San José State University

Department of Art and Art History
ARTH 101, Introduction to the Practice of Art History, Section 1, Fall 2015

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Office Hours: MW 7:30-9:00 a.m., or by appointment
Class Days/Time: W 3:00-5:45 p.m.
Classroom: Art Building 110
Campus Emergency Number: 911

Faculty Web Page, Canvas, arth.sjsu.edu, MYSJSU Messaging

Information may be found on my faculty web page accessible through the Quick Links>Faculty Web Page links on the SJSU home page. Copies of the syllabus can be found on Canvas, arth.sjsu.edu (see below for access information), and http://www.sjsu.edu/art/documents/greensheets/.

Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, etc. may be found on the Canvas course website at www.sjsu.instructure.com. You are responsible for checking with this website frequently for announcements, information on your grades, etc.

Please be aware that you must submit your term paper on Turnitin from Canvas. This is a requirement and must be done by the beginning of class on the day the paper is due.

All reading materials and power points can be found on http://arth.sjsu.edu. This information will be provided in class.

You are also responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU for all information concerning enrollment and university issues.

Department of Art & Art History
For information about majors and minors in Art & Art History, for change of major/minor forms and a list of advisors go to the following: http://www.sjsu.edu/art/ or the Art & Art History department office in Art 116, (408) 924-4320, art@sjsu.edu.

Course Description

ARTH 101 is an introduction to the practice of art history intended for art history majors and minors and for students considering these options. The class will not be taught in a lecture format but rather will be a series of seminars focusing on different aspects of the profession of art history including, but not limited
to, the practice of art history, the role of research and writing, the organization of art history and related
disciplines, the career of art history, and the role of travel. There will be a number of guest speakers, field
trips, readings, presentations, and discussions to enhance the student’s understanding of this field.

Course Content

The theme of this semester will be portraiture and how portraits reveal much more than just a view of the
sitter. Although one can argue that portraiture is by its very nature an idealized form of art, the astute art
historian will be able to peel back the layers (of virtual paint, so to speak) and reveal the society of the
artist and his/her sitter, the society’s social mores, customs, traditions, clothing styles, societal positions,
politics, artistic styles, economy, hopes and desires, to name a few. To do this we will first explore the
art historian’s approach to art and design through practice in describing and analyzing various examples,
through practice in looking and observing, and through a brief introduction to the methods and materials
used by artists. This may include observation(s) of a working artist. This will introduce the student to the
art historian’s toolkit: research and image databases, handbooks, the language and literature of art history.

Second, the role of research and writing will be developed by selecting a portrait from one of the Bay
Area’s art museums which will be the focus of a well researched, well written paper.

Finally, we will investigate and discuss the career possibilities of those trained as art historians, artists and
those in the field of art. This will also involve an understanding of how art history is organized, including
its various areas and fields, the role of the gallery/art museum, and the importance of travel. If we are
successful in all of this, the student should have a clearer sense of where he/she is right now as an art
historian, how he/she can build upon present strengths and interests, what the steps to proceed on a
possible career path are, and where the resources for professional development can be found.

Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

Completion of this course should enable the student to improve in the following:

- Practice one’s skills in looking, thinking, researching, writing – especially about art, design and
  architecture available for first-hand viewing in the Bay Area
- Acquire practical experience with the art historian’s toolkit (research and image databases,
  handbooks, the language and literature of art history)
- Develop an overview of how and where art historians work
- Gain insights into professional practices by visiting museums, galleries, researchers, and image
  professionals
- Develop a personalized plan for pursuing and developing one’s interests in the discipline.

Course Requirements

Required text – on order at bookstore:

Required readings – on course website:
(Access to this website will be given in the seminar.)


Recommended books – on reserve in King Library:


Recommended books – good to have:


Examinations:

There will be two examinations: a midterm and a take home final. Both the midterm and the final will include essays, short questions on terminology, and short visual analyses of unknown art works. Preparation for these exams can only be obtained by ATTENDANCE in class. Because this is a seminar and we only meet once a week, missing one class will set you back an entire week.
Term Papers:

There will be two papers for this seminar. Each of these will be due by specific dates. Because I have absolutely no time to quibble, these dates are set in stone. Therefore, NO LATE PAPERS will be accepted. The Portrait Research Paper (not including its appendix) MUST be submitted by the beginning of class on the day its due on Canvas. Failure to submit by the day and time as required will reduce your grade.

1. Portrait Research Paper (see handout for specifics): Please see the schedule below for the dates for submission of the parts of the paper. Submit both versions on Canvas. Oral Presentations on this paper will begin in the latter part of the semester and continue through to the end. For Working Artists in the class, they will be able to do an accurate facsimile (in the respective medium) of a famous portrait in addition to a short paper on their research and process to recreate the portrait. They will also be required to present on their work of art (see handout for further details).

2. Career Reflections Assignment (see handout for specifics): This will be due in the latter part of the semester in class. At this time we will also have a short discussion from each person on the information that you discovered. We will also have a presentation from the Career Center on careers in the arts which will help you with this assignment.

Format for All Papers:

a. **Title Page** – your name, class and section time, and instructor's name AND assignment description (e.g. Portrait Research Paper Version 1), include WORD COUNT. (Do not repeat this information on page 1 of the papers.)

b. **Follow WORD COUNT requirements per assignment.**

c. **Font** - 12 point Times New Roman (nothing larger).

d. **Double spaced; one-inch margins.**

e. **STAPLE!** Do not use a folder.

f. For papers requiring an Appendix, include an **Appendix** with illustrations (see handout). For the Portrait Research Paper the Appendix will contain your museum ticket or some sort of proof of attendance (a photo of you standing next to the work of art, for example), image of the particular work of art, information from the museum about the work of art – all the information OR you can include a photo of the information from the wall plaque, size of the work of art (if nothing is given on the wall plaque, guessimate), and details such as artist, title, period, date, location (if given), and medium. Submit an electronic copy WITHOUT the Appendix to TURNTIN.com.

g. **Source citations:** You MUST use CITATIONS; you can use EITHER MLA or CMS (Chicago Manual of Style – for those of you majoring in art history, this is required of you). You will be marked down for improper citations, and ignorance will not be considered an excuse. If you do not understand how or when to add a citation, see Barnet’s *A Short Guide to Writing About Art*, Harvey’s *Writing with Sources*, the links on the class website, or ask me. See below for a discussion on plagiarism/citations. Do NOT include your citations, bibliography/works cited page when you submit to Turnitin.

h. **No Late Papers will be accepted.** Each hard copy of the paper is due at the beginning of class on the day assigned. Each ELECTRONIC copy is due by the beginning of class on the day assigned.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a serious academic offense with grave consequences. Please be scrupulous about documenting your sources. You are plagiarizing when you fail to cite your sources so that someone else’s words and ideas appear to be your own. Here are three common ways people plagiarize:

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(1) forgetting to put quotes around words or sentences you have copied directly into your text from another source, even if you’ve changed the word order;
(2) summarizing or paraphrasing in your own words the work of someone else without giving the source;
(3) borrowing facts from a text that are not common knowledge (a fact is considered common knowledge if it appears without a reference to its author in three other general texts). Remember, information taken from your textbook, class lectures, or readings must be documented unless you are sure it is common knowledge.

Citations: When you use information from your textbook, journals (from JSTOR or Art Full Text), books, the wall text plaques at the museum, docents, readings, class lectures, or the website of the museum, you must document your sources. Even if you paraphrase you must place a citation at the end of the sentence (either in the form of a superscript number – use numbers consecutively – do not repeat numbers per CMS style, or an in-text citation per MLA style; for CMS please use ENDNOTES not footnotes). Also include a bibliography (CMS) or Works Cited page (MLA), which is another separate sheet of paper attached AFTER the endnotes.

AVOID the following: Wikipedia, Answers.com, About.com, etc., BLOGS, ENCYCLOPEDIAS (even GROVE/OXFORD Art Online – which may only be used as a starting point), and any information from sources that are speculative/non-scholarly, etc. Be a careful researcher, be SKEPTICAL about sources unless they are peer-reviewed.

Computer Problems?
Viruses, hard drive crashes, disk failures, program inconsistencies, printer out of ink, printer out of paper, inability to access internet, “the dog ate my assignment,” I’ve heard them all. Get a jump/flash drive and save your paper on it. You can print it out, or work on it anywhere a computer is available. Check out the Computer Center at the Student Union: http://as.sjsu.edu/ascsc/index.jsp, if you need computer assistance.

No email or campus mail deliveries will be accepted. NO EMAILED papers will be accepted; no papers under the door of my office nor turned into the Art Office or the Visual Resources Library. Be forewarned: don’t rely solely on your disk copy or hard drive for your copy. Print them out to be safe.

All papers are DUE by BEGINNING of class. NO LATE PAPERS. No excuses accepted. Don’t forget to submit the papers to TURNITIN.com.

Oral Presentation and Visiting Lecturers
The portrait research paper will be accompanied by an individual presentation. This is an opportunity for the students to share their work, ask help from their peers, and practice the art of presenting in class. Guidelines as to how to conduct each presentation will be handed out separately and placed on the web site.

Throughout the semester we will have a number of guests visiting and sharing their expertise and experiences with us. After each oral presentation and guest lecture, we will discuss the presentations and evaluate what we heard. Information given in these presentations MAY be part of the exams. Therefore, it is important for those in attendance to take notes. If you are late for a presentation or a guest lecture, please stay outside until the presentation is over and you hear the applause.

Class Participation
Part of your grade will be based on your participation in class, class discussions, short essays as responses to the discussions/lectures, and class group work (including your audience participation in the oral presentations). Each student will be evaluated on his/her active participation in these activities. Because this is a small class you will quickly get to know the other students and should be comfortable to ARTH 101, Introduction to the Practice of Art History, p. 5
express your views: no viewpoint is trivial or unimportant. It will be my goal to make this class an interesting and comfortable one for all students to share their thoughts and ideas.

Weekly Group Leaders

Each week of the semester will include a number of specific readings. At the beginning of the semester, I will assign groups of students to head the weekly readings’ discussions. This will require that each week’s reading group will prepare a list of questions (in-depth and requiring serious attention) for the students. That means that the reading groups have to prepare their questions AHEAD of TIME and send them to me by Thursday of the week preceding the following week’s discussion. I will then put them on Canvas so that everyone will have a chance to prepare.

Grades for this part of the course will require solid and in-depth questions, and solid and in-depth responses on the part of the students. Not participating (including absences, unless for serious reasons) means that you did NOT read the questions and are not prepared. This will reduce your overall class participation grade.

Your participation is 20% of your final grade.

Library Liaison

Our library Liaison is Rebecca Kohn. She can be reached via email at Rebecca.Kohn@sjsu.edu and by phone at (408) 808-2007. Her office is located on the 4th floor of the King Library and she welcomes students to contact her with research questions. Art and Art History Library Resources are available online at: libguides.sjsu.edu/Art. All of the University Library Resources can be accessed at: libguides.sjsu.edu/az.php

Classroom Protocol

Please arrive on time and take your seat BEFORE the seminar starts. If you are late, please enter quietly so as not to disturb me or the other students. IF you are late for a GUEST LECTURE or a STUDENT PRESENTATION, please wait for the applause. If you are consistently late, I will need to see you to discuss your further continuation in the class. Please turn OFF your cell phone. Please turn DOWN your computer screen. Respect your fellow students.

We will have a sign-up sheet on the first day of class to ask that each student pick a date when they will bring some snacks for the class. Because our seminar is scheduled in the late afternoon and will run into the evening, we will all need something to re-energize ourselves. Simple snacks are fine enough. Our last day of class, however, on Wednesday, December 2, will be our End-of-Semester Feast which all students will be required to support.

Get to Know Me

My office hours are for you; I can stay after our seminar to discuss items in further depth, but NOT all the time. Make sure you get to know me during the semester. I’m here to help you and sometimes with a bit of advice I can make your studying more successful.

Grading

Each exam, 15% (total of 30%); Portrait Research Paper and presentation, 30%; Career Reflections Assignment, 20%; class participation, 20%.

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The following is the grade scale for the final course grade based on percentages: 95-100, A; 90-94, A-; 86-89, B+; 83-85, B; 79-82, B-; 75-78, C+; 72-74, C; 68-71, C-; 65-67, D+; 62-64, D; 59-61, D-; below 58, F.

Any material not returned to you in class will be available after the end of the school year. If you would like me to mail your papers/essays, please leave with me a 9x12 self-addressed stamped envelope (4 stamps).

The New University “Recommendation” on a Grade of “Incomplete”

The days when you could miss some major assignments during the semester, and work out a deal to get an incomplete and finish them later, are at an end. In “days of olde,” it was not uncommon for students to arrange to finish work long after the semester ended by taking an “Incomplete” instead of a letter grade. The University is cracking down on this practice. So, know this from the beginning: you must complete and submit all work on schedule. Anything missing will be counted as a “0” and there will be no opportunity to submit it after the due date.

You should know what the assignments are and when they are due. Everything is listed on this syllabus. The website has all the handouts and readings. Check your grades on the Canvas website throughout the semester to see what you are missing. The semester ends when the semester ends, tears and excuses will not change your grade.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday, Aug. 26  FIRST DAY of Instruction
Tuesday, Sept. 1   Last Day to Drop without “W”
Wednesday, Sept. 9 Last Day to Add
Wednesday, Sept. 30 Portrait – Choose your Topic - DUE
Wednesday, Oct. 21 Portrait Research Paper, Part I due
Wednesday, Oct. 28 Midterm (bring a blue/green book to the exam)
Wednesday, Nov. 11 Veterans’ Day celebrated – No Class
Wednesday, Nov. 18 Annotated Bibliography Due; Begin Oral Presentations
Wednesday, Nov. 25 Career Reflections Assignment Due
Nov. 26-27  Thanksgiving Holidays (Campus Closed)
Monday, Dec. 2  Portrait Research Paper/Artwork and Paper Due;
LAST DAY OF INSTRUCTION

Friday, Dec. 11  FINAL EXAMINATION: 12:15-2:30 p.m. (Bring a green/blue book.)

Suggested Art Museums

De Young Museum
San Francisco, CA

Legion of Honor
San Francisco, CA

Cantor Museum at Stanford University (free)
Palo Alto, California

Asian Art Museum
San Francisco, CA

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA)
San Francisco, CA

Oakland Museum
Oakland, CA

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NOTE: You may wish to visit more than one museum while making up your mind since you will submit a well-written paper if you work on something you truly like and find interesting.

*ALWAYS call or check on line before you go to a museum to find out what is on exhibit and when the museum is open! Most museums are closed on Mondays, some on Tuesdays. Most museums have one free day each month and they are open late at least one night each week. Reduced student admission is available as are membership passes. CHECK BEFORE YOU GO!

University Policies

General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU’s policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises. See University Policy S90–5 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf. More detailed information on a variety of related topics is available in the SJSU catalog, at http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html. In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not serve to address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as a next step.

Academic integrity

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The Student Conduct and Ethical Development website is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

University Policy S12-7, http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf, requires students to obtain instructor’s permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

- “Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor’s permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”
  - The instructor of this green sheet will only allow audio recordings within class and only through prior verbal permission. No video recording of the lecture is allowed without prior written permission.
  - In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well.
- “Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”
Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) at http://www.sjsu.edu/aec to establish a record of their disability.

Accommodation to Students' Religious Holidays

San José State University shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor, in writing, about such holidays before the add deadline at the start of each semester. If such holidays occur before the add deadline, the student must notify the instructor, in writing, at least three days before the date that he/she will be absent. It is the responsibility of the instructor to make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed. See University Policy S14-7 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center at http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/ located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library. A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

SJSU Peer Connections

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of their services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals.

In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics including preparing for the Writing Skills Test (WST), improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other related topics. A computer lab and study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10th and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit Peer Connections website at http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu for more information.
**SJSU Writing Center**

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the [Writing Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter) at http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter. For additional resources and updated information, follow the Writing Center on Twitter and become a fan of the SJSU Writing Center on Facebook. (Note: You need to have a QR Reader to scan this code.)

**SJSU Counseling Services**

The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7th Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit Counseling Services website at [http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling).