Course Syllabus

History of Western Art I

Spring 2020  Tuesday/Thursday: 11:30 am - 12:50 pm
CRN: 1193 3 credits  Room W249

Instructor: Valerie Sioufas-Lalli
E-mail: vsioufas-lalli@ncc.commnet.edu
Office Hours: Room W238  Meeting may be scheduled before or after class
I will gladly make myself available to address questions or concerns, and/or offer clarification on any aspect of our coursework.

Prerequisite: ENG 101 or permission of art coordinator

ART 101 requires that students effectively communicate in formal written language and proper grammatical format. You are expected to conduct research and analysis. I will provide the appropriate guidelines for submitting assignments. Proper citations for this course will require footnotes using the Chicago Manual of Style. Plagiarism, the act of taking someone else’s work and ideas and passing them off as one’s own, is unnecessary and unacceptable besides carrying the penalty of failing an assignment and/or the class.

Class Website: nccarthistory.weebly.com  password: nccart101102

The class website will be the source for any information relating to this course—assignments, slide presentations, handouts, etc. The password above will give you access to these materials. If you are absent for a class, any assignment given at that meeting will be posted here. YOU are responsible for maintaining course requirements.

Course Description

This course offers a survey of Western art from the Prehistoric Age to the 14th century.

A paper based on direct observation of works in a major art museum is required.

Course Outcomes

• Recognize art from the Prehistoric period to the 14th century A.D.
• Identify historically significant artworks and express their cultural relevance
• Learn and use discipline specific terminology in discussing these works of art
• Appraise original works of art by research, analysis, and synthesis

Course Expectations

Art history is a multifaceted area of study. It requires one to study art in its historical context, that is, the time frame in which a particular object was created or when an artist was working, but it also considers its place of origin, its purpose, its subject matter, and its form. Our goal in this class is to evaluate works of art, to explain their meaning and function under historical and cultural influences, and to come to an understanding of the works’ purpose and value using language that is specific to this scholarship.

Required Text

Penelope J. E. Davies, et al., Janson’s Basic History of Western Art, 9th Edition

Recommended Texts

Sylvan Barnet, A Short Guide to Writing About Art
Anne D’Alleva, Look! The Fundamentals of Art History
James Hall, Dictionary of Subjects and Symbols in Art, 4th edition
James Smith Pierce, From Abacus to Zeus: A Handbook of Art History

These texts are available at NCC’s Baker Library.

You are required to review the chapters in Janson’s Basic History of Western Art as they are discussed in class. Exams and assignments will be based on the
material found in your textbook AND the works of art we discuss in class through slide presentations.

Course Requirements
Methods of Evaluation and Grading
Students will be graded on their individual performance as follows:

• attendance and class participation (20%)
• class assignments (25%)
• mid-term and final exams (25%)
• final museum-based paper (30%)

Please note that any assignments submitted after the due date will carry a 5-point deduction for each class meeting missed and WILL NOT qualify for resubmission. You will be given the opportunity to resubmit any assignment that did not meet the standards outlined as long as the assignment was submitted on its due date.

All assignments are to be submitted as a hard copy (printed and submitted in class on the due date), typewritten, double-spaced, using no more than a 12 pt. font size, and with appropriate citations unless otherwise noted.

Make-up Test/Assignment Policy
Make-up tests and/or assignment deadlines MAY be extended to students due to medical problems, personal emergencies, or previously discussed-excused absences.

Criteria
A (93–100: 4.0) A- (90–92: 3.7)
B+ (87–89: 3.3) B (83–86: 3.0)
B (77–79: 2.3) C (73–76: 2.0)
C+ (67–69: 1.3) C- (60–62: 0.7)
D+ (63–66: 1.1)
F (59 or less: 0.0)

Attendance
Students are required to attend all classes in their entirety. In this course, every three (3) latenesses will be counted as one absence.

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Lateness and absences carry academic penalties. At NCC, attending class is required for successful completion of the course. Missing scheduled classes will have an increasingly negative effect on a student’s grade. Being absent for more than 20% of scheduled classes may result in a grade of ‘F’ for the course.

Course Withdrawal Deadline
Monday, April 20, 2020, is the last day to withdraw from a course without extenuating circumstances.

Mobile Devices
Engagement and participation during course time is an academic expectation. The use of mobile devices in class is not permitted except for an emergency; please silence them upon entering the room. Any student requiring access to mobile communication will be directed to do so outside of the classroom. If you need to use a laptop in class for note taking, please see me; electronic devices in class are a distraction to the whole and impede full participation in class discussions.

Online Resources
A directory of museum websites is included in the recommended text, From Abacus to Zeus, as well as on the class website under RESOURCES, for your reference and for research purposes. In addition, acceptable sources for study and research can be accessed from the college library website:
http://norwalkcc.libguides.com/homepage

Personal blogs, websites unaffiliated with a research facility or educational institution, and Wikipedia are not acceptable sources for scholarly research.

NCC Resources
NCC Baker Library, East Campus
General Information, 203-857-7200
Information Desk, 203-857-7379
http://norwalkcc.libguides.com/homepage

The library provides students of NCC with access to an enormous amount of appropriate academic resources such as books, expert publications, articles, web sources, films, music, and encyclopedias. Make the library and the librarians your friend!
One of the great factors for success in a college setting is understanding how to use the library and its resources. Do not hesitate to make an appointment with library staff for guidance on how to best access its collection.
Submitting Written Assignments
Formal and Informal Language in Writing

Formal and informal language serve different purposes. University/college assignments maintain formal language.

**Formal language** is less personal than informal language. It is used when writing for professional or academic purposes like university assignments. Formal language does not use colloquialisms, contractions or first person pronouns such as 'I' or 'We'.

**Informal language** is more casual and spontaneous. It is used when communicating with friends or family either in writing or in conversation. It is used when writing personal emails, text messages and in some business correspondence. The tone of informal language is more personal than formal language.

Examples of formal and informal language:

**Contractions**
- **Informal:** The improvements can't be introduced due to funding restrictions.
- **Formal:** Improvements cannot be introduced due to funding restrictions.

**Phrasal verbs**
- **Informal:** The patient got over his illness.
- **Formal:** The patient recovered from his illness.

- **Informal:** The results of the study were mixed up.
- **Formal:** The results of the study were confused.

**Slang/Colloquialism**
- **Informal:** The mob was very rowdy during the protest against cuts to university funding.
- **Formal:** The crowd was very rowdy during the protest against the cuts to university funding.

**First Person Pronouns**
- **Informal:** I considered various research methods for the study.
- **Formal:** Various research methods were considered for the study.

Class texts will also be available on reserve at the NCC Library. See Librarian at the Information Desk.

NCC Tutoring Center
West Campus Room 110
Diane Donovan, Tutoring Center Coordinator
(203) 857-7205
Email: tutoringcenter@norwalk.edu

NCC Writing Center
West Campus Room 112
Appointments can be made at the office

Disabilities Referral Information
If you have a “Letter of Academic Adjustment/Accommodation” from Student ACCESS Ability Services (SAS), we are available to meet with you to plan for the academic adjustments.

If you need immediate assistance SAS is located on the East Campus in E322. Contact the Coordinator of SAS, Fran Apfel, at (203) 857-7192 for further clarification or email: fapel@ncc.commnet.edu

See also, https://norwalk.edu/sas/

I cannot provide accommodations based upon a disability until I receive a Letter of Academic Adjustment from Dr. Apfel. All students are required to submit a request to Student ACCESS Ability Services every semester.

Using MYCOMMNET
See https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLmAFsK4a4rSYc6Y086e9jYEJgI4nIGk3g

Information and policies regarding attendance requirements, classroom behavior, academic honesty, college safety, etc. and which students must abide by can be found in the Student Handbook, pp. 25–28. See also: https://norwalk.edu/handbook/academic-dishonesty/

myPATH NCC has many resources that can help you to get on and stay on your path to success. For a full listing please visit, https://norwalk.edu/current-students/
Course Outline | Spring 2020

Although every effort is made to follow the schedule, unforeseeable circumstances and/or class discussions may take our agenda off course; we will adjust accordingly. All chapter references below correspond to those in Janson’s Basic History of Western Art, 9th Edition.

Thursday, January 23
First Day of Class | Introduction: What is Art?

January 28, 30
Chapter 1: Prehistoric Art | Paleolithic, c. 30,000 - 8,000 BCE | Neolithic, c. 8,000 - 5,000 BCE | Early people painted and sculpted before they could read or write, demonstrating that the human impulse to create is one of the strongest.

February 4, 6
Chapter 2: Ancient Near Eastern Art | The earliest foundations of civilization emerge in the ancient near east, and the city-states of Mesopotamia. Artistic heritage is established, and art forms are inspired by religion and royal patronage.

February 11, 13
Chapter 3: Egyptian Art | Egyptian civilization spans a long period of time; it is characterized by the creation of monumental works of art that show an interest in funerary practices and dynastic influence.

February 18, 20
Chapter 4: Aegean Art | Neolithic art of the Aegean civilizations originated on the Cycladic Islands of present-day Greece during the late Neolithic and early Bronze Ages (ca. 6000-3000 BCE). Two Bronze Age civilizations emerged: the Minoan (c. 2500-1250 BCE) and the Mycenaean (c.1600-1150 BCE).

February 25, 27
Chapter 5: Greek Art | Greek art is characterized by a pantheon of gods celebrated in large civic and religious buildings. Changes in artistic style, a focus on idealization and harmony are hallmarks of Greek art.

March 3, 5
Chapter 6: Etruscan Art | The Etruscans were the people who lived in Italy before the arrival of the Romans. Much of what is known about them and their art comes from their tombs.

March 10, 12 MID-TERM EXAM

Chapter 7: Roman Art | Roman art is subdivided into periods and displays the power, privilege, and patronage of the State and its wealthiest individuals.

March 17-19 Spring Recess · No Classes

March 24, 26
Chapter 8: Jewish, Early Christian, and Byzantine Art | Art of the Late Antique Period, spanning the years of about 200 to 500 CE, and the Byzantine Period, from about 500 to 1400 CE, is concerned with religious expression and court life. Artists were influenced by contemporaries and ancient traditions.

March 31, April 2
Chapter 9: Islamic Art | Abstract design dominates much of the Islamic art movement. Figural art occurs mostly in manuscripts that depict Persian court life and illustrate famous stories from Arabic literature.

April 7, 9
Chapter 10: Early Medieval Art | The fall of the Roman Empire set forth a period of migrations for people occupying Europe. The unifying force for the continent became Christianity.

April 14, 16
Chapter 11: Romanesque Art | From the period between 1050 to 1150 CE, architecture dominates as the major art form in the Western world, particularly in the service of Christianity and its religious themes.

April 21, 23
Chapter 12: Gothic Art | Gothic art and architecture emerges in Northern France and becomes an influential force beginning in c.1140 to 1400 CE. Christianity is still a driving

April 28, 30
Chapter 13: Art in 13th and 14th Century Italy | This period of Italian Gothic art is a bridge between the Medieval period and the Renaissance. These artists were inspired by Ancient Roman works, parted from Byzantine practices, and established influential schools of painting.

May 5 Review
May 7 Reading Day · No Classes
May 12 FINAL EXAM DUE
May 14 FINAL PAPER DUE
Student Survey | Spring 2020

(This information will remain confidential)

Name:

E-mail  (provide an email that you access regularly. I will contact you only to provide essential information, and/or in case of cancelled class or urgent matter; please write legibly...)

Declared Major:

Have you taken ENG 101?

Reason for taking this course:

Current and/or prior art/art history courses:

What do you look forward to learning in this class?

What concerns might you have about this class? Explain and provide any suggestions that may help you.

Food allergies? Please include.

Additional Comments: