

ARH 110 Western Art from Prehistory through the Middle Ages

Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30-10:45 // 12:30-1:45

Weatherspoon 103



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Office hours: 11-12 T and Th TBA

I. Course Overview: This course is lecture-based and meets twice a week for one hour and fifteen minutes each time. There is no required textbook for the course, but there are recommended readings and videos from Khan Academy to help you grasp and refresh information you have learned from lecture. These are listed according to the section to which they pertain in the Schedule of Lectures, but I encourage you to explore all of the offerings at <https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/art-history/>. They are well researched and the videos are short, informative, and entertaining (and free!). Lectures will cover a sweeping survey of artistic styles and cultures over a period of thousands of years. Things will move fast! All slideshows of lectures will be posted to Canvas as pdfs for your study usage within 24 hours after each class.

Exams and quizzes will be entirely multiple choice completed on a Scantron form. Some questions will have images associated with them, others will be strictly verbal. There will be a brief review in the class session prior to exam days. There is no final comprehensive exam in this course.

For this class you will need:

- A notebook and a pen (you will be taking LOTS of notes)
- Seven (7) Scantron sheets (please see important dates, below). Do not bend, fold or tear.
- A #2 pencil for those Scantron sheets
- A recording device, if necessary

Important dates you need to know:

Quizzes will happen on these dates (bring a Scantron sheet):

Aug. 31/ Sept. 12/ Sept. 26/ Oct. 24/ Nov. 14

Exams will happen on these dates (bring a Scantron sheet):

Oct. 12/Nov. 28

Please note there is no class meeting on Oct. 10 or Oct. 26

This is a large class, but I encourage you all to ask questions, offer comments, and express your thoughts about the art and cultures we will be studying.

*Caveat: I reserve the right to change things on the syllabus. I will never do this without announcing it in class and/or on Canvas!

II. Course Objectives:

1. To familiarize the student with the major works of Western art and architecture, from Prehistory to the roughly the 15th century.
2. To explore these objects within their cultural, religious, political, and socio-economic context, and to investigate the role of patronage on art and the artist.
3. **To master appropriate vocabulary and to articulate ideas and opinions regarding art, style, and technique.

III: Point Breakdown (300 points total):

Exam #1- 100 points

Exam #2 -100 points

5 Quizzes- 100 points @ 20 points each

IV: Course Policies:

Pay attention: Read the syllabus thoroughly and refer to it regarding class policies and the schedule of lectures and readings. The syllabus function on Canvas is inadequate, so you will always find a copy of the syllabus under the first announcement, called “Greetings.” If you email me with questions regarding information that is available on the syllabus, I will not answer you (see below). **Check Canvas regularly**, as I will leave announcements there when necessary.

Email: I do my best to return email in a timely fashion, however UNCG is not the only place I teach and so I am not available at all hours. Before you email me, make sure you have checked the syllabus to ensure that what you are asking me is not covered there (if I don’t respond to your email, this is a likely reason why). If you’ve missed a class, ask a classmate what you missed-- I am not going to fill you in. Do not email me to let me know you don’t feel good and aren’t coming to class (see **Attendance**, below). If your email states, “I know it says on the syllabus that you don’t allow X but...” the answer is no. Please tell me who you are and which class you are in. You may call me Holly or Dr.

Silvers if first name basis is too casual, or Dr. Holly if you prefer something in between. I am not Mrs., Ms., or Miss, or “Hey.” For further reference, please see:
<https://medium.com/@lportwoodstacer/how-to-email-your-professor-without-being-annoying-af-cf64ae0e4087>

Attendance and Course Engagement: I do not have an attendance policy for this class. However, we will cover a lot of ground in each class and if you aren't present it will be very difficult for you to catch up. Also, 1/3 of your grade comes from quizzes. You need to keep up with the material in order to do well on these (and the exams). If you are truly having a terrible day, take the day off and get notes from someone. I would much rather you come to class alert and ready to engage and learn than to come because I require you to be there sitting like a sad lump. That said, if you abuse this policy, you will probably not like your grade at the end of the semester.

If you are sick, hungover, taking a long weekend, etc., I don't need to know about it. You don't need to email me to tell me you don't feel good and won't be in class. Why you are absent is your business and I don't care if you need to take a day off from lecture.

However, keep in mind my policy regarding exams and quizzes, below.

If you do miss a class, you are responsible for getting notes from a classmate. I do not meet with students for one-on-one catch-up sessions. **You are responsible for your own choices!**

Extra credit. No. Don't even ask.

Electronic devices: No devices, please. You are more than welcome to record the lectures if you feel that is necessary. I want your eyes on the image at the front of the room and you engaging with that image and with me, not on a device screen. You can do this! If I see you sneaking peeks at your phone (etc.) during class, I will warn you once and then ask you to leave the class after that. I am not here to babysit you.

*Only students with accommodations verified in writing by OARS (<https://ods.uncg.edu/>) may use devices. Those students must sit at the front of the room.

