



ART 597-001 SPECIAL TOPICS: HISTORY OF MEDIEVAL ART
COURSE SYLLABUS: SPRING 2018
MW 5-6:15 p.m., Main Art Building 111

Instructor: William Wadley, Ph.D.

Office Location: Main Art Building 104

Office Hours: TR 12:30-2:00 p.m., and by appointment. *If I am not in my office during office hours, please check with the Department of Art Office (Art Building, Room 104, tel. 903-886-5208).*

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University Email Address: William.Wadley@tamuc.edu (*E-mail is the most dependable means of contacting me.*)

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbook(s) Required:

Stokstad, Marilyn. *Medieval Art*. 2nd ed. (Westview Press, 2004) Available in bookstores and online. ISBN 13: 978-0-8133-4114-9

Marilyn Stokstad's *Medieval Art* is the primary reading assignment in Art 597. The instructor's PowerPoints will complement and expand upon the readings therein. Supplementary reading assignments, when necessary, will be announced in class. The class lectures cover the same subjects—and in the same chronological order—as those in the textbook, but the instructor's lectures will be organized more strictly by media than in the textbook. Works of art selected for exams (e.g., slide identifications) will be key works that are in the textbook and PowerPoints alike and have been discussed thoroughly in class.

Artstor:

An invaluable resource in the study of art history at A&M-Commerce is www.artstor.org, a data base of digital images covering much of world art. Accessible online through Gee Library's databases, Artstor includes images, titles, and descriptions of nearly all works of art discussed in class.

Course Description:

A survey of the visual arts in Western Europe from prehistory to the Renaissance. Both the form and content of major works of art will be examined in relation to their social and cultural contexts. Three semester hours.

Course Objective:

History of Medieval art surveys the architecture, sculpture, painting and craft arts of Europe, North Africa and the Near Eastern between c. 200 and 1500 CE, introducing students specifically to the interrelationship between the beliefs and institutions of Christianity and the visual arts. Art is examined as an expression of a changing world that begins in the late Roman Empire and ends with the dawning of the Renaissance.

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 constructs.
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

Instruction includes lectures, discussions, audio-visual presentations, readings, critical thinking and writing, examinations, and individual research projects.

Graded Assignments:

1. **FIRST EXAM, February 21 (Wednesday). 100 points. Unless announced in advance, this exam will cover only the material reached in the class period before it.**
2. **PROPOSAL FOR THE RESEARCH PAPER OR TERM PROJECT DUE IN CLASS ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7. 100 points. Please follow the instructions below on how to compose and submit the proposal.**
3. **SECOND EXAM, April 4 (Wednesday). 100 points. Unless otherwise announced in advance, this exam will cover only the material from the 1st exam to the class period before it.**
4. **RESEARCH PAPER OR TERM PROJECT DUE IN CLASS ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30. 100 points. Please follow the instructions below on composing and submitting the completed paper or project.**
3. **FINAL EXAMINATION. May 9 (Wednesday), 5-6:15 p.m. 100 points. Art 111.**

Each exam covers only the segment of the course preceding it, that is, the exams in Art 597 are not comprehensive. If a student is allowed to drop an exam grade, the final average in the course will be determined by an equal value of the remaining grades. Please note exams in Art 597 must be written in blue books. (Blue books are available in the University Bookstore.) All graded assignments must be completed in good faith in order to pass the course. Please read carefully all policies in this syllabus pertaining to absences, grading and make-up examinations.

Format of Exams:

Exams in Art 597 will consistently observe the following 3-part format.

- Part I will be a section of slides that (1) must be identified with as much factual information as possible (e.g., name of artist; title of work; period and place; and approximate date) and (2) a discussion in well crafted and sequential sentences of the importance of the work of art in its art historical context. Images selected for this part will be key works that are in the textbook and PowerPoints alike and have been discussed thoroughly in class.
- Part II will be devoted to the definition and discussion of terms in short paragraphs of well-reasoned sentences.

- Part III will be an essay that considers a broad topic drawn from the lectures or textbook, requiring clear organization, thoughtful writing and the use of specific examples of works of art in support of a point of view.

