion questions. You will be required to identify key artworks, and recall important

information about the art and its cultural history. Study guides will be ready approximately a week before all exams. The written assignments and activities will be designed to allow you to apply the knowledge you have gained of principles, terms, and strategies presented in the course thus far.

Extra credit: Students will have the option of completing an extra credit assignment worth a possible 3 to 6 points to be added to their course average. A separate handout will be offered detailing the options and requirements.

Course topics tentative schedule

T 8-24 Introduction to course
TH 8-26 What is Art?: Chapter 1

T 8-31 Aspects of Art: Ch. 2
TH 9-2 What is Style?: Ch. 5

T 9-7 **No class**
TH 9-9 Visual Elements: Ch. 3

T 9-14 Visual Elements: Ch. 3
TH 9-16 Principles of Design: Ch. 4

T 9-21 **Exam #1**
TH 9-23 Drawing: Ch. 7

T 9-28 Painting: Ch. 8
TH 9-30 Printmaking: Ch. 9

T 10-5 Photography: Ch.10; **Museum Formal Analysis Paper Due**
TH 10-7 Graphic Design & “Craft” Art: Chapters 11 & 13

T 10-12 Sculpture: Ch. 12
TH 10-14 Architecture: Ch. 14

T 10-19 **Exam #2**
TH 10-21 Prehistoric and Mesopotamian Art: Chapters 15 & 16

T 10-26 Egyptian, Greek, & Roman Art: Ch. 16; **Website Review Assignment Due**
TH 10-28 Early Christian, Byzantine, and Medieval Art: Ch. 16

T 11-2 Early Renaissance Art: Ch. 17
TH 11-4 High Renaissance Art: Ch. 17

T 11-9 Baroque and Rococo Art: Ch. 17
TH 11-11 Late 18th & Early 19th Century Art: Ch. 21

T 11-16 Late 19th Century Art: Ch. 21
TH 11-18 Early 20th Century Art: Ch. 22

T 11-23 Early 20th Century Art: Ch. 23; **Extra Credit Due**
TH 11-26 **No Class**

T 11-30 Mid-20th Century Art: Ch. 24
TH 12-2 Mid-20th Century Art: Ch. 24

T 12-7 Late 20th Century Art: Ch. 25
TH 12-9 Late 20th Century Art: Ch. 25; **Theme Paper Due**

T 12-14 Final Exam, 5:00-7:30 pm

A few suggestions for course success

1. Keep up with reading assignments.
2. Spend time looking at the artworks included in the reading assignments.
3. Begin written assignments early.
4. Exchange email addresses or phone numbers with a few classmates.
5. Take advantage of instructor's office hours.
6. Do not hesitate to ask questions or clarify points during class meetings.
7. Make flashcards of artworks and terms to study.