Art 3300-Art Exploration
CRN-31898-Section-001
Summer I 2025
Online-Asynchronous (No scheduled meeting times)
Instructor-Mariah Chase
Contact Information: mlchase@utep.edu
Virtual Office Hours-By Appointment

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 an art exhibition venue (art gallery, art museum, etc.) 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 thematical art historical study of these styles, students will devote several weeks to the study of the fundamental concepts and terminology of art.

The study of art is the study of the human condition. Please understand that, while art with political, sexual, and religious content will be discussed in this class, you are not expected to subscribe to the belief system(s) endorsed by the artists and authors we study. Also, please note that the human body (both male and female) is a constant source of imagery for artists throughout time, so lectures may include views of nudity.

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 way they reflect personal and cultural values.
experience in the formal and iconographic analysis of art objects.

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.

Textbook-

You will be required to purchase, ***Gateways to Art,* 4th edition** by DeWitte, Larmann and Shields, Norton (ISBN **978-0500845073)** for this course. You have many options of where to buy or rent this textbook. Our textbook is available at the Campus Bookstore as well as on Amazon. (Amazon is usually considerably cheaper). You may purchase or rent a hard copy or e-book.

Email Etiquette-

When in doubt, refer to your syllabus/course schedule FIRST, and then feel free to email me if you still have questions. Please do not hesitate to email me (anytime) if you need help with any course materials or concepts. I will respond to emails Monday-Fridays within 24 hours. I will not check my email regularly over the weekends. You must email me using your UTEP email account. I cannot accept emails from a personal account. **Please include the CRN-31898 in the subject line of all emails.**

Online Course Expectations-

You are responsible for keeping up with ALL assignments, readings, and participation. The dates for all assignments are listed in this syllabus. Please adjust your schedule accordingly. Think of your course work as your job because it is. You are here to better yourself and your future, please take it seriously. Please note that online classes require the same amount of work as a face-to-face class. Keep in mind that an art class is as difficult as any other. This is not an easy "A" class. Please organize yourself accordingly to be successful in this class.

Drop Policy-

I will not drop any student for non-attendance or non-completion of assignments. Failure to attend class, and complete assignments will result in an F. **The last day to drop with a "W" will be June 30th.**

Important Dates-

June 9th-Classes begins.
June 11th-Census Day.
June 19th-Juneteenth Holiday
June 30th-Summer Drop/Withdrawal Deadline
July 4th-Independence Holiday
July 7th-Last day of regular classes.
July 8th-Final Exams.
Our Final Exam will be due no later than 1159pm on Tuesday, July 8th.

Technology-

Course content is delivered via the Internet through the Blackboard learning management system. Ensure your UTEP e-mail account is working and that you have access to the Web and a stable web browser. Google Chrome and Safari are the best

browsers for Blackboard; other browsers may cause complications. When having technical difficulties, update your browser, clear your cache, or try switching to another browser.

You will need to have access to a computer/laptop. I do NOT recommend trying to do all your coursework with your phone. UTEP has the option to check out a laptop for students. Please follow this link for more information.

https://www.utep.edu/technologysupport/tscenter/tsc_eqcheckout.html

You will also need word-processing software. If you do not have word-processing software, you can download Word and other Microsoft Office programs (including Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, and more). Just follow this link for more information.

https://www.utep.edu/technologysupport/servicecatalog/soft_allsoftware.html

IMPORTANT: If you encounter technical difficulties beyond your scope of troubleshooting, please contact the UTEP Help Desk as they are trained specifically in assisting with the technological needs of students. I can suggest a few tricks that might help but the Help Desk is much better equipped than I am to assist you!

https://www.utep.edu/technologysupport/

Make-ups, and Late Assignments-

I will only accept late work with a documented excuse that would cover the previous SIX days. All assignments will be open and available to complete anytime during that SIX-day period prior to the due date. Documented excuses need to be provided to me via email immediately. I will not accept an excuse any more than 24 hours after the missed assignment. No exceptions.

What is a "documented" excuse?

1. Proof from a doctor that you were unable to complete said assignment because of a medical issue.
2. Proof from an UTEP organization stating that you were unavailable because of a sanctioned college activity.
3. Proof of military service that prevented you from completing assignments.

Netiquette-

As we know, sometimes communication online can be challenging. It's possible to miscommunicate what we mean or to misunderstand what our classmates mean given the lack of body language and immediate feedback. Therefore, please keep these netiquette (network etiquette) guidelines in mind. Failure to observe them may result in disciplinary action.