Research Paper or Project (150 total points):

Art 597 requires a term paper or project representing significant effort and research that is reflective of graduate-level standing. The paper or project consists of (1) a proposal and (2) a final draft. The topic should be original in some way, and it must address a subject within or related to the history of medieval art. Possible topics could focus on an artist, architect or patron of art; a period or style of art; a major work of art or body of art; technical characteristics or innovations; religious or ideological underpinnings of medieval art; or regional or national styles of art or architecture. Students are encouraged to broaden their understanding of the Middle Ages by relating the visual arts not only to intellectual trends but to other developments of the age that may include science and technology, historical events, social structures, or other creative arts. An alternative to a term paper is a research project that may assume any number of formats, including the creation of an original body of art works (for example: photographs, 3-D reconstructions of medieval art, or a PowerPoint presentation). In such cases, the project must include or be supported by a serious, well-conceived, and fully-documented written statement of several pages in length.

The Proposal: In consultation with the instructor, students will conduct preliminary research on a subject of their choosing during the first five weeks of the semester and propose a thesis topic in both digital (Word or PowerPoint file attached to an email to the instructor) and hard copy forms at the beginning of class on March 7 (Wednesday). This proposal will be at least 2 full double-spaced pages (11-12 font size) and should summarize the student's intended goals and current state of research. A bibliography of at least 3 books and 3 journals must be attached, as well as images of key works of art that are essential to the subject. In submitting the proposal, students will use the "Chicago Style" for bibliographical citations (Kate Turabian and Wayne C. Booth, *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations: Chicago Style for Student Researchers*, 16th or later ed. (University of Chicago Press), a publication that can be consulted in hard copy or internet forms. Proper grammar and exposition are expected in this proposal, as well as a rigorous use of citations when ideas or words are borrowed from others. Plagiarism will not be tolerated and may result in failure of the course, expulsion, and disciplinary action. After the instructor has provided written approval and suggested revisions (usually returned within one week), the student may proceed with the topic. The proposal will receive a grade of 0-100 of a total weight of 100 points.

Completion of the Final Research Paper or Project (100 points): Whether as a conventional term paper or an alternative research project, the final product must be submitted in both electronic (as an email attachment in Word or PowerPoint) and hard copy forms at the beginning of the class period on Wednesday, April 30. Term papers should be long enough to support the chosen topic, while at the same time edited of superfluous wording or content; a length of 10-15 pages (double spaced, 11-12 font size) is suggested. A full bibliography of cited works should be part of the paper or project, as well as photographs of key works used in connection with it. As in the proposal, students should observe Chicago Style guidelines for research papers and projects. Please be mindful of the need to cite the ideas and words of others, and be aware that plagiarism is unacceptable at Texas A&M University-Commerce. The final paper or project will be evaluated on a 100-point scale, with 100 points being the highest possible grade.

GRADED ASSIGNMENTS IN ART 597-001

SUMMARY OF ALL GRADED ASSIGNMENTS IN ART 597-001 (HISTORY OF MEDIEVAL ART)

First Exam, February 21 (Wednesday), 100 POINTS

Proposal for the Research Paper or Project, due March 7 (Wednesday), 100 POINTS

Second Exam, April 4 (Wednesday), 100 POINTS

Research Paper or Project due April 30 (Wednesday), 100 POINTS

Final Exam, May 9 (Wednesday), 5-6:15 P.M., ART 111, 100 POINTS

TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS: 500 POINTS

A = 500-450 points

B = 449-400 points

C = 399-350 points

D = 349-300 points

F = 299-0 points

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Students must have access to the internet, word processing software, and a printer. A&M-Commerce provides several computer labs for these purposes. Students should possess basic skills in conducting research through library and internet sources. Additionally, students should take advantage of www.artstor.org, a data base of digital images covering much of world art history. Artstor includes annotated images of nearly all works of art projected in this course and is accessible through the Gee Library home page (databases).

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor:

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. My office and conference hours are indicated at the top of the syllabus. If you cannot see me during my regular office hours, I will make every effort set up an appointment at a time that is mutually convenient. If I am called away from my office during my regular conference hours, you may also stop by the main administrative office of the Department of Art (Main Art Building 104B) and inquire about my whereabouts. The office staff may know if I am on campus or otherwise available for consultation.

