Art 1300 — Art Appreciation

Online Instruction

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Introduction

Art 1300 is an introductory course to visual literacy. We will explore how the Visual Arts have been interpreted, valued, and what functions they have played in distinct societies through a variety of cultural contexts and historical periods from pre-modern to contemporary society. Students will be introduced to a basic overview of art history, but the main objective will be to develop skills for discussion and active engagement with art.

Course Goals

- Learn basic art terminology and apply it to do a formal analysis of an artwork.
- Understand some of the processes and media used to create visual arts.
- Develop the ability to identify artistic styles, techniques, conceptual issues, and traditions related to visual art.
- Discuss the meaning and function of art within distinct cultural contexts and/or time periods.
- Develop the ability to think and write critically about visual art by making intelligent and informed analyses and interpretations of works of art using appropriate terminology.
**Required Texts**

- *Gateways to Art* by Debra J. DeWitte, Ralph M. Larmann and M. Kathryn Sheilds.

**Communication Channels**

As an online class, all lectures, readings and course work will be done independently on Moodle. When you have questions about the class, the readings or the assignments, consider the following options:

- If you have trouble with Moodle, you have several options; Email the helpdesk@utep.edu; Phone: 915-747-5257 or Chat through the website: http://helpdesk.utep.edu.
- Post all questions that are not about grades or personal matters to the General Questions forum in the Communication Forum. This way everyone can benefit from the discussion. I will check the General Questions Forum every 24 hours and the academic coaches will also check it periodically.

**Guidelines**

Students will be required to actively participate in multiple levels. Every two weeks, the course material will be presented as online lectures supplemented with readings, links and short videos. Students will be required to participate on the Discussion Forum to demonstrate their comprehension of the material and earn class participation credit. Your learning and ultimate performance will depend on careful listening and reading of the lectures and texts, responding critically to them, and engaging with other students' ideas in the virtual classroom.

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**THE ADVANTAGES OF BEING A WOMAN ARTIST:**

- Working without the pressure of success
- Not having to be in shows with men
- Having an escape from the art world in your 4-freelance jobs
- Knowing your career might pick up after you’re eighty
- Being reassured that whatever kind of art you make it will be labeled feminine
- Not being stuck in a tenured teaching position
- Seeing your ideas live on in the work of others
- Having the opportunity to choose between career and motherhood
- Not having to choke on those big cigars or paint in Italian suits
- Having more time to work when your mate dumps you for someone younger
- Being included in revised versions of art history
- Not having to undergo the embarrassment of being called a genius
- Getting your picture in the art magazines wearing a gorilla suit

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“I’ve been absolutely terrified every moment of my life—and I’ve never let it keep me from doing a single thing I wanted to do.”

—Georgia O’Keefe:
Final Grade Evaluation

1. Discussion Forum ........ 30%
   • The discussion forum is our main meeting place for communication and discussion. In summary, you will respond to four discussion boards during the course with both original answers to the discussion questions and then responses to your classmates.
   • See the guidelines posted under Course Information for a complete description.

2. Tests .................... 50%
   • You will have 4 tests for this class, that cover 2 weeks of material, except for Test 2 that covers 1 week of material. This is my way of making sure that everyone is keeping up with the reading and all of the supplementary materials provided including supplemental readings, videos, websites and lecture notes. Each test will cover one part of the textbook and its supplementary materials.

You will have two attempts to take each test but only the highest score will count towards your grade. There is no final exam for this class, however note that the exams are worth half of your final grade.

3. Art Review ................. 20%
   • Visit a Museum of Art in your area. Select a work from a temporary exhibition or the permanent collection to review. Choose a artwork that you respond to. If you prefer, you may choose two works to discuss and compare. In your review, write a description of the work and include your reaction to it using appropriate terminology and your knowledge of the visual elements and principles of art. Papers must be at least 650 words and you must attach proof that you went to the museum of gallery. Download the pdf description in Course Information for the requirements. Post essays to the Art Review Assessment in week 6.

University Policy Statements

PLAGIARISM & ACADEMIC DISHONESTY STATEMENT: Cheating/Plagiarism: Cheating is unethical and not acceptable. Plagiarism is using information or original wording in a paper without giving credit to the source of that information or wording. Do not submit work under your name that you did not do yourself. You may not submit work for this class that you did for another class. If you are found to be cheating or plagiarizing, you will be subject to disciplinary action, per utep catalog policy. Refer to http://www.utep.edu/dos/acadintg.htm for further information.

DISABILITIES STATEMENT: I will make any reasonable accommodations for students with limitations due to disabilities. Please, e-mail me during the first week of class to discuss any special needs you might have. You will need to provide documentation through the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS).

“...photographs alter and enlarge our notions of what is worth looking at and what we have a right to observe.”
—Susan Sontag

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