



湖北工业大学
HUBEI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Course Title	Western Art History II: Renaissance to Modern
Course Code	ARTH 1102
Semester	Spring 2026
Course Length	4 Weeks, 60 Contact Hours
Credits	4
Instructor	TBA
Office	TBA
Email	TBA
Prerequisite	N/A

Course Description:

This course serves as an introduction to the history of art, with a focus on major monuments of western artistic production. We will look into a variety of themes to make thematic connections between the major developments of the early Renaissance through modern and contemporary art. The aim of this course is two-fold: to provide students with the basic historical framework in which to contextualize works of art and major artistic movements, and to develop students' critical thinking, reading, and writing skills.

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 development of major stylistic movements and artists from the Renaissance through the modern period;

- Using art historical vocabulary, analyze the way formal elements convey meaning in a work of art;
- Analyze how the style and content of art is an expression of its historical context (political, social, religious, cultural);
- Apply knowledge of objects and styles used in earlier periods in order to interpret objects and styles of art of later periods and today.

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

1. *Kleiner, Fred S. Gardner's Art Through the Ages: The Western Perspective. Vol. 2. 15th ed. Boston: Cengage Learning, 2017.*
2. *Cole, Bruce. The Informed Eye: Understanding Masterpieces of Western Art. Lanham, MD: Ivan R. Dee, 1999.*

In addition, supplementary handouts will be provided, including a timeline, a diagram of Greek orders, and a list of modern artists and movements.

Course Requirements:

Readings

Prepared readings are drawn from a variety of museum and academic websites, and contemporary art blog sites, as well as professional publications. All readings are to be completed prior to the class meeting for which they are assigned. Always take notes on the readings as they will serve as your informational source for in-class writing, discussions, and exams.

In-Class writing

There will be a series of short writing assignments in class, which will be collected at the end of the class period. These low-stakes assignments take place 4-5 times during this semester.

Essays

Two longer essays of around 1000-1500 words (use 12-point Times New Roman font; double-spaced) will be due during the semester. These essays will allow you more time for reflection and revision on a particular topic.

Exams

We will have two exams. The midterm exam is open note, so make sure you keep up on your note-taking. The midterm exam is written and you can choose to write two shorter essays (c. 500 words) or one longer essay (c. 1000 words). There will be a selection of questions for you to choose from. The final exam will include some combination of slide identifications, multiple choice questions, short answer questions, and short and medium-length essays (including slide comparisons).

Assessments: Activity

In-Class Writing

Essays

Midterm Exam

Percent Contribution

20%

25%

20%

Final Exam

35%

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 1102 Schedule		
Lecture	Topic	Readings
L1	Introduction to Class, Syllabus	---
L2	What Came Before?: Paleolithic-Gothic review	---
	Exercise: Formal/Informal Analysis: How to Read an Image	
L3	Pre-Renaissance Italy	Chapter 14
L4	Early Renaissance Italy	Chapter 16
L5	Early Renaissance N. Europe	Chapter 15
	Quiz: Pre-Renaissance & Early Renaissance	
L6	High Renaissance Italy	Chapter 17
L7	High Renaissance Italy (Continued)	Chapter 17
	Film: The Lost daVinci	
L8	High Renaissance N. Europe & Spain	Chapter 18
L9	Baroque Italy	Chapter 19
L10	Baroque Northern Europe & Spain	Chapter 20
L11	Baroque Northern Europe	Chapter 20
L12	Neoclassicism	Chapter 21
L13	Romanticism & Western Art	Chapter 22
	MIDTERM EXAM	
L14	Realism & Early Photography	Chapter 22
L15	The Birth of "Modern Art": Manet, Impressionism	Chapter 23
	Group Exercise: The Evolution of the Human Figure	
L16	Impressionism	Chapter 23
L17	Post-Impressionism	Chapter 23
	Film: The Life and Death of Vincent van Gogh	
L18	Symbolism, Art Nouveau	Chapters 23-24
	Early 20th Century Modernism: Fauves & Ashcan School	
L19	Early 20th Century Modernism: Cubism	Chapter 24
L20	Early 20th Century Modernism: Dada & Conceptual Art	Chapter 24

L21	Early 20th Century Modernism: Surrealism	Chapter 24
L22	Regional Early 20th Century Modernism: Futurism (Italy), Americana (United States), Expressionism and "Degenerate Art" (Germany)	Chapter 24
L23	Abstract Expressionism	Chapter 25
L24	Pop Art	Chapter 25
L25	Contemporary Art	Chapter 26
	FINAL EXAM	

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, as he/she is not legally permitted to inquire. 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.