INSTRUCTOR'S GRADING POLICIES, EXPECTATIONS ON ATTENDANCE AND CLASSROOM CONDUCT, EXCUSES FROM EXAMS, AND OTHER ACADEMIC MATTERS

Attendance:

Students are expected to attend classes regularly and to stay abreast, without prompting, of all reading assignments. Participation in class discussions is encouraged and may elevate the final grade. Be aware that a

considerable amount of material must be absorbed for each exam and that the instructor's lectures are crucial for an understanding of that material. University guidelines on attendance are outlined in *The Student Guidebook*, available through the Office of the Dean of Students and by searching the University's web site, but the specific policies for this course are as follows.

Each student in this course is allowed unexcused absences amounting to three class periods. Unexcused absences require no explanation. Excused absences are defined in *The Student Guidebook* and various university policies, but the policy employed in this class is confined to the following: (1) Participation in pre-approved University activities such as athletic events, sponsored field trips, and travel for specific University-related academic reasons; (2) Verifiable legal proceedings; (3) Documented cases of illness, injury, or emergencies. All such excuses must be shown to the instructor in original, written, documentary form within 14 days of the absence(s) together with a photocopy for the instructor's records. (Please understand that this copy is a student's only record of an absence.) In lieu of documentation, the absences become unexcused and are counted as such. **When a student accrues more than three unexcused absences the instructor has the prerogatives to expel the student from class, drop the student from class, or assign the student a final grade of F.**

When an excused absence causes a student to **miss an exam**, it is the student's responsibility to inform--or to have someone else notify--the instructor within 7 days of the exam. Make-up exams will be administered only in instances of excused absences and may not be designed in the same format as the regularly-scheduled exam. Students must make a formal request for a make-up exam via e-mail, stating clearly the reason why the request is being made and providing specific times when he or she is available to take it. While the instructor will make every effort to accommodate a student's schedule, it will ultimately be up to the instructor to designate a time and place for the make-up exam. If a student has not requested, provided documentation of an excuse, scheduled, and taken the make-up exam within 14 days of the original exam, the grade will turn to zero and the student will fail the course.

Being tardy or leaving class early counts as one/half of an absence. Students are required to report tardiness and early exits from class either to the instructor (in person) or as a notation on the sign-in sheet. Chronic tardiness and early departures may result in the consequences outlined above for excessive absences (including expulsion and failure) and will depend upon the instructor's judgment of the number of infractions. (Since it is sometimes the case that students try to slip in or out of a classroom without being noticed, the instructor will rely on his estimation of the number of infractions. In other words, do not test your luck!)

Academic dishonesty has zero tolerance in this class. Be sure that you understand what constitutes academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on exams, theft of instructional material or exams, representing the work of someone else as one's own, misrepresenting absences or tardiness on sign-in sheets or roll calls, etc.). 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.

Journals, Term Papers, Response Essays, and Term Projects:

Not all art history courses require such assignments, but when they do late work will not be accepted. All such written work must be submitted **on time** and in **hard copy**. Please do not cite computer hardware or software problems as a reason for late work: This university and the world at large are replete with computers, back-up storage, and printers.

Classroom Behavior and Protocol:

Our classroom is a forum for learning, a place where all of us should feel safe, comfortable, and enlivened. Each of us should look forward not only to coming to class but to learning the fascinating history of art. Towards this end, all are expected to be courteous and respectful of each other. Common sense, professionalism, and the Golden Rule should prevail, but let it be known that the following activities will not be tolerated under any circumstance:

- While class is in session it is forbidden to sleep, drowse, slouch, or close one's eyes as if asleep. (If such behavior occurs, it will be the instructor's call whether or not a student should be penalized.)
- Cell phones, computers, pagers, and other personal electronic devices may not be used while class is in session.
- Remove backpacks, purses, bags, and other items from your desks when class is in session. You may leave your textbook, notes, writing tool, and water or similar beverages on the desktop.
- No one will engage in disruptive or distracting behavior of any sort.
- Aggression, threatening behavior (whether implied or physical), disrespect, and needless argumentation directed at anyone in the classroom may result in immediate expulsion and/or failure of the course.
- No one may exit the classroom without prior permission or polite notification of the instructor.
- Neither chronic tardiness nor exiting the classroom early is permitted, and excessive infractions may result in expulsion from and/or failure of the course.
- Distracting consumption of food or beverages when the class is in session.
- Entering or exiting the classroom through the front doors after the class has begun: Out of courtesy for others, always enter through the rear doors.
- Whispering, talking to each other, or otherwise engaging in distracting behavior while the instructor is lecturing, answering questions, or involved in dialogue with students.

Please understand that violations of these protocols are taken seriously and may result in expulsion from the class and/or a final grade of F.

Please also understand that the instructor will not hesitate to summon the University Police when student conduct is deemed threatening or belligerent.

An additional note on cell phones, pagers, computers, and other electronic devices:

Unless there is a verifiable disability necessitating their use, there is a complete ban on the use of electronic devices in this classroom while class is in session. First violations will result in a warning; continued violations will result in expulsion from the class, that is, **failure of the course**. Students who must take an emergency call will leave the classroom to do so.

Grading:

All exams and assignments must be completed if the student is to pass the course. All grades, including the final exam, will be averaged equally. A student's attendance, level of interest, and improvement over the course of the semester may elevate the final grade. Excepting the final exam, a student may **petition** the instructor in writing to drop his or her lowest grade if (1) that grade appears to be an aberration; (2) all other grades are significantly higher; (3) the student has fulfilled all other expectations in the course, including outstanding attendance (no more than three unexcused absences), good attitude, and the completion of all work before the stated deadlines. Should the instructor approve the petition, the student's remaining grades will be counted equally to determine the final average. Petitions will be submitted on the day of the Final Exam. The petition should be at least one paragraph (6-8 sentences) in length and may be typed or handwritten legibly. It must be submitted on a standard size sheet of paper and turned in with the final examination. It must include a justification for why the student believes he or she deserves to have a grade dropped from the record.

Extra Credit:

A maximum of five points will be added to the student's final average for volunteer work in the University Gallery or in other approved Department of Art activities. Two hour's volunteer work will be equal to one point. Please understand that when you sign up for extra credit, there is the full expectation that you will show up at the designated time and place. If you cannot show up at your scheduled time, you must notify the Department of Art office (tel. 903.886.5208) in advance so that someone else can be found to take your place. **If you are a "no-show" for extra credit work and do not inform the department office in advance, then the points you expected to earn towards the final grade in this class will instead be deducted from it. Further, as a "no show" you will be ineligible to receive any other extra credit, even if you have already put in voluntary time.**

Grades of Incomplete ("X"):

University guidelines on Incomplete Grades have recently changed, as described in *Student's Guidebook* and *Texas A&M University-Commerce Procedures* (Supplements System Policy 13.02). In short, students are eligible to receive an "X" only if they been unable, because of circumstances beyond their control, to attend classes during Finals Week or the preceding three weeks. If a student meets these criteria, he or she must still petition the instructor and the instructor's department head by filling out and submitting a "Plan for Completing the Grade of X." Whether or not a petition is valid will be determined by the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Students with Disabilities:

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; Email: Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu Office of Student Disability Resources and Services website: <http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Texas Senate Bill 11

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to (<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>) and/or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Course Outline and Readings:

- 1/17 Introduction to the content and requirements of the course.**
Marilyn Stokstad, *Medieval Art*. 2nd ed. (Westview Press, 2004), pp. xi-12.
- 1/22 The Origins and Diffusion of Christianity and Christian Art**
Stokstad, *Medieval Art*, Chapter 2: "The Early Christian Period," pp. 13-44.
- 1/24 Early Christian Art (cont.); Early Christian Art after the Recognition**
Stokstad, *Medieval Art*, Chapter 2
- 1/29 Early Christian Art in the Time of the Recognition (cont.)**
Stokstad, *Medieval Art*, Chapter 2
- 1/31 Late Roman Art and the Decline of the Hellenic Tradition**
Stokstad, *Medieval Art*, Chapter 2
- 2/5 Architecture and Mosaics in Ravenna**
Stokstad, *Medieval Art*, Chapter 2, and Chapter 3 "The Early Byzantine Period," pp.45-74
- 2/7 Architecture and Mosaics in Ravenna (cont.); Early Byzantine Art**
Stokstad, *Medieval Art*, Chapter 3
- 2/12 Art in the Migratory Age**
Stokstad, *Medieval Art*, Chapter 4: "Early Medieval Art in the West," pp.75-100.
- 2/14 Art of the Migratory Age; Hiberno-Saxon Art**
Stokstad, *Medieval Art*, Chapter 4
- 2/19 Hiberno-Saxon Art (cont.)**
Stokstad, *Medieval Art*, Chapter 4
- 2/21 FIRST EXAM. This exam will cover material through the class period prior to this date. Please refer to the syllabus for a description of the exam's format. Please bring a blue book.**
- 2/26 Carolingian Art**
Stokstad, *Medieval Art*, Chapter 5: "Carolingian Art," 101-26.
- 2/28 Carolingian Art (cont.)**
Stokstad, *Medieval Art*, Chapter 5
- 3/5 Carolingian Art (cont.)**
Stokstad, *Medieval Art*, Chapter 5
- 3/7 Ottonian Art**
Stokstad, *Medieval Art*, Chapter 7: "Art at the Millennium," pp. 155-90.

PROPOSAL DUE FOR THE RESEARCH PAPER OR TERM PROJECT. The proposal must be submitted by the beginning of class in (1) a Word document sent to the instructor's email as an attachment; and (2) in hard copy. Please follow the instructions in the syllabus for the proper method of writing and submitting the proposal.

SPRING BREAK: March 12-16

- 3/19 Ottonian Art (cont.)**
Stokstad, *Medieval Art*, Chapter 7
- 3/21 “First Romanesque” and the Question of the Origins of Romanesque Architecture**
Stokstad, *Medieval Art*, Chapter 7 and Chapter 8: “Romanesque Art,” pp. 191-226.
- 3/26 “First Romanesque” Architecture (cont.)**
Stokstad, *Medieval Art*, Chapters 7 and 8
- 3/28 Romanesque Architecture (cont.)**
Stokstad, *Medieval Art*, Chapters 7 and 8
- 4/2 Romanesque Architecture (cont.)**
Stokstad, *Medieval Art*, Chapters 7 and 8
- 4/4 SECOND EXAM. This exam will cover material through the class period prior to this date. Please refer to the syllabus for a description of the exam’s format. Please bring a blue book.**
- 4/9 Gothic Architecture c. 1140-c. 1250**
Stokstad, *Medieval Art*, Chapter 9: “Origins of Gothic Art”; and Chapter 10: “Mature Gothic Art”
- 4/11 Gothic Architecture c. 1140-c.1250 (cont.)**
Stokstad, *Medieval Art*, Chapters 9 and 10
- 4/16 Gothic Architecture c. 1140-c. 1250 (cont.); Regional and National Variations of Gothic Architecture**
Stokstad, *Medieval Art*, Chapters 9 and 10; Chapter 11: “Rayonnant Architecture and Its Reverberations,” pp.303-34
- 4/18 Regional and National Variations of Gothic Architecture (cont.)**
Stokstad, *Medieval Art*, Chapter 11
- 4/23 Regional and National Variations of Gothic Architecture (cont.)**
Stokstad, *Medieval Art*, Chapter 11 and Chapter 12: “Late Gothic Art”
- 4/25 Gothic Sculpture and Painting**
Stokstad, *Medieval Art*, Chapters 9-12
- 4/30 Gothic Sculpture and Painting (cont.)**
Stokstad, *Medieval Art*, Chapters 9-12
- 5/2 Gothic Sculpture and Painting (cont.)**
Stokstad, *Medieval Art*, Chapters 9-12
- 5/7 FINAL EXAM. May 9 (Wednesday), 5-6:15 p.m. Art 111. Please be on time for the final examination.**