

ART 101 Art History and Appreciation

The Department of Visual Arts, Greenville Technical College, Greer Campus

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Prerequisites: Placement in ENG 101
Credit Hours: 3

Required Text

Understanding Art, Fichner-Rathus, Thomson-Wadsworth Publishers, latest edition

Course Description

This is an introductory course to the history and appreciation of art, including the elements and principles of the visual arts.

Course Purpose

1. Introduce general education students to basic concepts about art, and expand their personal growth and involvement with the visual world.
2. Familiarize the student with the study and history of the visual arts with a focus on unique characteristics, representative artists and works, and common art forms and genres of various western historical periods.

Course Objectives

Students who successfully complete this course with 70% accuracy or better will:

1. Discuss the interrelationships among ideas in the various humanities' disciplines and major historical events as they connect to works of art and the lives of artists by writing a research and museum paper and being expected to hypothesize on traditional and non-traditional testing models.
2. Identify, compare and contrast, and match artists to their historical and cultural setting by using traditional testing models, essays and research paper entries.
3. Use extensive art historical vocabulary in papers, essays and communications, as well as cite examples on testing models in order to discuss art with proficiency.
4. Read about art and generate written and verbal communications that hypothesize and show inquiry into the material presented.
5. Demonstrate the ability to systematize the major periods of art by answering questions on assessment models.
6. Demonstrate that they recognize major works of art, can identify artists, and know why these works of art and artists are important by passing four objective format exams.

Course Requirements

1. Prompt and regular attendance.
2. Complete assigned readings on schedule.
3. Participate in class discussions.
4. Actively take notes.
5. Complete four non-cumulative exams. Multiple choice, matching, short answer and essay are the objective formats. For example, students will be given a slide image or plate. Then students will identify and discuss the image (title, artist/architect, period/culture, material content). Given a vocabulary term, you would give a definition and cite a specific example.
6. Complete a series of assignments that will be used to compose the participation score for each student. These activities are designed to reinforce material presented in lectures. This portion of the grade is determined by completion of the following:
 - a. Two museum searches. Students will be given two assignments requiring them to visit a specific museum. They will be given a work sheet requiring them to define and then locate elements and concepts used in works found in the assigned museum. 40 points each
 - b. Turn in of preparatory notes and participation in discussion of your selected work during class time on the designated calendar day. 10 points

- c. Participation during the formal analysis group project. Students are required to contribute to their group effort during analysis and presentation of assigned artwork. 10 points
- d. A museum/gallery visit paper. The following steps should be followed in order to receive credit for accurately performing this:
 - (i.) Go to a local museum or gallery and select one work of art. Take the time to examine carefully your chosen work of art and take appropriate notes to write your paper.
 - (ii.) Apply knowledge and skills acquired in this class to the work of art you select.
 - (iii.) You may include historical or biographical information related to the artist or creation of the work, however, this should be minimal.
 - (iv.) Any information included in your paper that is not common knowledge must be documented.
 - (v.) Write a five-page analytical essay on this work, using appropriate terminology.
 - (vi.) The paper is to be typed and doubled-spaced with a type size no larger than 12 point.
 - (vii.) The paper is due near the end of the term (see the calendar for the exact date). If students have questions on how to write this paper, please consult the instructor. Additional aids to writing this paper can be found in Donna K. Reid's *Thinking and Writing About Art History* or Sylvan Barnet's *A Short Guide to Writing about Art*.

Evaluation

Exam One	15%
Exam Two	15%
Exam Three	15%
Exam Four	15%
Participation	20%
Gallery/Research Paper	20%