Art Exploration Spring 2018

Course Information

Course Title: Art Exploration 3300-27857


Recommended text: Terri Barrett, *Criticizing Art.* 3rd Ed. paperback. ISBN #: 978-0073379197  
(Assignments and art visits)

Technical Requirements: Access to a computer and a stable Internet connection, Blackboard Learn, Respondus Lock Down Browser, YouTube channel, Microsoft Word and Power Point, resources to produce and edit digital images and video (ie. digital camera, video camera, smartphone, scanner, etc.) USB drive to save your work and have a backup.

Instructor Contact Information/Introduction

Instructor's name: Davinia Miraval, Lecturer
Instructor's office number: Fox Fine Arts Rm. 461
Instructor's office hours: By appointment only though Blackboard Collaborate.  
On Remind M-F 10:00 am to 8:00 pm
Instructor's email: Only through Blackboard mail
Text messages for emergency and personal issues: text @uteartexplo to 810-10

Blackboard Learn

Please make sure you can access your Art Exploration Blackboard link. Knowledge of Blackboard is a requirement for this class. If you don’t have it, you can contact “Technology Support Help Desk” at 915-747-5257 or [http://admin.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=74092](http://admin.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=74092) for help with the software, or go to [https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Watch_Videos](https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Watch_Videos). You will have to access Blackboard often, in order to not miss any important information. All course work will be completed through Blackboard. Quizzes, exams, announcements, instructional videos, web links to art sites, the class schedule, assignment links as well as grades will be posted there.
You must have access to a strong Internet connection either at home, school, or a reliable wireless location. A strong Internet connection is especially important when taking exams. Some computer labs on campus are: LACIT, Liberal Arts Building, room 405; LTC, Main Library, room 324; ATLAS, UGLC, room 202. Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, Microsoft Edge (Windows 10) and Safari (Mac) are the best browsers to use with Blackboard. Do not use Internet Explorer.
If you find your computer needs updates or features enabled, call the Technology Support Help Desk for assistance.

*Bb Student* is the Blackboard app that can be downloaded from the Google Play Store or the Apple App Store. You could use this app to get easy access to the class and your grades. You will need a desktop or laptop computer to do your course work. Blackboard does not fully support mobile devices.

Course Description

The focus of this course is to provide an expanded experience in visual art for the non-art major, and will require the student to visit a variety or art exhibition venues and art events within the student’s location to apply concepts and terminology acquired in class to art objects in the real word. This course is an
introduction to the visual arts, and will cover basic concepts, terminology and styles. Students will be exposed to several historical western and non-western cultural styles of art in a variety of media, including architecture. Prior to the art historical study of these styles, students will devote several weeks to the study of the fundamental concepts and terminology of art, as well as methods of making and issues surrounding the creation of art. Practical application of lecture material will consist of assignments completed in conjunction with independent viewings of art exhibitions and events.

Students need not have had any prior experience in art to succeed in this class, but participation in class discussions and the punctual submission of all assignments are crucial to the successful completion of this course.

**Course Prerequisite Information**
Enrollment in this course is restricted to Junior and Senior level undergraduates who have not completed Art 1300 Art Appreciation and Graduate students. Graduate students will be required to complete additional work in order to receive graduate credit for this course. This course can be used to fulfill the College of Liberal Arts general education requirement for Fine and Performing Arts.

**Course Goals and Objectives**
Students will gain:
- a fundamental understanding of the concepts and terminology of art.
- a knowledge of the methods of making and issues surrounding the creation of art.
- a knowledge of some of the major monuments of western and non-western art.
- a developing awareness of the significance of individual and historical styles and the manner in which they reflect personal and cultural values.
- experience in the formal and iconographic analysis of art objects.

**Course Outcomes**
Students who successfully complete this course will have a basic understanding of the nature of art, the issues surrounding the creation of art and the ways in which art objects and monuments reflect their respective temporal and cultural contexts. They will also have an introductory level knowledge of art historical study of specific works and cultural styles. The study of the visual and symbolic language of art, including the visual elements, principles of design and iconography, will enable students to formally and conceptually analyze works of art; the result will be a heightened sense of visual/perceptual awareness and a marked improvement in critical thinking and communication skills. In learning to appreciate the visual arts, students will explore the nature of self-expression and the emotional aspects of visual communication and will experience greater self-awareness.

**Course Requirements**

*Exams (50% of your final grade)*
There will be 5 exams given in this course. All exams will include questions that require the student to refer to images, as well as questions that do not refer to slides. The objective format will be used, and tests may include slide identifications, multiple choice, true/false, essay or matching type questions. Each of the 4 exams covers a different section of the lecture/text material and all of them weight the same percentage in the overall final grade. Tentative dates for the first 4 examinations appear in the course calendar. Any changes regarding these dates will be announced well in advance of the actual test date. The final examination date is set and cannot be changed.
Participation Assignments (50% of your final grade)

Participation is a vitally important component of each student’s overall performance in this course. The participation grade consists of scores on assignments performed independently as well as online discussions. Participation assignments are indicated in the course calendar. Details of each individual assignment can be found posted on Blackboard under the specific assignment. All participation assignments are due on time. Assignments should be turned in electronically on Blackboard only. Deadline for assignments is always 12:00 a.m. MST on Saturdays. Assignments turned in by e-mail won’t be graded.

When working on your assignments consider the Visual Elements and Design Principles. As the semester progresses and you have more knowledge on the subject, your assignments should show that and be more complex and precise within the analysis and the criticism. The more elements and principles you state correctly, the more insightful and thoughtful, as well as the use of art terms learned during class, the better your grade. Start your assignments with time in advance. Do not leave them to the last minute. This will affect the quality of your work and your grade. Most assignments require selfies, video and photographs.

Assignment 1

This assignment is divided in two: Introduction Blog and an introduction Survey.

• Assignment 1.1: Introduction Blog questions to be completed as a graded discussion
• Assignment 1.2: Survey to be completed and submitted. Agreement form to be signed and submitted.

Details for this assignment can be found posted on Blackboard under the Home Page.

Assignment 2

Explore an Exhibition/Reaction on a Video. Discuss your reaction to the show in general and pick one work of art to do a Combined Analysis (Formal analysis plus another method). Present your analysis on a Power Point presentation with recorded audio.
Visit: A major Museum of Art in your area

Details for this assignment can be found posted on Blackboard under the Home Page.

Assignment 3

Explore a cultural event IN THE ARTS. Not crafts. Attend a cultural event that is happening right now in your local area. Report your experience in writing and with a mandatory selfie at the event.
Submit on the assignment link on Blackboard.

Details for this assignment can be found posted on Blackboard under the Home Page.

Assignment 4

Explore the Art Scene. Attend an opening reception at a major gallery or museum. Create a video of your experience, upload it to YouTube and submit your link on the assignment link on Blackboard.

Details for this assignment can be found posted on Blackboard under the Home Page.

DO NOT EMAIL your assignment. You won’t get a grade if you do. Prepare with time and do not give me any “flash drive,” “computer,” “Blackboard” or any other type of excuses.

Online Discussions
There will be two types of discussions: 1.in writing and 2.under Blackboard Collaborate.
1. Write at least one paragraph for your writing discussions in response to the guided questions.
   Reply, at least 50 words for each response, to at least one of your peers for each assigned discussion.
2. Log in to Blackboard collaborate, discuss with your peers for at least 15 minutes in response to the guided questions and image postings from the Scavenger Hunt. Submit on the discussion link on Blackboard. Deadline for discussions is always 12:00 a.m. MST on Sundays.

*Details for this assignment can be found posted on Blackboard under the Home Page.*

**Extra Credit**

Quizzes count as extra credit points that will be added to the exam grades. Extra credit questions may also be present on the exams. Quizzes are due always 12:00 a.m. MST on Sundays. Make-ups for these opportunities won’t be offered. No other extra credit will be given in this class.

