Ancient and Medieval Art and Architecture
(Art History 101)

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
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Instructor

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Textbook

Because this is an online course, the required textbook will not be available through any of the usual UW-Milwaukee outlets. I encourage you to purchase the textbook through an online vendor like amazon.com.

The textbook we will use is Gardner’s Art through the Ages (14th edition). I recommend looking for the “Backpack Editions” (in which case you will need to purchase both “Edition A” and “Edition B”) or, if that fails, Gardner’s Art through the Ages: The Western Perspective, Volume I.

The appropriate ISBN-13 numbers are:


NB: Remember, the 14th edition of Gardner’s Art through the Ages is the required text. The information on the PowerPoint lecture files and the Module Guides will correspond only to this edition. Other editions of Gardner’s may be similar, but please remember that you may find quiz questions that are not covered in those editions and that all page numbers for the reading assignments may not correspond.

Course Description

This online course is an introduction to the history of human visual expression, from the earliest evidence of image making to the end of the Middle Ages. We will study various periods and cultures, including the Stone Age, Ancient Egypt, the Ancient Near East, Greece, Rome, Early Christian, Byzantine, Early Medieval, Romanesque, and Gothic, in relation to the Western artistic tradition. We will discuss the aesthetic values of these cultures to understand the historic, social, political, religious and other meanings behind the creation of works of art.
Why study this material? The works of art and architecture introduced in this class are fundamental expressions of Western history and culture. In addition to visual artists, composers, writers, and others have built on, reacted to, and synthesized new forms of expression through an understanding of the media and concepts we will explore in this class. This course is thus meant to empower students by providing analytical skills that will enable them to arrive at a more nuanced and critical understanding of Western culture.

Objectives

As part of UWM's ongoing assessment project, the Art History faculty has developed a set of objectives for all courses taught in our department. Our Art History courses are intended to:

1. Foster an appreciation of art in its myriad forms and, in so doing, increase sensitivity to cultural diversity and to the ways in which the past has shaped the present.
2. Teach skills in visual analysis and critical thinking that are useful for a lifetime.
3. Require students to hone their written communication skills.

Prerequisite

There are no official prerequisites for this course. If you find yourself having trouble, however, please do not hesitate to contact the instructor or the TA for help. Keep in mind that, in general, a course taught online will require more independent work and self-discipline on the part of the student. It is imperative that you access the course D2L site regularly, check your @uwm e-mail account, and keep up with the assignments.

Please read the following pages carefully. They provide essential information about the course and how it will be administered online.

Communications and Correspondence: The General Discussion Forum

At the top of the “Forum lectures” on our course D2L site you will find the General Discussion Forum. Here, you can ask any questions you have regarding the course, assignments, D2L problems, or other matters. Very often, you will find that answers to frequently asked questions are posted here, and for this reason you are asked to check the General Discussion Forum before e-mailing the instructor or the TA about any problems you encounter with the course. One purpose of the General Discussion Forum is to reduce redundant emails directed to the instructor or TA. Answers to general questions posted on the General Discussion Forum will help everyone. Exceptions to this rule are problems with quizzes and exams, in which case you are encouraged to e-mail the instructor or TA immediately. The Forum will be monitored daily and responses to questions posted in a timely manner. Threads on the General Discussion Forum will remain open and available for the whole of the semester.

Visit the course D2L site regularly for updates or announcements on the General Discussion Forum. Remember: in the online forum, you are responsible for checking the General Discussion Forum for updates and announcements. Occasionally we will also send out e-mails to
students via the D2L email server. You will receive these emails at your @uwm email account. Make sure to check this account or to have those emails forwarded to your preferred email server (gmail, yahoo, etc.).

Email etiquette

http://www.101emailetiquettetips.com/

I am not one for standing on ceremony but I will not answer an e-mail that lacks a proper salutation. Per my instruction, neither will my TA.

The Modules

Our six-week course is divided into 6 Modules. You should complete one Module per week over the course of the semester. While the online format provides you with greater flexibilities in terms of when you listen to lecture and study, it is imperative that you keep in mind when the required assignments can be done and how long they will take. Read the below instructions and plan out your schedule carefully. You cannot put off reading and studying and hope to succeed.

A typical module comprises four to five PowerPoint lectures and one or more assignments. The modules and their constituent lectures are typically arranged according to important themes, cultures, or geographical areas. The lectures are presented generally in chronological order. Each week, consult the appropriate Module Guide (see below) for the order of readings, assignments, and due dates.

This is a three credit course that is usually taught over a 15 week semester. We will cover the same material online in a much shorter period. That being said, it is my aim to provide an experience as similar as possible to one of my face-to-face 101 lectures at UWM. The full content of the 15 week course (26 lectures) is included here, and I have added voiceovers to the PowerPoint lectures. As is the case in my face-to-face 101, the PowerPoint lectures and readings from the textbook will be the primary mechanisms for acquiring knowledge. You will need to take notes on the lectures and readings in order to do well on the assignments.

The Module Guides

For each Module there is an individual Module Guide. At the beginning of each week you should read the appropriate Module Guide for that week’s readings and assignments. The Module Guides will also include a helpful list of monuments and terms. I will draw heavily from these lists for the purposes of quizzes and/or exams.

Weekly Assignments

Each week, presumably after completing the required reading and listening to the relevant PowerPoint presentations, students will be asked to complete a variety of assignments. All assignments will be completed online. Cumulatively, the assignments will include five reading
quizzes, three “unknown” exams, and two “discussion forums.” These exercises will test your knowledge more specifically about the various developments in art and architecture for each period such as artistic style, historical context, and the form/function/meaning of objects and buildings. Each exercise is described below.

Reading Quizzes

There will be a total of four graded Reading Quizzes assigned throughout the six-week semester, based on the PowerPoint lectures and the assigned readings from the textbook. Generally, you can expect one Reading Quiz each week.

TIMING (VERY IMPORTANT): The quizzes will be timed so that once you begin a quiz you will have a specified amount of time to complete it. The quizzes will consist of 10 TRUE / FALSE questions and you will have 15 minutes to complete each quiz. Quizzes will be available to you to access for the entire period of the Module (Generally between 12:01 AM Monday morning until 6:00 AM the following Monday morning).* Remember, you can begin the quiz anytime during that period, but you must COMPLETE the quiz within the allocated time-frame. You will not be allowed to begin a quiz and then return to it later. Obviously, since the quizzes are based on the material from the PowerPoint lectures and the readings, it is imperative that you complete the PowerPoints and the readings BEFORE you begin a quiz. The quizzes are not designed so that you can simply look up individual answers in your texts; the time limit requires that you complete the readings and PowerPoint files before you begin them. If not, you will not have enough time to complete the quizzes. The quizzes will constitute 40% of your entire grade. Remember: each quiz must be completed in one, 15-minute setting.

*An exception will be the final reading quiz. It will be available only from 12:01 AM Monday, June 29th, until 12:01 AM, Sunday, July 5.

Please note: In order to help you become familiar with the format of the quizzes and types of questions that are asked, you will be allowed two attempts for the first two graded quizzes. The highest grade will be recorded in each case. For the remainder of the quizzes you will only be allowed one attempt.

The grades for each quiz should show up under the “Grades” tab immediately upon completion. If you notice that you do not have a grade after 24 hours, please contact me. It is possible that your quiz got stuck “in progress” and will need to be resubmitted for you.

Discussion Forum Exercises

For two modules, you will be required to participate in an online discussion forum. The discussion forums are designed to complement material introduced in the PowerPoints and readings, as well as to allow time for discussion of key themes and questions. You will be given the opportunity to dig deeper into various problems inherent to the study of art, while gaining experience in identifying, describing, and comparing and contrasting important works of medieval art and architecture. There are two discussion forum exercises in total. The format
for these is simple. A question will be posted, related to the lectures and reading material and each student will be required to engage in a discussion of that question in TWO WAYS:

1) Post an initial response to the discussion question as provided
2) Post one reply / response to a fellow student’s post offering additional support, criticism, and any additional commentary.

So in essence you will be posting at least two times per exercise (the initial post and one response to another post). You should feel free to post more often and to engage in fruitful dialogue (and even well-mannered debate) with your fellow students, but the first two posts will be part of the evaluation. Students will be evaluated on both their initial response to the discussion question AND their reply to one of the other posts.

**Initial Posts** should be well-written, thoughtful and **approximately 200-250 words**. It is suggested that you compose each post in a separate file (for example, MS WORD), and then cut/paste into the online version **(do not simply attach your file)**; not everyone uses the same word processing program and if your document cannot be opened it cannot be graded.

**Response Posts** should be **approximately 150 words** and should likewise be drafted in a word processing program, spell-checked and proofread before cutting and pasting to the D2L discussion thread. Response Posts should offer original, insightful comments and/or feedback based on one of your fellow student’s Initial Posts. Responses such as ‘Great post’ or ‘Nice job’ will not receive credit!

Because of the size of our online community, you have automatically been divided into smaller groups. This will facilitate a more intimate environment for discussion and also help us track your progress for the purpose of evaluation. The Discussion forums will be worth a total of 10 points each (making 20% of your final course grade). Posts will be evaluated according to the following guidelines:

**INITIAL POST (6 pts):**
0=did not complete assignments (or completely off track / nonsensical)
2=little content, little substance, low word count
4=solid, relevant, but perhaps less polished post
6=thoughtful Post that addresses the discussion question and offers substance on the lecture

**RESPONSE POST (4 pts):**
0=did not complete assignments (or completely off track/nonsensical)
2=little content, little substance, low word content
4=thoughtful response to post with well-supported counter arguments or comments

Participants in Discussion Forums should treat each other with respect and abide by normal rules of good taste and healthy dialogue. *Ad hominen* attacks, indecent comments, and other disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated. Such posts will not only be graded with a 0, but the comments will be erased and students will be asked to withdraw from the course.

The Discussion Forums will ‘open’ for participation on the Wednesday (12:01 AM) of the week they are assigned and be available for posting/responding until the following Monday morning at
6:00 AM. It is expected that you will post your Initial Post by Saturday, at the latest, to allow ample opportunity for students to read and upload Responses.

The grades for Discussions will be posted on the D2L before the next Discussion opens so that you will be able to view comments in preparation for the next Discussion. The TA will send out an email when all the grades have been posted. Please do not email the TA asking when the grades will be available.

**Unknown Image Examinations**

For two Modules, you will be required to complete an Unknown Image Examination. The content of these exams will be based on the material covered prior to the exam. These exams are designed to test your knowledge of artistic developments studied throughout the required PowerPoint lectures and readings. Each multiple choice question will involve a single object/building and require you to choose from three possible answers. The images will be ‘unknowns’, meaning they will be objects/buildings that are NOT illustrated in the PowerPoints or readings, but are related (through style, form, function, etc.) to those studied in the course materials. **You will be asked to answer 10 out of 12 questions (you may skip 2) based on knowledge gained through the class.** There are a total of two such exams; each is worth 20% points for a total of 40% of the final grade.

The Unknown Image Exams are timed assignments (total of 40 minutes to complete). Thus once you begin you will have a fixed, allotted time to complete the assignments. The exams will be accessible beginning on the Friday (12:01 AM) of the week they are assigned and be available for completion until the following Friday morning at 6:00 AM. Keep in mind that like the quizzes the Unknown Image Exams will be timed so that once you begin the assignment you will not be able to leave and finish later. The Unknown Image Exams must be completed in one sitting and your grade will be docked if you submit your exam late.

The grades for the Unknown Image Exams will be posted on D2L before the next such exam opens so that you will be able to view comments in preparation for your next exam. The TA will send out an email when all the grades have been posted. Please do not email the TA asking when the grades will be available.

**Student Evaluation**

4 Reading Quizzes 40%

2 Discussion Forum Exercises 20%

2 Multiple Choice Examinations 40%

**Make-up Policy**

No make-up exams will be given. Please do not ask.
Extra Credit

There will be no extra-credit options for this course. All work must be completed as assigned. There will be no exceptions to this policy, so please do not ask. Your time and energy is much better spent working on the material already assigned.

Grade Scale

Letter grades are determined according to the following numerical scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93 to 100 %</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90 to 92%</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87 to 89%</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83 to 86%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 to 82%</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77 to 79%</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73 to 76%</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70 to 72%</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 to 69%</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59% or less</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
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Schedule

Module 1

1. **Tuesday, May 26**
   
   Lecture 1: Introduction

2. **Wednesday, May 27**
   
   Lecture 2: Paleolithic and Neolithic
   Reading: 15-28

3. **Thursday, May 28**
   
   Lecture 3: Ancient Near Eastern Art
   Reading: Gardner, 31-52

4. **Friday, May 29**
   
   Lecture 4: Egyptian 1: Pre-Dynastic and Early Dynastic, the Old Kingdom
   Reading: Gardner, 55-66

**READING QUIZ 1**
Unlocks 12:01 AM Tuesday, May 26. Must be completed by 6:00 AM Monday, June 1
Module 2

5. **Monday, June 1**
Lecture 5: Egyptian 2: Middle and New Kingdom  
Reading: Gardner, 67-82

6. **Tuesday, June 2**
Lecture 6: Aegean Art  
Reading: Gardner, 85-102

7. **Wednesday, June 3**
Lecture 7: Greek Art 1: Emergence of Greek Art, Orientalizing Style  
Reading: Gardner, 105-111

8. **Thursday, June 4**
Lecture 8: Greek Art 2: Archaic Art / Early and High Classical Periods  
Reading: Gardner, 111-124

9. **Friday, June 5**
Unknown Image Exam I  
Unlocks Friday, June 5 at 12:01 AM. Must be completed by 6:00 AM Friday, June 12

Module 3

10. **Monday, June 8**
Lecture 9: Greek Art 3: The Athenian Acropolis  
Reading: Gardner, 124-144

11. **Tuesday, June 9**
Lecture 10: Greek Art 4: Late Classical, Hellenistic  
Reading: Gardner, 144-162

12. **Wednesday, June 10**
Lecture 11: Etruscan Art  
Reading: Gardner, 165-176
Discussion Forum I
Unlocks Wednesday, June 10, at 12:01 AM. Initial posts must be made by Saturday, June 13. Assignment must be completed by 6:00 AM Monday, June 15

13. Thursday, June 11
Lecture 12: Roman Art 1: The Republic, Early Empire
Reading: Gardner, 179-218

14. Friday, June 12
Lecture 13: Roman Art 2: Late Empire
Reading: Gardner, 219-230

READING QUIZ 2
Unlocks 12:01 AM Monday, June 8. Must be completed by 6:00 AM Monday, June 15

Module 4

15. Monday, June 15
Lecture 14: Early Christian Art 1
Reading: Gardner, 233-241

16. Tuesday, June 16
Lecture 15: Early Christian Art 2
Reading: Gardner, 242-252

17. Wednesday, June 17
Lecture 16: Byzantine Art 1
Reading: Gardner, 255-270

18. Thursday, June 18
Lecture 17: Byzantine Art 2
Reading: Gardner, 270-280

19. Friday, June 19

Unknown Image Exam II
Unlocks Friday, June 19 at 12:01 AM. Must be completed by 6:00 AM Friday, June 26

Module 5
20. Monday, June 22
Lecture 18: Islamic Art 1
Reading: Gardner, 283-290

21. Tuesday, June 23
Lecture 19: Islamic Art 2
Reading: Gardner, 290-304

22. Wednesday, June 24
Lecture 20: Early Medieval Art 1
Reading: Gardner, 307-316

Discussion Forum II
Unlocks Wednesday, June 24, at 12:01 AM. Initial posts must be made by Saturday, June 27. Assignment must be completed by 6:00 AM Monday, June 29

23. Thursday, June 25
Lecture 21: Early Medieval Art 2
Reading: Gardner, 317-330

24. Friday, June 26
Lecture 22: Romanesque Art 1
Reading: Gardner, 333-341

READING QUIZ 3
Unlocks 12:01 AM Monday, June 22. Must be completed by 6:00 AM Monday, June 29

Module 6

25. Monday, June 29
Lecture 23: Romanesque Art 2
Reading: Gardner, 341-354

26. Tuesday, June 30
Lecture 24: Romanesque Art 3
Reading: Gardner, 355-362

27. Wednesday, July 1
Lecture 25: Gothic Art 1  
Reading: Gardner, 365-373

28. Thursday, July 2

Lecture 26: Gothic Art 2  
Reading: Gardner, 374-384

29. Friday, July 3

**READING QUIZ 4**  
Unlocks 12:01 AM Monday, June 29. Must be completed by 12:01 AM, Sunday, July 5

30. Saturday, July 4

**FREEDOM.**

**Credit Hour Breakdown**  
A new requirement for the syllabi of all courses at UWM is a clear indication of the number of hours of energy a student will be expected to expend to complete the class. The expected minimum number of hours of energy expended by students in this class is as follows:

- Lectures, reading and quiz taking: 106 hours
- Discussion group exercises: 10 hours
- Study for Exams / exams: 28 hours

**Total:** 144 hours