

San José State University
Department of Art and Art History
ARTH 70A, Section 2, Art History, Prehistoric to Medieval
Spring Semester 2020

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Mariachiara Gasparini, Ph.D.
Office Location:	Art Building 117
Email:	mariachiara.gasparini@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Tu-Th 9:30-10:30 or by appointment
Class Days/Time:	Tu-Th 15:00 – 16:15 p.m.
Classroom:	Art Building 133
Telephone	(408) 924-8236

Units: 3

Additional Contact Information

- * E-mail is generally the best method of contact during non-office hours.
- * **Please allow 48-hours for an e-mail response.**
- * Emergency: 911 Campus Escort: 42222
- * Individuals with disabilities may contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC), Administrative Building 110, 408/ 924-6000, for a variety of formats such as Braille, large print, sign interpreters, assistive listening devices, audio tape and accommodations for physical accessibility.

Course Format

Lecture

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

The faculty web page can be reached through the Quick Links>Faculty Web Page links on the SJSU home page. Copies of the syllabus can be found on Canvas, <http://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.

Course Description

This course provides an introduction to the arts of the pre-global western world from the Paleolithic through the end of the Medieval period. The purpose of this course is to increase your knowledge of artistic trends in the western world, and enhance your appreciation of the ways in which artistic developments reflect contemporary social, political, and religious trends within a given culture. Students will examine the interaction of analytical and creative processes in the production and perception of such works, and the significance of the historical and

cultural contexts in which the works are created and interpreted. Students will be exposed to works of art from a variety of media expressing the diversity of cultural, religious and social conditions including, but not limited to, works of architecture, painting, sculpture, textiles. **The course will include weekly assignments (as quizzes, sharing writings and essay-questions) five quizzes (one will be counted as midterm), a mandatory academy writing workshop, and a final paper on objects held in a local museum of your choice.** Other possible extra assignments will be determined and might be assigned during the semester.

GE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

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

LO 1: recognize aesthetic qualities and processes that characterize works of the human intellect and imagination.

LO 2: respond to works of art both analytically and affectively in writing and class discussions.

LO 3: write clearly and effectively.

Course Content Learning Objectives

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

LO 4: experience significant works of art in the classroom and in exhibitions.

LO 5: understand the historical or cultural contexts in which specific works of art were created.

LO 6: recognize the accomplishments of and issues related to women and diverse cultures reflected in these works of art.

Required and Recommended Texts

M. Stokstad and M.W. Cothren. *Art History*, Vol. 1. Sixth Edition. Pearson, 2018 (REVEL ACCESS CARD REQUIRED - Online or Spartan Bookstore).

Also, in order to write good papers, you can refer to:

Henry M. Sayre. *Writing About Art*. Online Edition 2012 (in Files in Canvas).

Other readings, assignments, videos, and extraneous information can be found under the weekly modules on Canvas.

How to access Canvas: Go to <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/ec/canvas/> and use your SJSU ID and password to log in.

For problems and issues contact the Help Desk at 408-924-2377.

Optional materials and supplementary learning materials, such as web resources and writing guides will be available through the Canvas course website during the semester.

Library Liaison

Gareth Scott

email: gareth.scott@sjsu.edu

phone: (408) 808-2094

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library

4th Floor Administration Offices

Art and Art History Resources: <https://libguides.sjsu.edu/Art>

Department Advising

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

Course Requirements and Assignments

Please be on time and do not leave early. You will have in-class assignments; therefore, it is to your advantage to attend regularly. I understand that there may be occasions when you are sick, or you have an obligation that you feel you need to prioritize over this class on a given day, but please send me a quick note **IN ADVANCE (at least 24 hours prior to class)** to keep me informed, especially if we have an in-class assignment, discussion etc. **You are responsible for the content of both lectures and readings whether you attend class or not.** If you are absent, always try to get notes from a classmate. **If we do not have class, I will be taking attendance through Canvas response essays or other assignments.**

PLEASE INFORM ME AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SEMESTER IF YOU HAVE WORK, FAMILY, OR OTHER SCHEDULE CONFLICTS.

Readings and Related Media:

You are expected to come to class having completed the readings, studied related media, and fully prepared to be engaged in discussions. You are not expected to remember every single word, but rather **scan and skim the texts and acquire a general overview** of the subject and/or topic discussed, in order to identify and underline the main points of the readings. If a word or information in the text is not clear or is unfamiliar to you, you are expected to research it and take note.

PLEASE NOTE: the readings will cover only some of the material that will be presented in class; therefore, I advise you to revise the Power Points slides that will be posted online after class.

- **Skimming** is reading rapidly to get a general overview of the material.
- **Scanning** is reading rapidly to find specific facts.
- While **skimming** tells you what general information is within a section, **scanning** helps you locate a particular fact.

Weekly Assignments

Every week you are asked to complete one or two assignments related to the readings to be engaged in a discussion. These might be in form of essay-questions in Canvas or sharing writings and quizzes in Revel. Please note that the weekly question/s will be automatically opened and locked in Canvas and Revel (a week before). **NO LATE RESPONSES WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

Images are extremely important! Try to memorize what you see and connect styles and patterns! Class lectures will often refer to materials studied. It is highly recommended that you regularly devote time to study the PowerPoint slides uploaded to Canvas after class. **PLEASE NOTE that the ppt do not include all the information provided in class, therefore I advise you to TAKE NOTES AND WRITE COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS for each slide in order to have a personal survey ready for the object reports and comparisons, and the final exam, or, when possible, sketch the objects presented during the lectures.**

QUIZZES:

There will be five in-class quizzes (5% each), **evaluated on the basis of analysis, logical process, and clarity demonstrated (on 02/18; 03/03; 03/26*; 04/30).**

- Material covered will be from the assigned readings in the texts, and ppt. Each examination will include slide identifications or slide comparisons, or multiple choice and/or short answer questions, map work and/or questions from the readings.
- Cheating will result in a grade of zero.
- **No early or late makeups will be given for these assignments.** See schedule below for the exam dates.
- Only three of which will be counted; I will drop the lowest one.

MIDTERM:

Quiz 3* on 03/26 will be counted as midterm exam. It will include essay-question/s and will be longer and more complex than the other quizzes.

FINAL EXAM:

You will write a comparative 1000 wd-paper of two works of art from the periods that we have discussed in class (Western art up to the 14th century). To do this you must attend a local museum and choose two works of art to compare and contrast. They must be from different periods but of the same subject matter (i.e. two statues of kings one from Old Kingdom Egypt, the other from New Kingdom Egypt).

- Please note that **this not a researched paper**, but you have to include photos of the objects (from different angles and important or relevant details), and, possibly, of yourself in front or next to them.
- **However**, if you include information from the museum, from a docent, or from the textbook, then you **MUST CITE YOUR SOURCES. 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: **(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, from the museum, from the class lectures, from the readings must be documented unless you are sure it is common knowledge. **Citations:** If you use information from brochures, journals, books, labels, wall text, docent, readings, class lectures, or the website of the museum, you must document your sources. Put quotation marks around the passage you have copied and use a superscript number for your citation. Even if you paraphrase you must place a citation at the end of the sentence (in the form of a superscript number – use numbers consecutively – do not repeat numbers) and place the citation in the form of an endnote or footnote. Also include a bibliography, which is another separate sheet of paper attached AFTER the endnotes. **Please AVOID Wikipedia, Answers.com, About.com; use only reliable sources.**

- **PLEASE NOTE THAT I WILL ENABLE TURNITIN IN CANVAS. Cheating will result in a grade of 0.**
- **PLEASE NOTE THAT ONLY DOC OR DOCX. FILES WILL BE ACCEPTED, NOT PDF OR PAGE! PLEASE CONVERT your file accordingly. I WILL NOT read and grade papers submitted as pages or pdfs or AFTER THE DEADLINE.**

PLEASE NOTE:

- All writing assignments and exams will be marked for grammar, clarity, conciseness, and coherence.
- **ALL assignments are DUE by BEGINNING of class.**
- ALWAYS email your paper to yourself.
- If for any reason you cannot submit your paper (essay-question) via Canvas, please (exceptionally) email it to me. Please note I will check date and time of submission.
- **NO LATE PAPERS.**
- **NO LAST-MINUTE excuses will be accepted.**
- Assignments and exams can be made up only in the event of illness or a comparable unforeseeable event **UPON RECEIPT OF EVIDENCE.** Makeups are given only at the discretion of the professor and possibly in a format different from the regularly scheduled exam.
- **THE ACADEMIC WRITING WORKSHOP (to prepare you for the final examination) IS MANDATORY (03/24). 5% will be subtracted from the final grade for not attending.**

Determination of Grades:

- 5% - Mandatory Workshop (and other possible assignments)
- 25% - Weekly Assignments
- 35% - 5 Quizzes (5% each except Quiz 3 = 15% = Midterm)
- 35% - Final Exam

The following is the grade scale for the final course grade based on percentages:

100% - 98% A+; 97% - 93% A; 92% - 90% A-; 89% - 88% B+; 87% - 83% B; 82% - 80% B-; 79% - 78% C+; 77% - 73% C; 72% - 70% C-; 69% - 68% D+; 67% - 63% D; 62% - 60% D-; below 60% F

PLEASE NOTE: Except in cases of documented emergencies, incomplete grades are not given in this course.

“All students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades.” See University Policy F13-1 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf> for more details.

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course-related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practice. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

Get to Know Me

My office hours are for you. Make sure you get to know me during the semester. I am here to help you and I will be glad to provide you with more information, and feedback.

Please note that I will make every effort to respond to your email as soon as possible within 48 hours.

Additional note:

This syllabus is subject to change, in the event of unforeseen circumstances, or in the case that changes will significantly enhance the quality of the course. Students will collectively have the opportunity to shape the ways in which the course unfolds.

Department Advising

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

Classroom Protocol

Students are expected to be punctual for class and actively engaged during all class meetings. **Cell phones, smartphones, or other devices that detract from full attention should be turned off or silenced. Laptops, tablets, etc. can be used ONLY if they are required for a specific assignment by the professor.** Students are not allowed to eat at all during class, and the only drink that they're allowed to have in class is water.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>.”

Course Schedule

ARTH 70A, Section 2: Art History, Prehistoric to Medieval

Spring Semester 2020

<u>Week</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</u>
1	01/23	COURSE INTRODUCTION Please bring a printed copy of the syllabus.
2	01/28 01/30	INTRODUCTION TO ART; PREHISTORIC ART Chapter 1 Assignment: Shared Writing in Revel “Commemorative Public Writing”
3	02/04 (Last Day to Drop Courses Without an Entry on Student's Permanent Record (D)) 02/06	ANCIENT NEAR EAST Chapter 2 Assignment: Essay-question in Canvas
4	02/11 (Last Day to Add Courses & Register Late) 02/13	ANCIENT EGYPT Chapter 3 Assignment: Essay-question in Canvas
5	02/18	ANCIENT AEGEAN Chapter 4 Assignment: Shared Writing in Revel “Keep Out: The Walled Complex at Mycenae” QUIZ 1 IN CLASS
	02/20	ANCIENT GREECE (PART 1) Chapter 5: From the Emergence of Greek Civilization to the (end of) Early Classical Period
6	02/25 02/27	ANCIENT GREECE (PART 2) Chapter 5: From the High Classical Period to the Hellenistic Period Assignment: Shared Writing in Revel “Ideals of Female Beauty”

<u>Week</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</u>
7	03/03	Movie/s (tbd) and Discussion
	03/05	ETRUSCAN ART Chapter 6 Assignment: Essay-question in Canvas QUIZ 2 IN CLASS
8	03/10	ROMAN ART (PART 1) Chapter 6: From the Roman Republic to the Early Empire
	03/12	ROMAN ART (PART 2) Chapter 6: From the High Imperial Art of Trajan and Hadrian to the Late Empire Assignment: Essay-question in Canvas
9	03/17	JEWISH AND EARLY CHRISTIAN ART Chapter 7 Assignment: Quiz in Revel
	03/19	BYZANTINE ART Chapter 8 Assignment: Shared Writing in Revel
10	03/24	MANDATORY WORKSHOP (5%)
	03/26	QUIZ 3 (on 03/26) = MIDTERM
11	SPRING RECESS (03/30-04/03)	
12	04/07	ISLAMIC ART Chapter 9 Assignment: Essay-question in Canvas
	04/09	
13	04/14	EARLY MEDIEVAL ART IN EUROPE Chapter 15 Assignment: Shared Writing in Revel "Visualized Stories"
	04/16	
14	04/21	ROMANESQUE ART Chapter 16 Assignment: Essay-question in Canvas QUIZ 4 IN CLASS
	04/23	

<u>Week</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</u>
15	04/28	GOTHIC ART AND LATE MEDIEVAL ART (12TH -13TH CENT.) Chapter 17 Assignment: Quiz in Revel
	04/30	LATE MEDIEVAL ART (14TH CENT.) Chapter 18 Assignment: Essay-question in Canvas QUIZ 5
16	05/05 05/07	THIS WEEK NO CLASSES
	05/14	FINAL EXAM to be submitted online by 5:00 pm 2:45-5:00 PM

Writing Rubrics (5-point rubric for writing, as suggested by GE Assessment)

5 – Outstanding response with superior supporting examples or evidence; unusual insights, creative and original analysis, reasoning, and explanation; superior mastery of content; goes well beyond the minimum required for the assignments. Excellent use of sources and citations.

4 – Interesting throughout, flows smoothly, good transitions. Well-organized for the topic. Good use of mechanics and sentence structure. Good use of sources and citations.

3 – Interesting most of the time; flows smoothly but some poor transitions. Organized but some weaknesses and minor mechanical errors. Weak use of sources and some lack of proper citation.

2 – Interest lowered by lapses in focus. Flow is interrupted by many poor transitions. Organization weak; strays from the topic. Some serious mechanical errors. Lack of use of sources.

1 – No clear focus; jerky and rambling. Poorly organized. Many mechanical errors and weak sentence structure. No sources.

0 – Plagiarized papers will result in an "O."