

Kingsborough Community College—Spring 2011

Art 31: The Visual Experience

Tuesday: 1:50-4:00 PM and Thursday: 3:00-4:00 PM, Section D08F, Room S-162

Instructor

Dr. Todd Magreta

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Office Hours: Monday: 3:00-4:00 PM; Tuesday 12:30-1:30 PM; or by appointment; Room S-263

Mailbox in the Art Department Office, S-155 (718-368-5718)

Art 03100: Official Course Description:

The Visual Experience (3 crs., 3 hrs)

Introduction to the visual arts, past and present. Basic elements in appreciating the great achievements in painting, sculpture and architecture. Aesthetic and societal concerns.

Required Textbook:

Stokstad, Marilyn and Michael Cothren. *Art: A Brief History*. Fourth Edition. Pearson, 2011.

- There is a copy of the textbook on reserve at the Circulation Desk of the Robert J. Kibbee Library. It is available for use in the library for a period of two hours.
- Weekly reading assignments (listed below) are required and should be read prior to that week's classes. Additional readings may be assigned and are also required.
- The Glossary in your textbook, as well as features in the eText and MyArtsLab, are useful sources. The Bibliography in the textbook may be helpful for your term paper.

Course Goals:

The goals of the Art 31 course are to provide students with the following:

1. Familiarity with art terminology necessary for discussion and study of art.
2. Knowledge of specific historical details of selected works of art from Western and non-Western cultures, beginning with prehistoric art and concluding with art of the twentieth century. Students are expected to gain an understanding of the relationships between artistic works and historical events.
3. Knowledge of the roles of artists, their techniques, and the art market and its diverse history over the centuries.
4. The ability to write about a work of art using the knowledge acquired from class lectures and the assigned readings. The students should be exposed to art historical writing (including artistic descriptions, art criticism, and historical research) so that they have a model on which to create their own art historical writing projects.
5. The ability to verbally discuss a work of art using the knowledge acquired from the class lectures and the assigned readings.

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Course Outcomes:

At the end of their studies in Art 31, successful students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate a working knowledge of art and art history through critical thinking, testing, and writing.
2. Analyze a work of art formally and within a historical context orally and through writing.
3. Formulate intelligent questions and initiate discussion about visual objects.
4. Communicate their ideas about visual objects effectively in writing and speaking.
5. Recognize the intrinsic value of visual objects and develop respect and appreciation for visual objects for all cultures.

Course Requirements and Assessment:

- Assignments and quizzes (worth 20% of overall grade): both in-class and at-home, on readings, vocabulary, and works of art
- Class participation (worth 20% of overall grade): including attendance and speaking in class. Full participation requires students to ask and answer questions about course material as well as discuss course readings and works of art. Attendance will be taken every class; 3 absences/6 late arrivals will lower your final grade by one full letter grade; more than this will be considered a withdrawal from the class.
- Midterm Examination (worth 20% of overall grade): Tuesday, April 12th
- Final Examination (worth 20% of overall grade): date to be determined
- Field Assignment/Term Paper (worth 20% of overall grade): This is an independent writing project with multiple stages (for a total of approximately 8 pages). It will require you to view, describe, analyze, and research individual works of art and their historical context. It will further provide experience with basic research methods, academic writing, and analytical thought. (The assignment is described in full on another sheet.)

Additional Information:

- Attendance is required.
- Sleeping in class is not allowed.
- Eating in class is not allowed.
- Cell phones and mobile devices must be off and put away during class.
- There is no extra credit in this course.
- All written assignments must be completed and submitted on time. (Late work may not be accepted; if it is, it will be marked down for each day that it is late.)
- All assignments must be submitted in person at class. Do not send work via email.
- Plagiarism is the use of another person's writings or ideas as one's own. It is unacceptable and is grounds for dismissal from the college in extreme circumstances. CUNY'S policy on plagiarism can be found at: http://www.kingsborough.edu/academic_integrity_policy.pdf.

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- According to the U.S. Department of Education, “The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a Federal law designed to protect the privacy of a student’s education records. The law applied to all schools which receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children’s education records; HOWEVER: These rights transfer to the student, or former student, who has reached the age of 18 or is attending any school beyond the high school level. For a complete statement on FERPA, go to: <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html>.
- Your textbook and the accompanying MyArtsLab have a wealth of information. Read the text and use the eText and MyArtsLab resources. Certain projects, including your term paper, will require you to use additional sources. Use websites with caution. Most websites, including all commercial sites, are not reliable academic sources; avoid them. By contrast, the material on websites for established, professional organizations and accredited museums is usually reliable (for example www.metmuseum.org, www.jstor.org).

Class Schedule (with assigned textbook pages in parentheses)
(subject to change)

Week 1: March 1st and 3rd

Introduction (pp.xvii-xxi, 1-21)

Chapter 1: Prehistoric Art in Europe (pp. 22-37)

Week 2: March 8th and 10th

Chapter 2: Art of the Ancient Near East (pp. 38-55)

Chapter 3: Art of Ancient Egypt (pp. 56-75)

Week 3: March 15th and 17th

Chapter 5: Art of Ancient Greece and the Aegean World (pp. 100-135)

Chapter 6: Etruscan and Roman Art (pp. 136-165)

Week 4: March 22nd and 24th

Chapter 6: Etruscan and Roman Art (pp. 136-165) continued

Chapter 7: Jewish, Early Christian, and Byzantine Art (pp. 166-191)

Week 5: March 29th and 31st

Chapter 10: Early Medieval and Romanesque Art (pp. 240-269)

Chapter 11: Gothic Art (pp. 270-301)

Field Assignment portion of Term Paper due Thursday, March 31st at 3:00PM

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Week 6: April 5th and 7th

Chapter 4: Early Asian Art (pp. 76-99)

Chapter 9: Later Asian Art (pp. 214-239)

Week 7: April 12th and 14th

Midterm Examination, Tuesday, April 12th

Chapter 8: Islamic Art (pp. 192-213)

Week 8: No class on April 19th or 21st (Spring Recess)

Week 9: April 28th (note, no class on Tuesday, April 26th)

Chapter 16: African Art (pp. 442-459)

Week 10: May 3rd and 5th

Chapter 15: Art of the Americas (pp. 416-441)

Chapter 12: Early Renaissance Art (pp. 302-333)

Week 11: May 10th and 12th

Chapter 12: Early Renaissance Art (pp. 302-333) continued

Chapter 13: Art of the High Renaissance and Reformation (pp. 334-377)

Week 12: May 17th and 19th

Chapter 14: Baroque and Rococo Art (pp. 378-415)

Chapter 17: Neoclassicism, Romanticism, and Realism (pp. 460-491)

Term Paper due Thursday, May 19th, at 3:00 PM

Week 13: May 24th and 26th

Chapter 17: Neoclassicism, Romanticism, and Realism (pp. 460-491) continued

Chapter 18: Later Nineteenth-Century Art in Europe and the United States (pp. 492-523)

Week 14: May 31st

Chapter 19: Modern Art: Europe and North America in the Early Twentieth Century (pp. 524-563)

Final Examination: date to be determined