

University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

ARHS 20003 Art History Survey I

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory: 0

Prerequisite(s): ENGL 10103 Composition I or ENGL 14343 Honors Composition

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Explores the creation of art from before the development of the written word to the European Middle Ages. Both Western and non-Western art are included. Students are recommended to take ARHS 20003 before ARHS 21003. (ACTS: ARTA 2003)

B. