Art 1301.002 US-Art, Technology, & Civilization
(Web-enhanced)
COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2015
TR Main Art Building, room 206
1/20/2015-5/15/2015

Instructor: Marilyn R. Thompson, MFA
Office Location: Art Building- room 210
Office Hours: T 9:30-11:30am & W 10:00-11:00am or by appointment
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COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbooks Required:


Other Resources:

www.artstor.org is a database of digital images covering much of world art. An invaluable resource in the study of art history at A&M-Commerce, it is accessible online through the homepage of Gee Library (go to databases). Artstor includes images, titles, and descriptions of nearly all works of art discussed in this class.

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 / Activities Assessments

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.

Assignments:

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.

**eCollege Online Discussions:**

- **Netiquette:**
  Students are expected to be polite and courteous and conform to online etiquette at all times. For detailed rules on “netiquette” go to the website: http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html
  
  A summary of netiquette rules is provided below.

  **Rule 1:** Remember the Human
  **Rule 2:** Adhere to the same standards of behavior online that you follow in real life
  **Rule 3:** Know where you are in cyberspace
  **Rule 4:** Respect other people's time and bandwidth
  **Rule 5:** Make yourself look good online
  **Rule 6:** Share expert knowledge
  **Rule 7:** Help keep flame wars under control
  **Rule 8:** Respect other people's privacy
  **Rule 9:** Don't abuse your power
  **Rule 10:** Be forgiving of other people's mistakes

**ON-LINE DISCUSSIONS:** On Monday of each week a discussion question will be posted that relates to the reading assignments for that week. Students have until midnight (central time) the following Sunday of each week to respond to the discussion question. Students are minimally expected to type at least one response to the question to receive 6 points. To receive 7, 8, 9, or 10 points, students are expected to “engage” in the discussion by asking other students questions and/or responding to the posts of other students and/or the professor.

To earn these points students must post some type of response to the question as well as a comment/question that is on topic and contributes to the overall discussion (see rubric below). Online discussions are not the same as texting or tweets. They should reflect critical thinking and contain **complete sentences that are grammatically correct with as few spelling and punctuation mistakes as possible.** Do not use slang or popular abbreviations such as btw, lol, etc. Discussions will be worth a total of 70 pts. Always be polite and courteous when responding to someone else’s comments or questions.

**NOTE:** Online discussions should not be viewed as similar to a discussion around the dinner table with friends or family where everybody expresses their views, opinions, and beliefs on some topic often, which they know absolutely nothing about. This is an academic course and your discussion topics are directly linked to the reading assignments in your textbook. Consequently, your posts should reflect a certain amount of knowledge on the topic based on research, facts, and data. It is fine to critique, interpret, and occasionally interject an opinion or two, but for the most part, this should be an academic and intellectual discussion of the topic at hand.

**Grading Rubric for Online Discussions:**

- Did student respond to question posed? (6 pts)
Does the response reflect critical thinking, facts, and data as opposed to just personal opinion? (2 pts)
Does the student’s response add to and/or stimulate other discussion? (1pt)
Is the response grammatically correct and free of abbreviations and spelling errors? (1 pt)

*Late work: 10 points will be subtracted from all unexcused late work

Grading:
Students’ course grade will be calculated according to the following scale:

A = 1000-900 Points
B = 899-800 Points
C = 799-700 Points
D = 699-600 Points
F = 599-0 Points

Break down of points possible:
10ea/300 class participation
10ea/70 online discussions
100ea/300 exams
80ea/80 gallery/museum visit
50ea/150 worksheets

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Art 1301 is a web-enhanced course. Delivery problems can result if technological requirements are not taken into consideration.

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparing to use technology successfully in this course. [List those technologies needed for your course.]
- Internet access/connection – high speed recommended (not dial-up)
- Headset/Microphone (if required for synchronous sessions in an online course)
- Word Processor (i.e. MS Word or Word Perfect)

Additionally, the following hardware and software are necessary to use eCollege:
Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you are using a Windows operating system (XP or newer) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (6.0, 7.0, or 8.0). Your courses will also work with Macintosh OS X along with a recent version of Safari 2.0 or better. Along with Internet Explorer and Safari, eCollege also supports the Firefox browser (3.0) on both Windows and Mac operating systems.
It is strongly recommended that you perform a “Browser Test” prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login in to eCollege, click on the ‘my Courses’ tab, and then select the “Browser Test” link under Support Services.

