Art 1301.002 US-Art, Technology, & Civilization

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2015 MWF Main Art Building, room 206
Instructor: Michael Odom
Office Location: Art Building-room 114
Office Hours: M 9:00-11:00am & W 9:00-11:00am or by appointment
Office Phone: 903 886-5208
Office Fax: 903 886-5987
University Email Address: Michael.Odom@tamuc.edu

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbooks Required:

Course Description and Objectives:
This course examines the relationships between the visual arts, with an eye towards tolerance, understanding, and appreciation of the artist’s intentions and other expressions of human imagination and invention. Special attention is given to parallel developments in the histories of ideas, technology, and art. Art will be examined in its context, that is, against the cultural and historical backdrop of the societies that produced it. The visual arts will be discussed in relation to other products of human activity and imagination, among which are history, literature, economics, philosophy, religion, science and the other arts.

Art 1301 meets the Texas A&M-Commerce’s Global Course requirement as well as the Visual/Performing Arts requirement in the University Studies curriculum.

Student Learning Outcomes:
1. To gain an understanding of the visual arts as an expression of human insight, imagination, and technological achievement.
2. To see the ways in which art reflects or communicates social, political, ideological, and religious values and constructions.

3. To appreciate the creative process of the artist and the principles of visual design as integral to the meaning of works of art.

4. To understand the development of the visual arts against the patterns and chronology of human history.

5. To learn themes and meanings embodied in works of art.

6. To recognize the interconnections between art and other expressions of human activity, such as literature, science, economics, music, and theatre.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional Methods: Class consists of various styles of presentation and interaction. In Art 1301, students will be active participants regardless of the mode of instruction. Students should come to class ready to participate, both in terms of preparation as assigned and with a positive attitude toward class and colleagues.

Attendance: Attendance will be taken each class day and students are expected to attend all scheduled class periods. Students should make arrangements to be in class on time and to stay until the class is dismissed. Attendance is part of your participation grade for Art 1301. An unexcused tardy to class will result in ½ the participation credit being deducted from the students daily grade. Please come to class on time. Students that come late to class disrupt the learning of others and it is considered rude behavior.

For students with excused absences, which include participation in a University-sponsored event, illness accompanied by a doctor’s note, death in the student’s immediate family, a verifiable court appearance or any other similar circumstance in the view of the instructor, written documentation must be turned in to the instructor immediately upon return to class. Students with 4 or more unexcused absences may risk failing this course or they may be administratively dropped. Plan to be successful and attend all class meetings.

Participation: Students must attend all class sessions and participate to the extent possible in each class activity. The activities in this course are designed to help you increase your knowledge set in order to make you a more effective and successful college student.
Grading: Your grade will be based on the quality of your participation in class, on the scores you earn on the test, and on the quality of your written responses to the art we will experience.

**Statement on Student Behavior:**

“All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.” (See Student’s Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct)

**Statement on Accommodations for ADA eligible students:**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact me, and

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library, Room 132
903-886-5150 or 903-886-5835
Fax 903-468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu

A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

**Assignment Sequence**

Week 1: Read Introduction, “How to Look at a Painting” and *Seven Days in the Art World* Chapter 1, “The Auction”

Week 2: Visit the gallery and write a response to the art

Week 3: Read *Seven Days in the Art World* Chapter 2, “The Crit” Presentation on design principles

Week 4: Test; Read *Annotated Mona Lisa* sections on prehistoric art and Mesopotamia

Week 5: Read *Annotated Mona Lisa* sections on Egypt and Greece; Read *Seven Days in the Art World* Chapter 3: “The Fair”

Week 6: Read *Annotated Mona Lisa* sections on Rome, Pre-Columbian art and African art

Week 7: Gallery visit; Written response; Read *Seven Days in the Art World* Chapter 4: “The Prize”; Read *Annotated Mona Lisa* sections on the Middle Ages, Byzantine art, Romanesque art, Gothic art
Week 8: Read *Annotated Mona Lisa* sections on the Italian Renaissance, the Northern Renaissance, Low Countries, German Renaissance, etc.

Spring Break 3/16-3/20

Week 9: Catch up, discuss the Renaissance; read *Annotated Mona Lisa* sections on the Baroque period; Read *Seven Days in the Art World* Chapter 5: “The Magazine”

Week 10: Read *Annotated Mona Lisa* sections on the 19th Century

Week 11: Read *Annotated Mona Lisa* sections on Realism, Industrial Age architecture, photography, Art Nouveau, Post Impressionism, etc.

Week 12: Read *Annotated Mona Lisa* sections on 20th Century art; Read *Seven Days in the Art World* Chapter 6: “The Studio Visit”; Test

Week 13: Catch up on 20th Century; Read *Annotated Mona Lisa* sections on 20th Century art; Read *Seven Days in the Art World* Chapter 7 “The Biennial”

Week 14: Further investigations into contemporary art and preparation for exam

Week 15: Review