1. Always consider the audience. This is a college-level course; therefore, all communication should reflect polite consideration of others' ideas.
2. Respect and courtesy must be always provided to classmates and the instructor. No harassment or inappropriate postings will be tolerated.
3. When reacting to someone else's message, address the ideas, not the person. Post only what anyone would comfortably state in a face-to-face situation.
4. Blackboard is not a public internet venue; all postings to it should be considered private and confidential. Whatever is posted in these online spaces is intended for classmates and professor only. Please do not copy documents and paste them to a publicly accessible website, blog, or other space.

Plagiarism/Academic Dishonesty Statement-

Cheating and plagiarism are not acceptable practices. Copying and pasting your answers from a source other than your own is plagiarism. I will not accept any work that is not in your own words. Plagiarism is using thoughts or ideas that are not your own without being given proper credit. If you are concerned that you might inadvertently plagiarize, please do not hesitate to ask me. If you are found to be cheating or plagiarizing, you will be subject to disciplinary action according to the UTEP catalog policy. If you plagiarize, you will receive a zero for that assignment, as well as possibly face disciplinary action as stated in the Student Code of Conduct.

For more information on plagiarism and academic dishonesty—
http://sa.utep.edu/osccr/academic-integrity/

Students with Disabilities-

If you are a documented student with CASS, you must email me in the first week of class to discuss your needs. It is your responsibility to meet with me.

Students with disabilities can access information about The Center for Accommodations and Support Services at: http://sa.utep.edu/cass/
or call 915-747- 5148 for more information.

Course Requirements and Grading Scale-

Introduction Discussion-50 points
Exams-100 points each/200 points total
Museum Experience Essay-100 points
Final Discussion-50 points
Total Points Possible-400
All due dates listed are in the course schedule.

To calculate your grade at any point:

Refer to the syllabus and add up the points that are possible at that point (do not use the final point total). Then add up the points you earned on the assignments. Then take your point total and divide it by the possible total and you will find out your percentage at that point. If you need help with this, please let me know. I do caution you; many students spend more time calculating their grade and what they need to earn to pass. If they had spent that time on the materials and the assignments, they would not need to worry about what grade they had. :)

90%-100%-A 89%-80%-B 79%-70%-c 69%-60%-D 59%-0%-F

How to Succeed

There are several things you can do to succeed in this course:

1. **Read EVERYTHING that I post for you.**
2. **Complete the assigned readings in your textbook.**
3. **Review all PowerPoint lectures.**
4. **Watch all of the films I assign.**
5. **Complete all assignments to the best of your abilities.**
6. **Ask for help if you need it!**
7. **Be motivated. Excuses don't help anyone. ☺**

There will be no opportunities for extra credit. Don't ask. Make every exam and assignment count!

Course Schedule-This schedule lists ALL readings and assignment due dates. All readings listed are from your textbook. All Dates are subject to change.

Week 1

Monday, June 9th-Sunday, June 15th

Syllabus/Course Requirements
Read-Introduction-pgs. 16-32.
Read-Fundamentals-Chapters 1.1-1.10-pgs. 34-176.
Review PowerPoint Lecture-Introduction.
Review-PowerPoint Lectures-Chapters 1.1-1.10.
Introduction Discussion due Sunday, June 15th by 1159pm.

Week 2

Monday, June 16th-Sunday, June 22nd

Read-Chapter 4.1 Art and the Community-pgs. 540-553.
Chapter 4.2 Spirituality and Art-pgs. 554-567.
Chapter 4.3 The Cycle of Life: Nature and Time-pgs. 568-579.
Review-PowerPoint Lectures-Chapters 4.1-4.3.
Exam 1 (See "Exam 1 Review Sheet" for details.) due Sunday, June 22nd by 1159pm.

Week 3
Monday, June 23rd-Sunday, June 29th
Read-Chapter 4.4 Art, Science and Mathematics-pgs. 580-591.
Chapter 4.5 Art of Political Leaders and Rulers-pgs. 592-603.
Chapter 4.6 Art, War, and Healing-pgs. 604-617.
Review-PowerPoint Lectures-Chapters 4.4-4.6.
Museum Experience Essay Due SUNDAY, June 29th by 1159pm. No exceptions!

Week 4
Monday, June 30th-Sunday, July 6th
Read-Chapter 4.7 Art of Protest and Social Conscience-pgs. 618-629.
Chapter 4.8 The Body in Art-pgs. 630-647.
Chapter 4.9 Identity, Race, and Gender in Art-pgs. 648-659.
Review-PowerPoint Lectures-Chapters 4.7-4.9.
Final Discussion due Sunday, July 6th by 1159pm.

Week 5
Monday, July 7th
Final Exam Available

Tuesday, July 8th
Final Exam Due TONIGHT by 1159pm! No exceptions!

All Dates are subject to change. :)