Online Connectivity for Graded Assignments:
When you are logging in to take an exam or completing other online assignments please use common sense and be prepared for glitches. Common sense dictates that it is always best to do this kind of work on a reliable and stationary laptop or desktop
computer that has a dependable internet signal, preferably in your home, a college computer lab, or a quiet and stable environment. Don’t wait until the last minute to do your online work.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

This course will be facilitated using eCollege, the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to: https://leo.tamu-commerce.edu/login.aspx.

You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamu-commerce.edu.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement:
Students will be expected to interact with the instructor(s) in class or via electronic means in an appropriate manner. All instructor contact information is listed on this syllabus and should be used. Please feel free to contact me through email or stop by during my office hours. I encourage classes to interact with me as much as possible, especially if a student feels challenged by the academic content of a course or has missed classes. Email: Marilyn.Thompson@tamuc.edu Office Hours: T 9:30-11:30am & W 10:00-11:00am or by appointment

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures:

Supplemental Instructions: In the course of your work in this class, you will be given additional written instructions that govern the look, content and scope of your projects. These supplemental instructions have the same force as the syllabus for grading purposes.

University Specific Procedures:

ADA Statement: 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:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library 132
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.

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook).

All students are expected to exercise self-discipline and respect for the rights of others at all times. Behavioral disruptions that interfere with the business of the classroom or with an individual’s ability to learn may be referred to the Dean of Students.

Please be sure that cell phones and other electronic devices are off or silent. If you expect to have to get up, please select an inconspicuous position to minimize disruptions. Courtesy to others is important. That means respecting the opinions of others, and in general, doing your part to make this a positive learning environment for all students. Food and beverages, while acceptable, should be consumed as quietly as possible, and you must clean up after yourself.

Course Outline/Calendar: (Subject to change)

Week 1
Tuesday
Welcome: Introduction
Reading Assignment: The Annotated Mona Lisa, Introduction: How to look at a painting

Thursday
Discussion: “What is Art?”
Reading Assignment: Seven Days in the Art World, Introduction & Chapter 1 The Auction

Week 2
Tuesday
Gallery visit/free writing/discussion/essay assignment (typed 2 page response paper)
Ceramic Sculpture Exhibition/ Brian Molanphy, Merrie Wright, and Colby Parsons
Online discussion: Opens in eCollege on Monday until midnight (central time) the following Sunday, Introduction & Chapter 1 The Auction

Thursday
Discussion: Visual Elements of Art

Week 3
Tuesday
Discussion: Principles of Design
Reading Assignment: Seven Days in the Art World, Chapter 2 The Crit

Thursday
Discussion: Style, Form, and Content
#1 Worksheet assignment

**Week 4**

**Tuesday**

Discussion: Critiquing works of art
Online discussion: Opens Monday until midnight (central time) the following Sunday, *Seven Days in the Art World*, Chapter 2 The Crit

**Thursday**

Exam 1 over class notes, *The Annotated Mona Lisa*, Introduction: How to look at a painting, & *Seven Days in the Art World*, Introduction & Chapter 1 The Auction & Chapter 2 The Crit

**Week 5**

**Tuesday**

Discussion: The Art of the Ancients: Prehistoric art
Mesopotamia: The Architects
Reading Assignment: *The Annotated Mona Lisa*, Egypt: The Art of Immortality
Reading Assignment: *Seven Days in the Art World*, Chapter 3 The Fair

**Thursday**

Discussion: Egypt: The Art of Immortality
Reading Assignment: *The Annotated Mona Lisa*, Greece: They Invented a Lot More Than the Olympics

**Week 6**

**Tuesday**

Discussion: Greece: They Invented a Lot More Than the Olympics
Reading Assignment: *The Annotated Mona Lisa*, Rome: The Organizers
Online discussion: Opens Monday until midnight (central time) the following Sunday over *Seven Days in the Art World*, Chapter 3 The Fair

**Thursday**

Discussion: Rome: The Organizers
Reading Assignment: *The Annotated Mona Lisa*, Pre-Columbian Art of the Americas: New World Art When It Was Still an Old World & African Art: The First Cubists

**Week 7**

**Tuesday**

Discussion: Pre-Columbian Art of the Americas: New World Art When It Was Still an Old World & African Art: The First Cubists
Reading Assignment: *Seven Days in the Art World*, Chapter 4 The Prize

**Thursday**

Gallery visit/free writing/discussion/essay assignment
Artist Couples #1 Sculpture and Painting/ Phillip Shore and Sherry Giryotas

**Week 8**

**Tuesday**

Discussion: The Middle Ages: The Reign of Religion, Golden Age of Byzantine Art, Romanesque Art: Stories in Stone, & Gothic Art: Height and Light
Reading Assignment: *The Annotated Mona Lisa*, *The Rebirth of Art: Renaissance and Baroque*, *The Renaissance: The Beginning of Modern Painting, The Italian Renaissance, & The Northern Renaissance*

**Online discussion:** Opens Monday until midnight (central time) the following Sunday over *Seven Days in the Art World, Chapter 4 The Prize*

**Thursday**

**Discussion:** *The Rebirth of Art: Renaissance and Baroque, The Renaissance: The Beginning of Modern Painting, The Italian Renaissance, & The Northern Renaissance*

**Reading Assignment:** *The Annotated Mona Lisa, The Renaissance in the Low Countries, The German Renaissance, Mannerism and the Late Renaissance, & The Spanish Renaissance*

**SPRING BREAK 3/16-3/20/15**

**Week 9**

**Tuesday**

**Discussion:** *The Renaissance in the Low Countries, The German Renaissance, Mannerism and the Late Renaissance, & The Spanish Renaissance*

**Reading Assignment:** *The Annotated Mona Lisa, The Ornate Age, Italian Baroque, Flemish Baroque, Dutch Baroque*

**Reading Assignment:** *Seven Days in the Art World, Chapter, Chapter 5 The Magazine*

**Thursday**

**Discussion:** *Baroque: The Ornate Age, Italian Baroque, Flemish Baroque, Dutch Baroque, French Baroque, & Rococo*

**#2 Worksheet assignment**

**Week 10**

**Tuesday**

**Discussion:** *English Baroque, Spanish Baroque, French Baroque, & Rococo*


**Online discussion:** Opens Monday until midnight (central time) the following Sunday over *Seven Days in the Art World, Chapter 5 The Magazine*

**Thursday**


**Reading Assignment:** *The Annotated Mona Lisa, Realism, Architecture for the Industrial Age, Art Nouveau, Birth of Photography, Impressionism: Let There Be Color and Light, Rodin: First Modern Sculptor, Post-Impressionism, Early Expressionism, Symbolism & The Birth of Modern Architecture*
Week 11
Tuesday
Discussion: Realism, Architecture for the Industrial Age, Art Nouveau, Birth of Photography, Impressionism: Let There Be Color and Light, Rodin: First Modern Sculptor, Post-Impressionism, Early Expressionism, Symbolism & The Birth of Modern Architecture
Reading Assignment: Seven Days in the Art World, Chapter 6 The Studio Visit

Thursday

Week 12
Tuesday
Reading Assignment: The Annotated Mona Lisa, Dada and Surrealism: Art Between the Wars, Photography Comes of Age, American Art: 1908-40, Abstract Expressionism, Figural Expressionism: Not just a Pretty Face, Post-War Sculpture, & Color Field
Online discussion: Opens Monday until midnight (central time) the following Sunday over Seven Days in the Art World, Chapter 6 The Studio Visit

Thursday
Exam 2 (over class notes and readings in The Annotated Mona Lisa, & Seven Days in the Art World)

Week 13
Tuesday
Discussion: Dada and Surrealism: Art Between the Wars, Photography Comes of Age, American Art: 1908-40, Abstract Expressionism, Figural Expressionism: Not just a Pretty Face, Post-War Sculpture, & Color Field
Reading Assignment: Seven Days in the Art World, Chapter 7 The Biennale

Thursday

Week 14
Tuesday
**Discussion:** Photo-Realism, Neo-Expressionism, The New Breed: Post-Modern Art, Extended discussion: Opens Monday until midnight (central time) the following Sunday over *Seven Days in the Art World*, Chapter 7 The Biennale

**Thursday**

**Discussion:** Contemporary Art

#3 Worksheet assignment

**Week 1**

**Tuesday**

Continue discussion: Contemporary Art

**Thursday**

Exam 3

**Week 16:** Finals Week

Optional final exam: This exam is comprehensive and can replace your lowest exam grade for exams 1-3