

Art 1301 - Introduction to Art

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Office Hours: 10am-11am MW, 3pm-4pmT/TH, 10am-11am F

Course Overview

The course focuses on the appreciation and analysis of works of art, design, and architecture from different time periods and world cultures. Throughout the course students will learn to recognize how the subject matter, content, and medium of creative works are interrelated with cultural, political, and social context as well as technological progress. By the end of the course students will be able to identify key visual elements, different visual languages, artistic media and processes as well as major art works, periods, and figures in the history of art.

Student Learning Outcomes

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to:

- Think Critically: Critical thinking skills include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information.
- Communicate about art using art history terminology and methods of analysis: Communication skills include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication
- Work in teams: Teamwork skills include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.
- Respond to art in a socially responsible manner: Social responsibility skills include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

Required Textbooks and WWW Activities:

- **Primary Textbook:** No textbook required. This class is delivered entirely on-line. You will need Internet access and basic computer skills.

There will be several films that you will need to locate using a streaming or rental service, this is your responsibility to locate and watch these films.

- Total Estimated costs of required course materials: \$40

Course Structure

The objective of the creative arts in a core curriculum is to expand the student's knowledge of the human condition and human cultures, especially in relation to behaviors, ideas, and values expressed in works of human imagination and thought. Through study in disciplines such as the creative arts, students will engage in critical analysis, form aesthetic judgments, and develop an appreciation for arts as fundamental to the health and survival of any society.

This course is designed as an introduction to the visual arts leading to a basic understanding and appreciation of the visual arts and its history. Lectures are presented thematically beginning with fundamental questions regarding the meaning, purpose and style of art and concluding with an introductory survey of art from major historical periods.

The course is divided into 4 modules; Each module covers a specific aspect of art, design, materials, and the history of art. 1. Defining Art and Art Criticism, 2. Form: The Language of Art, 3. Form: Media and Techniques of Art, and 4. Art in Time, a brief history of art.

This class is delivered entirely on-line. You will need Internet access and basic computer skills. There will be several films that you will need to locate using a streaming or rental service, this is your responsibility to locate and watch these films.

Tips for Success in this Course

1. **Participate.** I invite you to engage deeply, ask questions, and talk about the course content with your classmates. You can learn a great deal from discussing ideas and perspectives with your peers and professor. Participation can also help you articulate your thoughts and develop critical thinking skills.
2. **Manage your time.** I get it—students usually juggle a lot, and I know you've got commitments beyond this class. Still, doing your best often means carving out enough dedicated time for coursework. Try scheduling specific blocks of time and ensure you have enough room to finish assignments, allowing extra space for any tech issues that might pop up.
3. **Login regularly.** I recommend that you log in to Canvas several times a week to view announcements, discussion posts and replies to your posts.
4. **Do not fall behind.** This class moves at a quick pace and each week builds on the previous class content. If you feel you are starting to fall behind, check in with the instructor as soon as possible so we can troubleshoot together. It will be hard to keep up with the course content if you fall behind in the pre-work or post-work.
5. **Use Canvas notification settings.** Pro tip! Canvas can ensure you receive timely notifications in your email or via text. Be sure to enable notifications to be sent instantly or daily. ([Canvas Notification Guide](#))
6. **Ask for help if needed.** If you are struggling with a course concept, reach out to me and your classmates for support.

Graded Course Requirements Information

Homework Assignments

- Read the PowerPoint lectures, complete discussion activities.
- Select a film from the list provided. Watch, and write a 400-700 word essay about the movie.
- All reading assignments and discussion questions are located in Canvas

Quizzes

- There will be four-unit quizzes consisting of multiple choice and true/false questions. The Final Exam will not be cumulative. Each exam will be worth 50 points, or 20 % of the course grade. All quizzes are delivered on-line through Canvas.

Participation & Engagement

- There will be approximately 40 discussion questions and activities. These are related to each module's lecture materials and will serve as the in-class participation you would have if this were a traditional face-to-face class. These will consist of general questions about the materials covered in the lectures, responses to "Meet the Artist" video and website visits. You will be graded on the quality of your responses, not the length of the responses; you will be asked to go back and read your fellow classmate's responses and reply to them. There really isn't a right or wrong answer, unless you don't respond to them, you will not receive credit.

Group Project

- Students will work together in small groups to select a theme for the exhibition, write a short exhibition statement, select works for the show, and create and post the exhibition.

It can be an exhibition on any theme or topic, i.e. artistic movement, genre, or medium.

You will need to decide as a group what the show will focus on. I do ask that you touch on the social role of this particular topic as well as the impact this art had on the culture it was created in.

Grading Structure

Assignment	Percentage %
Module Quizzes	20%
Film Reviews, Critical Responses Papers	40%
Discussion Assignments	20%
Team Project-Virtual Art Exhibition	20%
Total	100%

Grading Scale

- A - (90% or higher)
- B - (80 - 89%)
- C - (70 - 79%)
- D - (60 - 69%)
- F - (Below 60%)

Late Work and Make-Up Exams:

Put your late work and make-up exam policy here. Please remember that we all encounter unexpected events in our lives.

Attendance Policy (optional):

If you have an attendance policy, please put this here. Check with your department or college to verify any institutional attendance requirements.

University Policies & Student Resources:

University policies and student resources are available on the University website and in Canvas under “Syllabus”. (You may copy or print the following information to include in your syllabus or use the links provided below.)

- [University Policy](#)
- [Student Resources](#)

Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates

March 31, 2025 - Last date to withdraw from classes.

Weeks 1-3– Unit One: Defining and Critiquing Art -Introduction, Complete Lectures and Discussion Activities, Film Project and Quiz.

Weeks 4-6– Unit Two: Form- Elements & Principles – Complete Lectures and Discussion Activities, Film Project and Quiz

Weeks 7-9 – Unit Four: Form-Media and Technique - Complete Lectures and Discussion Activities, Film Project and Quiz

Weeks 10-13 – Unit Four: Art in Context - Complete Lectures and Discussion Activities, Film Project and Quiz

Weeks 14-15- Complete Group Project-Virtual Art exhibition

** This schedule is subject to change depending on the progress of the class. All modifications will be communicated well in advance.

Note: This is a tentative schedule, and subject to change as necessary – monitor the course page for current deadlines. In the unlikely event of a prolonged university closing, or an extended absence from the university, adjustments to the course schedule, deadlines, and assignments will be made based on the duration of the closing and the specific dates missed.