

**ART 1301.01W: Art, Technology and Civilization**  
**Dr. Emily Newman**  
Texas A&M University – Commerce

May Mini Web-Based Class

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COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OUTCOMES

Students will become acquainted with the general historical development of art from the Prehistoric period to Contemporary Art. The course will introduce basic tools and terminology used in discussing artworks. We will explore art and artifact contextually – through culture, language, politics, and location, as well as techniques and production, to better begin to truly see and understand what makes this work so essential. We will look at the ways that art had introduced and developed technology, while illustrating the advances of civilization. This class will require students to *discuss* a number of images that represent the historical span of the course and to *demonstrate the analytical skills* necessary to communicate visual information. By the end of the course you should not only be able to discuss historically significant works of art, but also be acquainted with the characteristic features of the art and culture from major historical periods.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- understand definitions of important art and art historical terminology
- discuss and explain historically significant works of art
- analyze significant styles and movements within art history and including a variety of types of media
- enhance visual literacy and critical thinking skills

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Carol Strickland, *The Annotated Mona Lisa: A Crash Course in Art History from Prehistoric to Post Modern* (Andrews McMeel Publishing, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 2007)  
ISBN: 0740768727

Sarah Thornton, *33 Artists in 3 Acts*, 2014 (ISBN: 0393240975)

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

- internet access
- access to eCollege, course documents (including pdfs of the slides shown in class) will be uploaded here

Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you use a Windows operating system (XP or newer) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (8.0). Your courses 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 system.

## WEB-BASED COURSE

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.tamuc.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@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu). This course will use most of the features in eCollege including email, announcements, threaded discussion, assignment drop boxes, and the grade book. Students can also find the syllabus and other necessary materials posted in the course space.

**Technical Support:** Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of eCollege. The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week:

- Chat support: Click on 'Live support' on the tool bar with the course to chat with an eCollege representative.
- Phone: 1-866-656-5511 (Toll free) to speak with eCollege technical support representative.
- E-mail: [helpdesk@online.tamuc.org](mailto:helpdesk@online.tamuc.org) to initiate a support request with eCollege technical support representative.
- Help: Click on the 'help' button on the toolbar for information regarding working with eCollege.

**FORMATTING:** All written assignments must be typed using the following guidelines: 12 pt. Times New Roman font, 1" margins, double-spaced, with page numbers. Failure to format properly will result in a lower grade.

**EMAIL POLICY:** For all emails sent, please **include full name, student ID, and the class** that you are attending (this is a school policy). Do not send emails to myself and other professors at once, as each professor has different issues to address.

## CLASSROOM POLICIES:

### **Statement on Student Behavior:**

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

All students must show respect toward the instructor and the instructor's syllabus, presentations, assignments, and point of view. Students should respect each others' differences. If the instructor determines that a student is not being respectful towards other students or the instructor, it is the instructor's prerogative to ask the student to leave, to refer the student to the department head, and to consider referring the student to the Dean of Students who may consider requiring the student to drop the course. Please refer to pages 42 – 46 of the Texas A&M University-commerce Student guidebook's Codes of Conduct for details.

**Academic Dishonesty:** There is **no tolerance** for any kind of academic dishonesty in this course. This includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism, cheating on exams, theft of instructional material or exams, representing the work of someone else as one's own, and misrepresenting absences. Academic dishonesty is a severe transgression in college and may result in referral to the Dean of Students, expulsion from class and/or the University, and a failing grade.

**Discussion:** In this class, we will look at a wide array of artwork, some of which might include nudity, intense language, violence, etc. Each person will bring their own experiences to the art, and should feel comfortable expressing their opinions and vulnerabilities. The classroom (even if online) is a safe environment, and each student should behave with integrity and treat their peers with respect.

## 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:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services, Texas A&M  
University-Commerce, Gee Library, Room 132, Phone (903) 886-5150 or  
(903) 886-5835, Fax (903) 468-8148, [StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu)

After contacting the Office of Student Disability Resources and Services, it is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor of what accommodations are needed **IN ADVANCE** of when they are needed.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS:\*

**Participation:** Each person is expected to be prepared for the class, which means having completed the reading and/or viewing the film screening and completed the assignments. Responding to classmates blog entries and discussions is a pivotal and key part of each of the assignments for the course.

**Discussion:** Each student will write numerous times to the discussion page for the class. There will be clear class prompts, with word counts for you to follow.

**Book Essays:** At various points throughout the class, you will be given questions asking you to respond to the reading. These will require you to develop your writing skills and respond to challenging and unique questions the readings present.

**Worksheets:** For each section of material covered you will produce a study guide, filled with the important facts and key information covered. You will focus on defining new terminology, and creating a document that summarizes the material.

### **Visual Essay Project:**

At the end of the course, each student will create a document that compares a number of different images seen throughout the course and in their everyday life. Thoughtfully, the student will choose artwork and film/television stills to address a theme that they are interested in that aligns with the course material. Further, each student will respond to each of their classmates work.

**Assignments will NOT be accepted over TWO DAYS late.  
No EXTRA CREDIT WILL BE ASSIGNED**

### **Grade Breakdown:**

Discussion: 25%

Book Essays: 30% (10% each)

Worksheets: 20%

Visual Essay Project: 25%

\*subject to change