

Middlesex Community College

Humanities & Fine Arts

ART APPRECIATION

1027.115106 (ART F100-1027-Spring 2015.) 3 Credits, distance learning (Room 131a).

Instructor: Janis Mink

Office Location: Snow Hall, meetings by appointment

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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,” Thames & Hudson, 2012. ISBN: 9780500289563

- _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: (39 assigned: 38 graded, 1 ungraded)= 15 %
- _Weekly Participation Response to Assigned Discussion Topics: (12 assigned: 11 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:

Weekly text book chapter readings, articles, video, audio and assignment /discussion links will be posted under individual Learning Modules labeled by week number/dates. Weekly learning modules will only become available on the first day of the week

(Mondays) at 12:01am and will remain visible for the remainder of the semester. Assignments for each week are due that following Sunday at midnight. Some weeks there may be 1 chapter learning module (1 chapter) and other weeks there may be 4 chapters to complete. Weekly assignments and discussion 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 6-12 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 Participation:

Students must participate in the assigned discussion section once a week. 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.

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 may also be included.

Grading Scale: A (exceptional)	4.0	100 to 94
A-	3.7	92 to 90
B+	3.3	89 to 87
B (Good)	3.0	86 to 84
B-	2.7	83 to 80
C+	2.3	79 to 77
C (Fair)	2.0	76 to 74
C-	1.7	73 to 70
D+	1.3	69 to 67
D (passing)	1.0	66 to 64
D- (Lowest passing)	0.7	63 to 60
F (Failure)	0.0	Less than 60

Granting of Incomplete Grades:

Incomplete grades may be given when the instructor determines that the student has completed 75 percent of the course work or when 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.

Dropping / Withdrawing from a Class:

“You may withdraw from this class any time before the end of the 11th week* of the semester . A completed and signed withdrawal form must be on file in the Records Office by the deadline in order to receive a “W” on your transcript. If you fail to complete this process on time, you will receive a letter grade at the end of the semester, which will include zeroes for any work not submitted. Course withdrawals may affect financial aid and veteran’s benefits. Please make this decision carefully and with the help of your advisor. See the Academic Calendar and the College Catalog for specific dates and procedures regarding the withdrawal process.”

* The withdrawal deadline for accelerated courses (late start/early end, winter, and summer) is the date at which 75% of the total course time has been completed.

ADA & Special Services: “Students with physical or learning disabilities who may require accommodations are encouraged to contact the Counseling Office. After disclosing the nature of the disability, students are urged to discuss their needs with individual instructors. This should be done at the beginning of each semester. Instructors, in conjunction with appropriate college officials, will provide assistance and/or accommodations only to those students who have completed this process.”

Academic Honesty: “At Middlesex Community College we expect the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic dishonesty is prohibited in accordance with the Board of Trustees’ Proscribed Conduct Policy in Section 5.2.1 of the Board of Trustees’ Policy Manual. This policy prohibits cheating on examinations, unauthorized collaboration on assignments, unauthorized access to examinations or course materials, plagiarism, and other proscribed activities.

Plagiarism is defined as the use of another’s idea(s) or phrase(s) and representing that/those idea(s) as your own, either intentionally or unintentionally.”

(Board of Trustees' Policy 5.2.1)

Religious Accommodation:

If your religious obligations conflict with the course calendar requirements, and if you wish to request an accommodation, you must make your request in writing prior to the date of the assessment or activity you will miss and preferably at the beginning of the semester. When requesting a make-up quiz, test, exam, assignment, or activity, state the reason for your request and the date(s) on which your religious obligation(s) will conflict with the course calendar requirements. Also, if your religious obligation/holiday is unfamiliar to your instructor, you may be asked to provide a calendar which shows the published date(s) of your religious observance(s) or holiday(s).

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 #01:01/21-01/24 Chapter 1.1
- _Week #02: 01/25-01/31, Chapters 1.2, 1.3, 1.4
- _Week #03:02/01-02/07, Chapters 1.5, 1.6, 1.7
- _Week #04: 02/08-02/14, Chapters 1.8, 1.9, 1.10

Part 2: Media and Processes

- _Week #05: 02/15-02/21, Chapters 2.1, 2.2, 2.3
- _Week #06: 02/22-02/28, Chapters 2.4, 2.5, 2.6
- _Week #07: 03/01-03/07, Chapters 2.7, 2.8, 2.9, 2.10

WEEK #08: 03/08-03/14: Midterm Exam Available

Text Book Part 3: History and Context

- _Week #09: 03/15-03/28: **Museum/Gallery Visit #1: Materials Due**, Chapters 3.1, 3.2, 3.3
- _Week #10:03/29-04/04: **Museum/Gallery Visit #2: Period/Movement Due**, Chapter 3.4, 3.5, 3.6
- _Week #11: 04/05-04/11, Chapters 3.7, 3.8, 4.1

Text Book Part 4: Themes

- _Week #12: 04/12-04/18: **Museum Gallery Art Work Analysis Due**, Chapters 4.2, 4.3
- _Week #13: 04/19-04/25, Chapters 4.4, 4.5, 4.6
- _Week #14: 04/26-05/02
- _Week #15: 05/03-05/09, Chapters 4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10, 4.11

WEEK #16:05/10-05/18: **Final Exam Available**

All course assignments due by midnight on May 18th 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 shell.

Local Museums And 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

William Benton Museum of Art, University of Connecticut, 245 Glenbrook Road, U-140 Storrs, CT, 06269-2140,

860-486-4520 www.benton.uconn.edu

Bruce Museum, One Museum Drive, Greenwich, CT 06830, 203-869-0376
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

Hill-Stead Museum, 35 Mountain Road, Farmington, CT 0632, 860-677-4787, www.hillstead.org Housatonic Museum of Art, 900 Lafayette Blvd., Bridgeport, CT 06604-4704, 203-332-5078, www.hctc.comnet.edu/artmuseum

Lyman Allyn Art Museum at Connecticut College, 625 Williams Street, New London, CT 06320, 860-443-2545 www.lymanallyn.conncoll.edu

New Britain Museum of American Art, 56 Lexington Street, New Britain, CT 06052, 860-229-0257 www.nbmaa.org

Norwich Free Academy-The Slater Museum, 108 Crescent Street, Norwich, CT 06360, 860-887-2506,

www.norwichfreeacademy.com/slater_museum

Real Art Ways, 56 Arbor Street, Hartford, CT 06106 www.realartways.org

Wadsworth Atheneum, 600 Main Street, Hartford, CT, 860-278-2670,
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

Yale University Art Gallery, 1111 Chapel Street, New Haven, CT 06510, 203-432-0600
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

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway 02115, 617.566.1401,
www.gardnermuseum.org

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

The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53rd Street, New York, NY 10016

Metropolitan Museum of Art, 5th Ave. at 82nd Street, New York, NY 10028,
www.metmuseum.org

The Pierpont Morgan Library, 29 East 36th Street, New York, NY 10016

Dia: Beacon The Riggio Galleries, 3 Beekman St, Beacon, Beacon, NY 12508, 845-440-0100, www.Diaart.Org

Online Art History Research Sources

(see: http://www.mxcc.comnet.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>