**Grading Standards and Criteria**

Evaluation of student performance for this course is done in the following manner:

All grades are calculated using percentages and converted into letter grades according to the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90% &amp; above</td>
<td>A (excellent)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80% &amp; below 90%</td>
<td>B (above average)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70% &amp; below 80%</td>
<td>C (average)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60% &amp; below 70%</td>
<td>D (below average)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 60%</td>
<td>F (unsatisfactory, failing)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asgmt. 1</th>
<th>Asgmt. 2</th>
<th>Asgmt. 3</th>
<th>Asgmt. 4</th>
<th>Discuss</th>
<th>Exam 1</th>
<th>Exam 2</th>
<th>Exam 3</th>
<th>Exam 4</th>
<th>Final Average</th>
<th>Letter grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>87.7</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>86.96</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Exams and participation assignments will be **averaged** together in order to get the final class grade. This course will not be graded with a fractional scale. You will not receive a plus or minus grade.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Students who do not earn a final average of at least 70% (C) will not pass this course and will be required to repeat it. Students who do not perform well on Exam 1 should contact me immediately.

**Course Policies**

**Attendance and Conduct**

Virtual Attendance, participation and appropriate conduct during discussions are considered performance criteria for this class. Participants are expected to complete all modules, discussions, and activities within. Failure to perform to required standards will result in strong grade penalties and may result in failure of this course.

**Conduct in the Online Classroom:**

The same guidelines followed in a face to face classroom should be followed in the online classroom plus specific rules required for an online environment. Please follow the rules of Netiquette stated on the last page of the syllabus. Also, refer to Student Expectations and Responsibilities. Persistent disruptive behavior may result in an inquiry conducted through the Office of the Dean of Students, disciplinary action, or failure of this course.
**Conduct During Exams**
The following policy for conduct during exams will be rigorously enforced. Non-compliance could result in an inquiry conducted through the Office of the Dean of Students, failure of the course, or the student being placed on probation.

- No talking or communicating in any manner with another person during the exam.
- Do not refer to study materials during the exam.
- No electronics allowed during the exam.

**Late Assignments and Make-up work**
Scheduled assignments are due on time. Assignments turned in after the dead line will have 5 points deducted for every day that the assignment is late. *Assignments will be only accepted for the next 7 days for a grade.* Assignments turned after the 4th day will receive a grade of 50 no matter what, if the assignment is not turned in it will be graded with a zero.

Requests for makeup exams will be granted only with appropriate documentation and by arrangement and approval of the instructor.

A student making a request for a makeup exam must meet one of the following criteria:

- Student cannot take the exam due to his/her serious illness or grave illness of his/her child; the makeup request must be accompanied by a doctor’s note. Routine doctor and dentist appointments are not excused.
- Student cannot take the exam due to a family emergency or death in the immediate family; documentation of the situation must be provided.
- Student cannot take the exam due to participation as a representative of UTEP in an off-campus event, such as an athletic event, debate or field trip. Instructor approval of the absence must be obtained prior to student participation in the event.

Makeups for the **first three exams will be given during the scheduled final exam** time; they may or may not follow the objective format used for regularly scheduled exams. **No makeups will be given** for the final exam, no matter what. This is the Art Department policy. No makeups will be given for quizzes or discussions. Students who cannot commit to the rigors of this course should take it at another time.

**Communication with the instructor.**

**Remind for emergencies and personal issues.**
This is a text message service that keeps the phone numbers hidden and it is private. You are only texting the instructor. Use the software for emergencies. i.e. My water broke and won’t be able to take the exam. Could I get a make up for it? Or when you need a quick and fast answer. i.e. I am about to buy tickets for a play. Will it count for assignment 3?

Do not use Remind to ask me about a due date or if I have your exam grade. This is clearly stated on the Tentative Schedule and on My Grades on Blackboard. Please keep in mind that I have a life and I teach other classes face to face. If I am in one of those activities, I won’t be able to text back immediately. Have patience. I will try to get back to you as soon as possible. If you text me after 9:00 pm you probably will get your answer the next day.

To access the service: Text from your phone @utartexplo to the following number 810-10

**Remind** can be downloaded free from the Google Play Store or the Apple App Store.

**Blackboard Messages (email)**
**Do not** send me emails through the regular UTEP email. It is usually very crowded with College information and is easy to miss emails send from the students. Please only use the email system provided
by Blackboard. That will assure a prompt response. Sometimes it may take me up to 48 hours to answer you back, so please prepare with time. If you need a faster answer, please text me instead.

This is also a private channel. Here you can ask me questions that are not urgent, make appointments to talk to me outside office hours, and send me images or comments if you like.

**Student Expectations & Responsibilities**

- You will log into Blackboard on a daily basis to complete course work, check for communication, and/or take quizzes.
- You will respect your learning environment, instructor, and classmates:
  - You will follow Netiquette guidelines
  - You will exhibit appropriate and civil behavior at all times. Disorderly conduct will result in a possible referral to the Chair of the Art Department or the Dean of Students
  - You will respect others’ opinions even if you disagree with them.
  - You will use respectful and proper language when communicating with your instructor and/or classmates.
  - You will use proper communication skills in your writing
  - Always use proper grammar, spelling, sentence structure and organization in your writing.
- You will take ownership of your learning experience. Grades are not given, they are earned.
  - The effort you put forth in the course will determine your final grade.
  - Your current course grade will always be available through My Grades on Blackboard.

If you are struggling in class, do not hesitate to contact me. Do not wait until the end of the term to ask for help.

**Instructor Expectations & Responsibilities**

- Instructor will provide an encouraging and respectful class environment.
- Instructor will cover the material outlined in the course calendar and uphold the stated policies on assignments, tests, and other items outlined in the syllabus.
- Instructor will grade fairly and keep you informed of your progress in class by returning graded work in a timely manner. (About two weeks or so after the deadline of the assignment, about one week after the deadline of the exam or quiz.)
- Instructor will be available online for assistance and or clarification.

**How to be successful in Art Exploration**

- Follow instructions carefully.
- Keep your “Tentative Weekly Schedule” at hand and follow it carefully.
- Do not let a lot of content to accumulate and try to cram it two days before the exam. That won’t work.
- Do your assignments, lectures and activities on a timely manner.
- Be aware of the due dates for exams and assignments.
- Submit your work on time
- Follow the order of the Weekly Modules
- If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me through Remind or Blackboard Mail.
Steps to take

- The first thing to do is to read the Welcome Module located under the Navigation Menu under “Modules.” Write any questions you have and post them on the Questions Board if you do.
- Access the Modules under the Navigation Menu. Adhere to the following instructions:

Instructions for Modules on Blackboard

- The learning modules will be appearing every week for your study. You will see the five weeks at a time under the modules.
- You have a “Tentative Weekly Schedule” which you should follow along with the Weekly Modules. The weeks will be marked “01/14” “01/21” etc. on both documents.
- Inside each module, there are items for readings, lectures, and videos you need to study in order, as well as assignments or quizzes/exams.
- You start with the “Week 01/14” then follow each item in order: Welcome to Art Exploration, Instructions, Download the Syllabus from Blackboard, Books Required, etc.
- Make sure to mark your progress as “Done or View.” If you don’t Blackboard won’t allow you to see the next week.
- Study all the documents, do the readings, watch the videos or PowerPoint presentations, take the exams and do your weekly work.
- Take notes.
- Then you continue with all the other weekly modules: 01/21, 01/28, etc.
- I recommend to do the modules items in order, but you can organize your time according to your needs, starting on the second week of classes.
- Weekly Modules will be closing every two weeks as we advance in the semester. In that way, you will still be able to access past information if you missed it.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Instructor Response Time:

- Email: <48 hours
- Remind Texts: <24 hours
- Grading and Feedback on Assignment in Canvas: <before the beginning of the week after the due date of the assignment.

Working face to face schedule for Spring 2018:

[Calendar Image]
Incompletes, Withdrawals, Pass/Fail Policies
Incompletes or I grades will be considered for students completing satisfactory or better work and having serious, legitimate situations beyond their control requiring additional time to complete the course requirements. All I grades are given at the discretion of the instructor and the approval of the Department chair.

Students hold the full responsibility for withdrawing from this course if that procedure is elected. Withdrawals must be completed on or before the final date to drop a course with a W. Students missing this deadline will be issued a grade for their performance in the course.

Art 3300 is a grade-based course and is not available for audit or pass/fail options.

Plagiarism/Academic Dishonesty Statement
Cheating/Plagiarism: Cheating is unethical and not acceptable. Plagiarism is using information or original wording in a paper without giving credit to the source of that information or wording: it is also not acceptable. Do not submit work under your name that you did not do yourself. You may not submit work for this class that you did for another class. If you are found to be cheating or plagiarizing, you will be subject to disciplinary action, per UTEP catalog policy. Refer to: http://www.utep.edu/dos/acadintg.htm for further information.

Disabilities Statement
I will make any reasonable accommodations for students with limitations due to disabilities, including learning disabilities. Please see me personally before or after class in the first two weeks or make an appointment, to discuss any special needs you might have. If you have a documented disability and require specific accommodations, you will need to contact the Division of Student Affairs in the East Union Bldg., Room 301 within the first two weeks of classes. The Division of Student Affairs can also be reached in the following ways:

Website: https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/
Phone: (915) 747-5076 voice or TTY Fax: (915) 747-5476
E-Mail: studentaffairs@utep.edu

NETIQUETTE GUIDE FOR ONLINE COURSES
It is important to recognize that the online classroom is in fact a classroom, and certain behaviors are expected when you communicate with both your peers and your instructors. These guidelines for online behavior and interaction are known as netiquette.

SECURITY
• Remember that your password is the only thing protecting you from pranks or more serious harm.
• Don’t share your password with anyone
• Change your password if you think someone else might know it
• Always logout when you are finished using the system

GENERAL GUIDELINES
When communicating online, you should always:
• Treat instructor with respect, even in email or in any other online communication
• Always use your professors’ proper title: Dr. or Prof., or if you in doubt use Mr. or Ms.
• Unless specifically invited, don’t refer to them by first name.
• Use clear and concise language
• Remember that all college level communication should have correct spelling and grammar
• Avoid slang terms such as “wassup?” and texting abbreviations such as “u” instead of “you”
• Use standard fonts such as Times New Roman and use a size 12 or 14 pt. font
• Avoid using the caps lock feature AS IT CAN BE INTERPRETED AS YELLING
• Limit and possibly avoid the use of emoticons
• Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm as tone is sometimes lost in an email or discussion post and your message might be taken seriously or offensive
• Be careful with personal information (both yours and other’s)
• Do not send confidential patient information via e-mail

EMAIL NETIQUETTE
When you send an email to your instructor, teaching assistant, or classmates, you should:
• Use a descriptive subject line
• Be brief
• Avoid attachments unless you are sure your recipients can open them
• Avoid HTML in favor of plain text
• Sign your message with your name and return e-mail address
• Think before you send the e-mail to more than one person. Does everyone really need to see your message?
• Be sure you REALLY want everyone to receive your response when you click, “reply all”
• Be sure that the message author intended for the information to be passed along before you click the “forward” button

MESSAGE BOARD NETIQUETTE AND GUIDELINES
When posting on the Discussion Board in your online class, you should:
• Make posts that are on topic and within the scope of the course material
• Take your posts seriously and review and edit your posts before sending
• Be as brief as possible while still making a thorough comment
• Always give proper credit when referencing or quoting another source
• Be sure to read all messages in a thread before replying
• Don’t repeat someone else’s post without adding something of your own to it
• Avoid short, generic replies such as, “I agree.” You should include why you agree or add to the previous point
• Always be respectful of others’ opinions even when they differ from your own
• When you disagree with someone, you should express your differing opinion in a respectful, non-critical way
• Do not make personal or insulting remarks
• Be open-minded