

VISUAL CULTURE INTRO SYLLABUS

ART-2-54174 VISUAL CULTURE INTRO | Spring 2021 | 01/11/2021 - 05/21/2021

Lecture: Internet Days to be Announced, Times to be Announced

Reedley College, Room WEB | Reedley 100% Online

INSTRUCTOR

Theodore Diran Lyons III | theodore.lyons@reedleycollege.edu

Office Hours (By appointment via Zoom teleconferencing). Send a message, and I will send you a private Zoom link.

**The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus in the case of extenuating circumstances.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is a course in basic Art Appreciation, including studying media (architecture, crafts, drawing, film, digital/electronic, painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture), the elements and principles of design, terminology and concepts, and art in multicultural/historical contexts (Africa and Oceania, the Americas, Asia, Australia, Europe) from pre-history to the present.

PREREQUISITES

This is a foundation class. No art background or prerequisites are necessary.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:
2. Recognize the functions and purposes of the visual arts in the everyday world, in one's own life, and in the life of people around the world.
3. Write about a work of art using appropriate art terminology.
4. Research and present a written analysis integrating and synthesizing sources to explain an artwork's aesthetic significance, its role as a transmitter of cultural values, and its role in the student's emotional and intellectual life.
5. Analyze, evaluate, and distinguish the processes and purposes of each art medium, including drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, sculpture, and architecture.
6. Identify the medium of a work of art and understand how each medium is distinguishable from another.
7. Identify major art movements and artists associated with those movements from the prehistoric time period to the present.
8. Identify the key stylistic features and historical contexts of art.
9. Demonstrate the ability to explore global/cultural diversity in art.
10. Evaluate and critique works of art and architecture based on the formal elements and principles of design.
11. Differentiate art historical methodologies.

MESSAGING PROTOCOL

Include your first name, last name, and student ID when sending me a Canvas message.

Please allow up to 48 hours for responses to Canvas messages, potentially longer for weekends.

If you do not receive a response after 48 hours, resend your message in case something happened to the first one.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Exploring Art: A Global, Thematic Approach, 5th Edition. Margaret Lazzari & Dona Schlesier.

ISBN: 1285858166 | [Amazon](#) | [Chegg](#)

Students are required to use the 5th edition. No exceptions.

The class will complete the first 12 chapters of the course textbook.

IMPORTANT LINKS

[Lecture Slides](#)

[Writing Guidelines for Final](#)

[Art Assignment 1](#) | [Art Assignment 2](#)

Quiz Study Guides: [Quiz 1](#) | [Quiz 2](#) | [Quiz 3](#)

GRADING POLICY

60 points = 3 Quizzes (20 points each)

20 points = 2 Art Projects (10 points each)

10 Points = 1 Paper

10 Points = Weekly Discussions

100 points TOTAL

Grading Framework: A = 100-90 points, B = 89-80 points, C = 79-70 points, D = 69-60 points, F = 59-0 points.

QUIZ CHARACTERISTICS AND CONDITIONS

- Quizzes are given with specific start and end times. If you miss a scheduled quiz, then you receive ZERO points.
- The quizzes feature slides with multiple choice questions on the content of four chapters at a time.
- You will sign into Canvas and take the quizzes there, according to the Quiz Schedule below. Each quiz is timed and will take 60 minutes to complete. After the 60th minute, the quiz will close, and your score will be recorded in the course grading center.
- You may use your book, notes, lecture slides, and/or the Internet to help you while you take a quiz.
- Due to the generous window of time quizzes are open, there will be no make-up opportunities if you miss a quiz (except in the case of very strong illness or surgery, which requires a note from a doctor that specifies the time and degree to which you were incapacitated). The instructor reserves the right to refuse make-up quizzes for all other student reasons. If you miss a quiz deadline, you will get a zero score on that quiz. No exceptions.
- Moreover, part of taking an online class is having the tools to take the class. It assumes you have access to a reliable computer or digital device with a reliable Internet connection. Not having access to these items would be like a student trying to take a painting class, but the student refuses to acquire the paints, the canvas, and the brushes. That stated, there are no retake opportunities in the case of technological failure of any kind during the middle of a quiz. You must begin every quiz on a reliable digital device with a reliable Internet connection. All requests to re-take or make-up a quiz will be denied.

QUIZ SCHEDULE

Quizzes open on Thursday at 8 am and close on Friday at 11:59 pm. You will have 1 hour to complete a quiz.

[Quiz 1](#) (Chapters 1 through 4. 5 questions from each chapter. 1 point per question). Feb 25-26.

[Quiz 2](#) (Chapters 5 through 8. 5 questions from each chapter. 1 point per question). March 25-26.

[Quiz 3](#) (Chapters 9 through 12. 5 questions from each chapter. 1 point per question). May 13-14.

REQUIRED ART PROJECTS

Project 1: Digital Photograph (Cell Phone or Digital Camera). [Assignment sheet](#).

Project 2: Collage. [Assignment sheet](#).

ART PROJECT EVALUATION

Students will be responsible for creating two art projects. The projects will interact with ideas covered in the textbook.

I will assign a project and a due date. Excellent projects will thoroughly engage the terms described on the assignment sheet and rubric, which will contain clear step-by-step outlines for each project in the class. You may not leave parts out because they do not suit you or you would rather not deal with them. Doing so will have an adverse effect on your grade. My interest is to see how you handle the complexity of the assigned project and how thoroughly you interact with the challenges therein.

We will conduct a critique of your response to the assigned problem. In the discussion, you will be invited to present the project to the class, explain how you interacted with the challenges of the assignment while using appropriate terminology from the textbook, and articulate the strengths and/or weaknesses of your efforts.

CRITICAL WRITING ASSIGNMENT (FINAL)

A writing guidelines document is available here: [Art Writing Prompts, Requirements, and Grading Criteria](#).

Students must abide by the rules therein.

Plagiarism will NOT be tolerated and will result in a failing grade and expulsion from the class.

The writing must be submitted on Canvas as a Word or PDF attachment.

Submission Deadline: Opens for upload May 17 at 8 am. Closes: May 21, 11:59 pm.

WEEKLY DISCUSSIONS

Students will participate in weekly discussions located in the “Discussions” area of the course Canvas site. Our discussions will be the participation component of the class. A discussion will feature prompts that relate to the course readings, lectures, tutorials, and your art projects. This is one of the most exciting areas of the course because it gives us the opportunity to ask questions for clarification, investigate the course content more rigorously, offer our different viewpoints and perspectives, and provide feedback on artworks in progress or finished works.

DISCUSSION DEADLINES

Each week, the instructor will post a discussion on Monday at 8 a.m. The session will remain open until Thursday at 11:59 p.m. At that point Canvas will close the discussion, and late responses will not be accepted. Not responding counts as an absence. No absence will be excused unless the instructor receives a note from a medical professional that precisely verifies the time missed and designates the reason for the absence.

METHODS OF RESPONSE

Students may respond to a discussion in any of the following ways:

- in writing.
- by posting an audio recording of your thoughts (mp3 files are preferred).
- with a vlog (please provide a link to YouTube).

PARTICIPATION POINTS

There are a total of 100 points available in the course. Participation in discussions accounts for 10 points of your overall grade. You will begin the semester with those 10 participation points and can protect them by contributing to each weekly discussion.

Not partaking in a discussion will reduce your overall Discussions participation score by 2 points. (If a student loses all 10 points through non-participation, no further points will be lost). 2 extra credit opportunities will be issued toward the conclusion of the semester. These will feature additional discussion prompts worth 1 point each (for a maximum total of 2 points) and will help students recover lost participation points or can be added to their initial 10.

CALENDAR

WEEK 1 (1/11 – 1/15)

Syllabus and course overview.

Discussion.

WEEK 2 (1/18 – 1/22)

Discussion.

Chapter 1: [Lecture video](#). [Slides](#). Art and Art Making. Definition(s) of Art. Art within Visual Culture. About Artists.

WEEK 3 (1/25 – 1/29)

Discussion.

Chapter 2: [Lecture Video](#). [Slides](#). The Language of Art and Architecture. Formal Elements. Principles of Composition.

WEEK 4 (2/1 – 2/5)

Discussion.

Chapter 3: [Lecture Video](#). [Slides](#). The Importance of Materials and Media. Methods in 2D, 3D, 4D, and Technology-Based Media.

Art Project 1 due, 2/4 at 11:59 pm. [Assignment sheet](#).

WEEK 5 (2/8 – 2/12)

Discussion of art project submissions.

WEEK 6 (2/15 – 2/19)

Discussion.

Chapter 4: [Lecture Video](#). [Slides](#). Deriving Meaning. Content/Form Analysis. Historical Context. Writings on Art.

WEEK 7 (2/22 – 2/26)

Discussion.

Chapter 5: [Lecture Video](#). [Slides](#). Food and Shelter. Food Supply. Storage. Glorification of Food. The Act of Eating.

Quiz 1 (Chapters 1 through 4. 5 questions from each chapter. 1 point per question): Thursday (opens 8 am) - Friday (closes 11:59 pm), Feb 25-26. [Quiz 1 Study Guide](#).

WEEK 8 (3/1 – 3/5)

Discussion.

Chapter 6: [Lecture Video](#). [Slides](#). Reproduction and Sexuality. Fertility. Primordial Human Couples. Lovemaking. The Gaze. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Progeny.

WEEK 9 (3/8 – 3/12)

Discussion.

Chapter 7: [Lecture Video](#). [Slides](#). Deities and Places of Worship. Holy Beings. Human Response.

WEEK 10 (3/15 – 3/19)

Discussion.

Chapter 8: [Lecture Video](#). [Slides](#). Mortality and Immortality. Tombs. Cemeteries. Mausoleums. Reliquaries.

WEEK 11 (3/22 – 3/26)

Discussion.

Quiz 2 (Chapters 5 through 8. 5 questions from each chapter. 1 point per question): Thursday (opens 8 am) - Friday (closes 11:59 pm), March 25-26. [Quiz 2 Study Guide](#).

WEEK 12 (3/29 – 4/2) Spring Recess – NO CLASS

WEEK 13 (5/5 – 4/9)

Discussion.

Chapter 9: [Lecture Video](#). [Slides](#). Power, Politics, and Glory. Power of Ruler and State. Warriors, Weapons, Memorials.

WEEK 14 (4/12 – 4/16)

Discussion.

Chapter 10: Lecture Video. [Slides](#). Social Protest/Affirmation. Protests Against Military Action. Fighting for the Oppressed. The Status Quo.

Art Project 2 due, 4/15 at 11:59 pm. [Assignment sheet](#).

WEEK 15 (4/19 – 4/23)

Discussion of art project submissions.

WEEK 16 (4/26 – 4/30)

Discussion.

Chapter 11: Lecture Video. [Slides](#). Mind and Body. Portraiture. The Limits of the Self. Sickness and Death. The Psychological Dimension of Art.

WEEK 17 (5/3 – 5/7)

Discussion.

Chapter 12: Lecture Video. [Slides](#). Race, Gender, Clan, and Class.

WEEK 18 (5/10 – 5/14)

Quiz 3 (Chapters 9 through 12. 5 questions from each chapter. 1 point per question): Thursday (opens 8 am) - Friday (closes 11:59 pm), May 13-14. [Quiz 3 Study Guide](#).

WEEK 19 (5/17 – 5/21)

Critical Writing due 5/21, 11:59 pm. [Assignment sheet](#).

PHILOSOPHY OF CONDUCT

The classroom is a special environment where students and faculty have the opportunity to collaborate, learn, and grow. It is essential to maintain a positive learning atmosphere that enables everyone to focus on learning. Class participants should adopt a formal, engaged, and enthusiastic attitude towards the subject matter while discussing topics with interlocutors. Whether written asynchronously or spoken in real-time, students should use clear, honest, compassionate, and inclusive forms of communication and dialogue so that our interactions maximize the growth and success of everyone in the course.

STUDENT-TO-STUDENT INTERACTION

It is essential to our learning environment that the rights of others seeking to learn are maintained. Viewpoints should be expressed in ways that are supportive of the learning process, creating an environment where students reason with clarity and compassion, share of themselves without losing their identities, and develop a broader understanding of the community in which they live.

STUDENT-TO-TEACHER INTERACTION

It is essential to our learning environment that the professionalism of the instructor and the general goals of academic freedom are respected. Students are expected to demonstrate respect for the instructor, the course content, and themselves through all forms of communication. All Canvas and e-mail student-to-teacher interaction should be presented with a polite, patient, and professional demeanor.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

It is essential to student growth that each individual complete his/her/their own work in this course. Cheating is the actual or attempted practice of fraudulent or deceptive acts for the purpose of improving one's grade, obtaining course credit, or assisting another to do so. Such acts typically relate to examinations, writings, or projects, but can include any aspect of the course where credit is earned. Plagiarism is a specific form of cheating which consists of the misuse of the published and/or unpublished works of others by misrepresenting the material (i.e., their intellectual property) so used as one's own work. Cheating and plagiarism may result in an F for the course.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

If you have a documented need for an academic accommodation (E.g., recording devices, assistance with note-taking, extended time for examination, etc.) as per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (Rehab Act) of 1973, please inform me as soon as possible. The ADA and Rehab Act mandate that students with learning, physical, or other types of disabilities receive services to allow an equal experience in education. It is the student's responsibility to contact the Disabled Student Services Office to request Academic Accommodation. Documentation must be presented before accommodation can be provided. This paperwork should be provided to the instructor as soon as possible.

ADDING AND DROPPING CLASSES

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures on adding/dropping classes, academic renewals, etc. It is the student's responsibility to drop the course before the census deadline which makes enrollment in the course final.

LATE WORK POLICY

Any project that is turned in tardy within a week of the scheduled deadline will receive no greater than a C (7 out of 10 points). If your project tardiness extends beyond this time frame, it will not be accepted and will earn a score of zero in the grade book.