

Middlesex Community College  
Humanities & Fine Arts

**ART APPRECIATION**

ART 100, Section 3, CRN# 3004  
3 Credits  
Fall 2017: 08/29-12/18

Instructor: Matthew Weber  
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Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday: 12:30-1:30pm & Thursday: 10-11am. additional days/times by appointment

**Course Description:**

This initial course in the visual arts explores the constantly changing world of art, discovering how this form of expression is defined and the rich, varied ways in which it can be appreciated. The study of the individual elements and principles that constitute a work of art is undertaken in this exploration of creativity. Visits to galleries, studios, and museums are an integral part of the course. *Prerequisite: Eligible for ENG\*101. This is a "D" course.*

**Required Text:**

Debra J. DeWitte, Ralph M. Larmann, and M. Kathryn Shields, "Gateways to Art: Understanding the Visual Arts," Second Edition, Thames & Hudson, 2015. ISBN: 978-0-500-28157-3

- *This is a reminder to all students who rented textbooks from the bookstore. All rental textbooks need to be returned to the bookstore prior to the date listed on the rental agreement. After that date your credit/debit card will be charged a "non-return fee" as well as a processing fee. If you have any questions please contact the bookstore.*

**Course Objectives:**

The purpose of this course is to aid students:

- In recognizing the components and characteristics of the visual arts
- In becoming more responsive to the world of art
- In developing perceptual awareness.
- In learning about the historical, cultural and formal aspects of selected works of art.
- To develop a greater appreciation of the visual arts.

**Course Outcomes:**

In order to successfully complete this course with a "C" grade or better, the student must demonstrate the following competencies:

- Recognize and identify styles in two and three dimensional media.
- Recognize and identify selected examples of important works of art.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship of art and society.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the vocabulary of art terms and their usage.
- Recognize how information is generally organized and disseminated and how to access it.
- Identify key resources for and effectively navigate information within specific disciplines.
- Identify and employ practices which are consistent with the ethical and legal uses of information.
- Organize, synthesize, and communicate information effectively.

**Course Significance to Fine Arts Program:**

The purpose of Art Appreciation is to provide students the tools necessary to recognize and understand historical, cultural and formal aspects of selected works of art (see "Course Objectives" and "Learning Outcomes" above). The study of art appreciation facilitates greater student appreciation of the visual arts of diverse world cultures and aids the development of a heightened perceptual awareness. The materials covered in Art Appreciation are applicable to all two-dimensional, three-dimensional, digital media and Art History courses offered by the Fine Arts Program.

**Fine Arts Program Objectives Contained in Course:**

Graduates will:

- Demonstrate desirable attitudes and work habits--creative thinking, the ability to solve problems, good artistic judgment, industriousness, cooperation, responsibility, and self-reliance.

- Describe knowledge of the relationship among various components of art including design, drawing and painting, and understanding the contribution that each makes to the final product.
- Communicate clearly using specific art vocabulary.

**Method of Presentation:**

Course work will consist of assigned textbook and online article readings, video presentations, Blackboard discussion sections, and two independent museum/gallery visits.

**Evaluation and Grading:**

- Chapter Reading Exams Questions: (40 assigned: 39 graded, 1 ungraded)= 15 %
- Weekly Participation Response to Assigned Discussion Topics: (14 assigned: 13 graded, 1 ungraded)= 15 %
- Museum/Gallery Visit Assignments: (2 assigned and must be completed at different museums or galleries) = 5%
- Museum/Gallery Artwork Analysis Paper = 25%
- Midterm Exam: Course/ Textbook Content for Intro, Parts 1 & 2 = 20%
- Final Exam: Course/ Textbook Content for Parts 3 & 4 = 20%

**Weekly Chapter Learning Modules (folders):**

Weekly text book chapter readings, articles, video, audio and assignment /discussion links will be posted under individual Learning Modules labeled by week number and dates. Weekly learning modules will become available on each Saturday at 12:01am and will remain visible for the remainder of the session. Assignments for each week are due that following Sunday at midnight. For example, “Week 01: 08/28-09/01” assignments will become visible on 08/26 and are due on 09/01. Some weeks there may be 1 chapter folder (1 chapter) and other weeks there may be 5 chapters to complete. Weekly assignments and discussion board participation must be completed by midnight of the Sunday of the week that they are assigned. Unless indicated differently in the online course calendar all late submissions of course materials will be downgraded 25% for each week they are submitted late. Assignments are considered “one week late” beginning after midnight of the date they are due. Weekly module assignments contain approximately 8-14 hours of reading/response/presentation materials per week. All answers/responses must be written entirely in students own words; quotations, paraphrasing and/or any form of “cut and paste” answers will not be accepted for credit.

**Discussion Board Participation:**

Students must participate in the assigned discussion board questions once a week. Discussion question content is located within a folder in each weekly assignment folder. The Discussion Board posting forum is located separately in the “Discussions” tool (in the left side navigation plane). Only one “Discussion” question will be assigned each week and student responses will be visible for other students in the course section to view. Full participation in this forum must include responses to all parts of discussion topic questions posed as independently developed positions, opinions and/or observations. These must illustrate a full understanding of assigned course materials and accumulating course knowledge for full credit. This is the primary venue for students to connect with peers and develop a more complex understanding of issues, new contexts, and/or controversial work viewed/presented. Discussion topic responses must be written entirely in student’s own words; quotations, paraphrasing and/or any form of “cut and paste” answers will not be accepted for credit. Responding to one another’s posting is encouraged and suggested but is not required. Content included in responses to other student postings will be included as graded materials as well as materials submitted in general postings. Although students may choose to respond directly to peer postings, this is not required in this course.

**Midterm and Final Exam:**

The midterms and final exams will consist of a total of 50 multiple choice, matching, true/false and short answer formatted questions. Students may be asked to respond to these works with content referenced through the semester and from both text and non-text materials covered. Exams will be limited by time, 3 hours, and to the days and hours listed in the calendar. It is the student’s responsibility to arrange their schedules to take/complete the exams within the time periods allotted. It is expected that students will use textbook, notes and other materials to assist in completing exam questions. Exam content responses must be written entirely in students own words; quotations, paraphrasing and/or any form of “cut and paste” answers will not be accepted for credit.

- Midterm Exam: Course/ Textbook Content for Intro, Parts 1 & 2 only

- Final Exam: Course/ Textbook content for Parts 3 & 4 in focus... some supporting Parts 1 and 2 content/artworks may also be included.

**Grading Scale:**

<b>A (exceptional)</b>	4.0	<b>100 to 94</b>
<b>A-</b>	3.7	<b>93 to 90</b>
<b>B+</b>	3.3	<b>89 to 87</b>
<b>B (Good)</b>	3.0	<b>86 to 84</b>
<b>B-</b>	2.7	<b>83 to 80</b>
<b>C+</b>	2.3	<b>79 to 77</b>
<b>C (Fair)</b>	2.0	<b>76 to 74</b>
<b>C-</b>	1.7	<b>73 to 70</b>
<b>D+</b>	1.3	<b>69 to 67</b>
<b>D (passing)</b>	1.0	<b>66 to 64</b>
<b>D- (Lowest passing)</b>	0.7	<b>63 to 60</b>
<b>F (Failure)</b>	0.0	<b>Less than 60</b>

**Granting of Incomplete Grades:**

Incomplete grades may be given when the instructor determines that extraordinary circumstances has arisen which prevent the student from completing course requirements with the prescribed time limits. It is the student's responsibility to arrange with the instructor the conditions under which an incomplete will be made up. Additionally, the student and instructor must sign an *Incomplete Grade Agreement*, available in the Records Office that identifies the specific work to be completed. The agreement/request must be made in writing and filed in the Records Office. See college catalogue for additional details.

**Important College Policies!! Please Read Carefully!**

For information about the college's policies and procedures regarding academic honesty, accessibility/disability services, attendance, audio-recording in the classroom, grade appeals, plagiarism, religious accommodations, weather and emergency closings, and more, please go to the following website: [www.mxcc.edu/catalog/syllabus-policies/](http://www.mxcc.edu/catalog/syllabus-policies/) or scan the QR code with your smart phone. Also, please become familiar with the policies regarding nondiscrimination, sexual misconduct, and general student conduct at the following website: [www.mxcc.edu/nondiscrimination/](http://www.mxcc.edu/nondiscrimination/).



**Non-Discrimination Statement**

Middlesex Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religious creed, age, sex, national origin, marital status, ancestry, present or past history of mental disorder, learning disability or physical disability, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression or genetic information in its programs and activities. In addition, the College does not discriminate in employment on the additional basis of veteran status or criminal record.

The following people have been designated to handle inquiries or complaints regarding non-discrimination policies and practices:

- Primary Title IX Coordinator, Dr. Adrienne Maslin, Dean of Students/Title IX and Section 504/ADA Coordinator, amaslin@mxcc.edu; 860-343-5759; Founders Hall Room 123.
- Secondary Title IX Coordinator, Ms. Mary Lou Phillips, Director of Human Resources, Middlesex Community College, mphillips@mxcc.edu; 860-343-5751; Founders Hall Room 115.
- Secondary Title IX Coordinator, Ms. Queen Fordham, Coordinator of the Meriden Center Welcome Desk, qfordham@mxcc.edu; 203-608-3011

### **Utilization of Mobile Learn:**

- "Some course content as presented in Blackboard Learn is not fully supported on mobile devices at this time. While mobile devices provide convenient access to check in and read information about your courses, they should not be used to perform work such as taking tests, quizzes, completing assignments, or submitting substantive discussion posts."
  - If you have any problems using Mobile Learn, you may contact the 24/7 Help Desk. If the Help Desk is not able to resolve your issue, please resort to using your desktop/laptop computer for all course viewing.

### **Online Calendar:**

**Blackboard Course Calendar** will be constantly updated with project and reading specific due dates and times. All expected interruptions to Blackboard availability will be posted to enable students planning. The general course outline schedule is listed below:

#### **Part I: Fundamentals**

- Week #01: 08/29-09/3, Chapters 1.1, 1.2
- Week #02: 09/4-10 (No Classes Held 09/4, Labor Day), Chapters, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6
- Week #03: 09/11-17, Chapters 1.7, 1.8, 1.9, 1.10

#### **Part 2: Media and Processes**

- Week #04: 09/18-24, Chapters 2.1, 2.2, 2.3
- Week #05: 09/25-10/01, Chapters 2.4, 2.5, 2.6, 2.7
- Week #06: 10/2-8, Chapters 2.8, 2.9, 2.10

#### **WEEK #07: 10/9-15: Midterm Exam**

#### **Part 3: History and Context**

- Week #08: 10/16-22: Chapters 3.1, 3.2, **Museum/Gallery Visit #1: Materials Due**, (No Classes Held 10/17, Reading Day)
- Week #09: 10/23-29, Chapter 3.3, 3.4., **Museum/Gallery Visit #2: Period/Movement Due**
- Week #10: 10/30-11/5, Chapter 3.5, 3.6, 3.7, 3.8

#### **Part 4: Themes**

- Week #11: 11/6-12, Chapters 3.9, **Museum Gallery Art Work Analysis Due**
- Week # 12: 11/13-19, Chapters 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4
- Week #13 & 14: 11/20-12/3 (No Classes Held 11/22-26. Thanksgiving Break), Chapters 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8
- Week #15: 12/4-11, Chapters 4.9, 4.10

#### **WEEK #16: 12/12-18: Final Exam Available**

*\* All course assignments due by midnight on 12/18 for credit \**

*\* This schedule is tentative and may be revised as necessary. \**

### **Gallery Visit Assignments:**

Students are required to physically visit the collection of two different museums and/or galleries. For each visit students must complete the assignment questions posted on Blackboard for 4 different works of art. Gallery Visit Assignment #1 requires that works produced in different materials (media) are views. Gallery Visit Assignment #2 requires that works from different time periods/cultures/ movements be viewed. One of these works may become the topic for the Museum/Gallery Art Work analysis paper described below.

*\*See Full assignment details and grade rubric information posted in Blackboard course.*

### **Museum/Gallery Art Work Analysis:**

Students are required to complete a visual analysis of a work of art (two-dimensional or three-dimensional) from the collection of a museum. The subject must be a single work produced by or attributed to one of the cultures and or time periods covered (Prehistory to Present).

The paper must be a minimum of three typed pages (double spaced, 12 point font) and include a bibliography of all sources of facts. A reproduction (jpg or imbedded image) of the work selected should also be included if available. Papers must include observations and discussion of the art elements (Line, value, color, shape, composition, texture, form) as well as a description of techniques and materials. A limited description of the background of the artist and the circumstances of the creation of the work may also be included as

supplemental information, but should not replace student observations. You must cite all sources used with a bibliography and numbered footnotes and/or endnotes for all sections containing the ideas, approximate phrasing and direct quotations by another author. (Do not cite sources directly in the text). Analysis papers may be turned in at any time prior to the dates due on calendar, but will not be accepted after the specified date due without a grade reduction.

*\*See Full assignment details and grade rubric information posted in Blackboard course shell.*

### **Local Museums & Galleries**

This is a short list of some of the local and regional museums and galleries that you may wish to visit.

- Please call to confirm that the collection/exhibition you wish to view is currently on view and the institution is open before you visit.

Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, 258 Main Street, Ridgefield, CT 06877, 203-438-4519, [www.aldrichart.org](http://www.aldrichart.org)

William Benton Museum of Art, University of Connecticut, 245 Glenbrook Road, U-140 Storrs, CT, 06269-2140, 860-486-4520, [www.benton.uconn.edu](http://www.benton.uconn.edu)

Bruce Museum, One Museum Drive, Greenwich, CT 06830, 203-869-0376, [www.brucemuseum.org](http://www.brucemuseum.org)

Davidson Art Center / Wesleyan University, 301 High Street, Middletown, CT 06457

Florence Griswold Museum, Lyme Historical Society, 96 Lyme Street, Old Lyme, CT 06371, 860-434-5542, [www.flogris.org](http://www.flogris.org)

Hill-Stead Museum, 35 Mountain Road, Farmington, CT 0632, 860-677-4787, [www.hillstead.org](http://www.hillstead.org)

Housatonic Museum of Art, 900 Lafayette Blvd., Bridgeport, CT 06604-4704, 203-332-5078,

[www.hctc.commnet.edu/artmuseum](http://www.hctc.commnet.edu/artmuseum)

Lyman Allyn Art Museum at Connecticut College, 625 Williams Street, New London, CT 06320, 860-443-2545 [www.lymanallyn.conncoll.edu](http://www.lymanallyn.conncoll.edu)

New Britain Museum of American Art, 56 Lexington Street, New Britain, CT 06052, 860-229-0257 [www.nbmaa.org](http://www.nbmaa.org)

Norwich Free Academy-The Slater Museum, 108 Crescent Street, Norwich, CT 06360, 860-887-2506, [www.norwichfreeacademy.com/slater\\_museum](http://www.norwichfreeacademy.com/slater_museum)

Real Art Ways, 56 Arbor Street, Hartford, CT 06106, [www.realartways.org](http://www.realartways.org)

Wadsworth Atheneum, 600 Main Street, Hartford, CT, 860-278-2670, [www.wadsworthathenuem.org](http://www.wadsworthathenuem.org)

Yale Center for British Art, P.O. Box 208280, 1080 Chapel Street, New Haven, CT 06520-8280 203-432-2858, [www.yale.edu/ycba](http://www.yale.edu/ycba)

Yale University Art Gallery, 1111 Chapel Street, New Haven, CT 06510, 203-432-0600, [www.yale.edu/artgallery](http://www.yale.edu/artgallery)

### **Boston and New York Museums**

Boston Museum of Fine Arts, 456 Huntington Ave., Boston, MA 02115, 617.267-9300, [www.mfa.org](http://www.mfa.org)

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway 02115, 617.566.1401, [www.gardnermuseum.org](http://www.gardnermuseum.org)

Fogg Museum of Art / Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 02115

The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, New York, NY 10016

Metropolitan Museum of Art, 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. at 82<sup>nd</sup> Street, New York, NY 10028, [www.metmuseum.org](http://www.metmuseum.org)

The Pierpont Morgan Library, 29 East 36<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10016

Dia: Beacon - The Riggio Galleries, 3 Beekman St, Beacon, Beacon, NY 12508, 845-440-0100, [www.Diaart.Org](http://www.Diaart.Org)

### **Notice Of Anti-Plagiarism Detection Software**

SafeAssign, TurnItIn or other anti-plagiarism detection software products may be used in this course.

Anti-plagiarism detection software products assist faculty and students in preventing and detecting plagiarism. Professors may utilize such software in order to check the originality of the academic work students submit in a course by comparing submitted papers to those contained in its database consisting of submitted papers and other sources. Anti-plagiarism detection software returns an "originality report" for each submission. The report is limited in scope to merely identifying passages that are not original to the author of the submitted work and which may include correctly cited quotations and information. Professors and students must carefully review such reports. No adverse action may be taken by a professor with respect to a student solely on the basis of an originality report which indicates the potential for plagiarism.

In this course you may be asked to submit your academic papers and other creative work containing personally identifiable information for originality reporting. By doing so, your work along with personally

identifiable information will be retained in the product database and may be subsequently reported out containing your personally identifiable information not only to your professor, but also to professors of other universities and colleges within Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) as part of subsequent originality reports.

You may decline to submit your work for originality reporting. If so, you must be provided an alternative method in which to submit your work. However, your professor, after removing your personally identifying information, may nonetheless submit limited portions of your academic work for originality reporting.

**Online Art History Research Sources**

(see: [http://www.mxcc.commnet.edu/Content/Class\\_Guides\\_and\\_Tip\\_Sheets.asp](http://www.mxcc.commnet.edu/Content/Class_Guides_and_Tip_Sheets.asp))

Art Cyclopedia: <http://www.artcyclopedia.com/>

Art History Resources on the Web: <http://witcombe.sbc.edu/ARTHLinks.html>

Internet Resources for Art History: <http://www2.lib.udel.edu/subj/arth/internet/>

Timeline of Art History: <http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/>

Web Gallery of Art: <http://www.wga.hu/index.html>