湖北工業大學
HUBEI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Course Title	Western Art History I: Ancient to Medieval
Course Code	ARTH 1103
Semester	Spring 2027
Course Length	8 Weeks, 60 Contact Hours
Credits	4
Instructor	TBA
Office	TBA
Email	TBA
Prerequisite	N/A
Antirequisite	ARTH 1101 Western Art History I: Ancient to Medieval (4 Weeks)

Course Description:

The subject of this course is the history of Western art and architecture from Prehistory through the Middle Ages. We will examine the form, style, function, and meaning of important objects and monuments of the past, and consider these in their social, historical, and cultural contexts. A chronological study will allow us to recognize when, where, and by whom a given object was produced. Once these decisive factors are established, we may try to determine why the object was made, what it meant in its time, place, and culture, and whose ideology it served. Since we are dealing with visual information, the primary goals of this class are to learn how to look, describe, and analyze what we see. The knowledge obtained in this introductory course will also guide students in their own creative endeavors.

Course Goals:

Students who successfully complete this course will demonstrate competency in the following general education core goals:

- **Critical thinking skills** – Students will engage in creative and/or innovative thinking, and/or inquiry, analysis, evaluation, synthesis of information, organizing concepts, and constructing solutions.
- **Communication skills** – Students will demonstrate effective written, oral, and visual communication.
- **Teamwork** – Students will demonstrate the ability to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal and consider different points of view.
- **Social responsibility** – Students will demonstrate intercultural competency and civic knowledge by engaging effectively in local, regional, national, and global communities.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- identify the stylistic qualities of a work of art and classification according to the time it was made and place of origin;
- explain the intrinsic meanings of a work of art, the subject matter, and symbolism, which reveal the basic themes and concepts of the period to which it belongs;
- frame the general historical context of a work of art, considering the cultural, political, economic, moral, religious, and social ideas of a period;
- articulate ways of looking and creative inquiry to interpret and describe what is seen accurately with correct, specialized vocabulary;
- apply critical thinking to the art historical interpretation of works.

Textbooks/Supplies/Materials/Equipment/ Technology or Technical Requirements:

Gardner, Helen, and Fred S. Kleiner. *Gardner's Art Through the Ages: The Western Perspective, Volume I.* 15th ed., Cengage Learning.

Additional required readings (if necessary) will be announced later in class.

Course Requirements:

Attendance and Participation
The success of this course depends on students being active participants. Attendance is expected and required. Arriving late or leaving early will be counted as an absence. Leaving and returning during class time is disruptive and should be avoided.

Reading assignments
Reading assignments and lecture topics are listed in the schedule below. Read the material before each lecture so that you become familiar with terms and names and have an easier time taking notes in class. We won't discuss everything you read about in class, but the readings are designed to give you a broad background knowledge of each period. Students are encouraged to voice their opinions and participate in discussions based on being informed through reading background material. The textbooks will also give you important historical and cultural context for understanding the art of a given period.

Quizzes
There will be several short, in-class, objective quizzes. Quiz dates and content will be announced in class one or two days before the quiz. Missed quizzes cannot be made up.

Visual Analysis Paper
Students will prepare 3 analysis papers of works of art, 900 words each (about 3 double-spaced pages), based on what we've learned during this semester. The

chosen piece of art must be discussed with me in advance. More detailed information on the paper will be made available in class. Late papers will be graded down and no papers will be accepted more than one week after the due date.

Exams
Two exams will be given on the dates indicated in the schedule below and will cover material from the lectures and readings. They will consist of slide content, use of terminology, and comparison essays. The final exam will also include a cumulative essay that draws from broad issues covering the entire semester. You will only be tested on images that we have discussed in class. Essays should reflect an understanding of the readings from the required textbook.

Assessments: Activity	**Percent Contribution**
Homework Assignments	10%
Quizzes	10%
Papers (3)	30%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	30%

Grading:

Final grades will be based on the sum of all possible course points as noted above.

Grade	**Percentage of available points**
A	94-100
A-	90-93
B+	87-89
B	84-86
B-	80-83
C+	77-79
C	74-76
C-	70-73
D	64-69
D-	60-63
F	0-59

Course Schedule:
The schedule of activities is subject to change at the reasonable discretion of the instructor. Minor changes will be announced in class, major ones provided in writing.

ARTH 1103 Schedule		
Lecture	Topic	Readings
L1-5	Introduction Stone Age Ancient Near East Ancient Egypt: Old Kingdom Quiz1	*Gardner*, Ch. 1-2, Ch. 3

L6-10	Ancient Egypt: New Kingdom Prehistoric Aegean Ancient Greece: Geometric through Archaic Ancient Greece: Classical through Hellenistic Etruscan Art Quiz2 Paper1 due	*Gardner*, Ch. 5-6
L11-15	Roman Art: Republic through Early Empire Roman Art: High and Late Empire Early Christian Art Late Antiquity Quiz3 **Midterm Exam**	*Gardner*, Ch. 7-8
L16-20	Byzantine Art Islamic Art Early Medieval Art in the west Quiz4 Paper2 due	*Gardner*, Ch. 8-10
L21-25	Romanesque Art Gothic Art Late Medieval Italy Quiz5 Paper3 due **FINAL EXAM**	*Gardner*, Ch. 12-14

Accommodation Statement:

Academic accommodations may be made for any student who notifies the instructor of the need for an accommodation. It is imperative that you take the initiative to bring such needs to the instructor's attention. Students who may require assistance in emergency evacuations should contact the instructor as to the most appropriate procedures to follow.

Academic Integrity Statement

Each student is expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in academic and professional matters. The University reserves the right to take disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, against any student who is found guilty of academic dishonesty or otherwise fails to meet the standards. Any student judged to have engaged in academic dishonesty in coursework may receive a reduced or failing grade for the work in question and/or for the course.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests, or assignments; claiming credit for work not done or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students; misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or without the University; and nondisclosure or misrepresentation in filling out applications or other University records.

Other Items:

Attendance and Expectations

All students are required to attend every class, except in cases of illness, serious family concerns, or other major problems. We expect that students will arrive on time, be prepared to listen and participate as appropriate, and stay for the duration of a meeting rather than drift in or out casually. In short, we anticipate that students will show professors and fellow students maximum consideration by minimizing the disturbances that cause interruptions in the learning process. This means that punctuality is a must, that cellular phones be turned off, and that courtesy is the guiding principle in all exchanges among students and faculty. You will be responsible for the materials and ideas presented in the lecture.

Assignment Due Dates
All written assignments must be turned in at the time specified. Late assignments will not be accepted unless prior information has been obtained from the instructor. If you believe you have extenuating circumstances, please contact the instructor as soon as possible.

Make-Up Work
The instructor will not provide students with class information or make-up assignments/quizzes/exams missed due to an unexcused absence. Absences will be excused and assignments/quizzes/exams may be made up only with written documentation of an authorized absence. Every effort should be made to avoid scheduling appointments during class. An excused student is responsible for requesting any missed information from the instructor and setting up any necessary appointments outside of class.

Access, Special Needs and Disabilities
Please notify the instructor at the start of the semester if you have any documented disabilities, a medical issue, or any special circumstances that require attention, and the school will be happy to assist.