

**Course Title: ARH 141 Western Art to 1400**

**Term: Winter 2023**

**Instructor: TBA**

**Course Credit: 3**

**Mode of Instruction: Online**

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**Course Description:**

This course surveys western painting, sculpture, and architecture from prehistory through the Gothic period. We will focus on turning points in the historical narrative including the early river valley civilizations of Mesopotamia and Egypt, the great Greek, Roman, and Byzantine empires, the rise of Christianity, Islam, and the early humanism that eventually leads to the modern world. Students will be able to recognize the basic techniques of western art to identify major artistic styles and movements.

**Course Prerequisites:**

None

**Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of the course, the student should be able to:

- A. Explain the historical development of western art, mainly from the Ancient World to the Middle Ages;
- B. Describe specific works of art, architecture and design, and analyse them through clear and well-constructed arguments.
- C. Demonstrate a broad knowledge and understanding of the cultural, social, political and economic context within which specific works of art and architecture have been produced..
- D. Make use of a range of art historical texts, art theory, criticism and documentary sources, to develop informed critical responses and personal opinions.

**Course Material:**

Fred S. Kleiner, *Gardner 's Art Through the Ages: A Global History*, 16th Edition, Cengage Learning, 2020.

**Evaluation:**

- Assignments [20%]
- Essays [20%]
- Mid-term Exam [25%]
- Final Exam [35%]

**Description of the Evaluation tasks:**

Assignment/ Essay: During the term, students will be required to finish several evaluation tasks within due date. All the tasks are linked with specific course topics/outcomes and will adequately assess students' competence and learning outcomes. Students are encouraged to meet with instructor about these tasks at any point.

Mid-term/ Final Exams: There may be periodic quizzes given at the beginning of lecture sessions; the feedback from these quizzes will monitor the progress of the learners and help to set learning priorities. There will be mid-term exam/ final exam for the course. They are the basic criteria for the evaluation of students' learning outcomes and final grade.

**Grading Policy:**

Students are supposed to finish each online lecture. Prior to each class, students should finish the required readings. During the class time, students are encouraged to make use of all relevant online course resources and communicate with the instructor. Students' grades are accumulated based on the cumulative evaluations.

Students' letter grade will be assigned according to the following scale:

|           |         |          |
|-----------|---------|----------|
| A+ 90-100 | A 85-89 | A- 80-84 |
| B+ 77-79  | B 73-76 | B- 70-72 |
| C+ 67-69  | C 63-66 | C- 60-62 |
| D+ 57-59  | D 53-56 | D- 50-52 |
| F < 50    |         |          |

### **Academic Integrity:**

Students must strictly adhere to the university's academic integrity rule; and all essays, exams and any other form of academic assignments must adhere to these rules. Any form of plagiarism, cheating, or misappropriation of materials will be considered a violation of academic integrity and will be punishable by the university.

### **Withdrawal from the Course(s):**

Students will be able to apply for a transfer or withdrawal within 3 days of the starting date of the course. If a withdrawal is applied for within 3 working days, the tuition fee will be fully refunded. After 3 days, the tuition fee will not be refunded. If a withdrawal is applied for in the first two weeks, it will be recorded as W (Withdraw) on the course transcript. After this initial two-week period, the class will be recorded as F (Fail).

### **Tentative Schedule:**

|               |                                             |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------|
| <b>Week 1</b> |                                             |
| 1             | The art and architecture of Ancient Greece  |
| 2             | Cultures of the prehistoric Aegean          |
| 3             | Influence of Egypt and the Near East        |
| 4             | Social and political life in Ancient Greece |
| 5             | Hellenistic art<br><b>Assignment 1</b>      |
| <b>Week 2</b> |                                             |
| 6             | Rome - Republic and Empire                  |
| 7             | Etruscan art and society                    |

|    |                                                                             |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8  | Social and political life of Ancient Rome                                   |
| 9  | Developments in architecture, sculpture and painting                        |
| 10 | The Rise of Christianity and division of the Roman Empire<br><b>Essay 1</b> |

**Week 3**

|    |                                                                               |
|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11 | Early Christian sculpture and painting in the catacombs                       |
| 12 | <b><i>Mid-term Exam</i></b>                                                   |
| 13 | Political and social history of the Late Roman Empire                         |
| 14 | Christian iconography                                                         |
| 15 | History of Constantinople. Icons and iconoclasm - Traditions in Byzantine art |

**Week 4**

|    |                                                                                   |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 16 | Development of Islamic art and architecture<br><b>Essay 2</b>                     |
| 17 | Social and political history of late Medieval Europe and the Middle East          |
| 18 | Christian iconography and the importance of the Church in Medieval Europe         |
| 19 | Romanesque painting and sculpture                                                 |
| 20 | Development of Gothic architecture, painting and sculpture<br><b>Assignment 2</b> |

**Week 5**

|    |                                         |
|----|-----------------------------------------|
| 21 | Social history of Renaissance Europe    |
| 22 | Political history of Renaissance Europe |
| 23 | The art of the Renaissance              |
| 24 | Final Exam Reviews                      |
| 25 | <b><i>Final Exam</i></b>                |