Behavior: I insist on a respectful attitude from everyone to everyone. Do not sleep during my class. Do not read or do other work in my class. Don't talk to the person next to you, because everyone else can hear (if you have a question or comment, speak up!). Do not talk or whisper while someone else is talking or asking a question. Keep your phone in your bag (I can see you when you hide it in your lap, behind your notebook,

etc.). Be on time to class. Arriving late is disruptive disrespectful to your classmates and to me. I live 2 ½ hours away and if I can make it here on time, so can you. Go to the bathroom before class so you are not disrupting everyone else's concentration while you leave and return. If you are a habitual disruptor, I will ask you to leave the class. **DO** ask questions, engage with the material, sketch what you see, think of examples of a particular object or style you might see on a daily basis. I realize that many of you are required to take this course and that it may not be interesting to you. I do my best to make the material interesting and fun (and at times irreverent and maybe kind of naughty), and I expect you to give your best effort. Have fun with this class and be respectful of people in the room with you.

Cheating: If I catch you cheating, you will fail the class and be reported to the university for further disciplinary action. Please review all sections of the Academic Integrity Policy (<http://sa.uncg.edu/handbook/academic-integrity-policy/>) if you are unsure what constitutes cheating and other violations of the conduct code. Cheating makes me angry, and you won't like me when I'm angry.

Exams and incompletes: I do not offer make-up exams or quizzes, period. If you are absent on the day of an exam, you will lose those points, period. I make no exceptions to this rule. I will drop your lowest quiz grade and replace it with your highest, however, so in case of one emergency that may occur on a quiz day, I have your back.

If you require special accommodations in order to take an exam, you must contact OARS (<https://ods.uncg.edu/>) as soon as possible to register and make arrangements through them. I need your paperwork ASAP.

Because I am not permanent faculty at UNCG, I cannot assign a grade of incomplete.

Schedule of Lectures

August 15: Introduction

Please read this:

<https://medium.com/@lportwoodstacer/how-to-email-your-professor-without-being-annoying-af-cf64ae0e4087>

August 17: Prehistory

August 22: Ancient Near East

Read:

<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/art-history/ancient-art-civilizations/ancient-near-east1>

August 24: Egypt (Pre-Dynastic & Old Kingdom)

Read:

<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/art-history/ancient-art-civilizations/egypt-art#beginners-guide-egypt>

August 29: Egypt (Middle and New Kingdoms)

August 31: Art of the Aegean: Cycladic/ Minoan

Watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=19&v=1gb7g9w6fxo

Quiz #1

September 5: Minoan and Mycenaean Art

Watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=30&v=S7HJB0PtW0

September 7: Greek Geometric Period and Archaic Art

Read:

<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/art-history/ancient-art-civilizations/greek-art/greek-pottery/a/greek-vase-painting-an-introduction>

AND

<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/art-history/ancient-art-civilizations/greek-art/beginners-guide-greece/a/greek-architectural-orders>

September 12: Archaic and Early Classical Art

Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ax8vcxRtmHY>

AND

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q5IWDhXtsmE>

Quiz #2

September 14: High Classical Art

Browse:

<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/art-history/ancient-art-civilizations/greek-art#classical>

September 19: The Fourth Century

September 21: Hellenistic Art

Watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=218&v=KQ63wu7lsXo

And

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=59&v=51UA1T89MzU

September 26: Etruscan Art, the Roman Republic

Read:

<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/art-history/ancient-art-civilizations/etruscan/a/the-etruscans-an-introduction>

Quiz #3

September 28: Augustus and the Early Roman Empire

Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3i8iou6tXqY>

October 3: The High Roman Empire

Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KaY8zqYfQI0>

October 5: Late Roman Empire and Review

Watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=52&v=vvDcrzeBRyM

October 10: No class meeting

October 12: Exam #1

October 17: Early Christian

Watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z_5AAk1jABI

AND

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yvnr0wnmoGY>

October 19: Byzantine Empire

Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XfpusWE2jE>

AND

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=83&v=It3i-dKusIM

October 24: The “Dark Ages? Nordic and Insular Art

Read:

<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/art-history/medieval-world/latin-western-europe/early-medieval/a/anglo-saxon-england>

Watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=6&v=dWxcQZBM3eQ

Quiz #4

October 26: No class meeting

October 31: The “Dark Ages?” The Frankish Empire

Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pyDPJENZO0>

November 2: The Romanesque Period in France France: Crusades and Pilgrimage

Read:

<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/art-history/medieval-world/latin-western-europe>

Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PATkTJhAUhM>

November 7: The Romanesque Period in Britain, Germany, and Italy

Watch:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=233&v=wIQCKsXEWS4

November 9: French Gothic

Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2EciWH-1ya4>

AND

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=219&v=9STNgMoRXHM

AND

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=99&v=vigjJih8Pn4

November 14: German, English, Italian Gothic

Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H4zXQrBeJU8>

AND

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TuA00wpXaYA>

AND

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=274&v=Hc96IQmEOIY

Quiz #5

November 16: Stained Glass and Manuscripts

November 21 The Road to the Renaissance and Review

November 23 Thanksgiving

November 28 Exam #2

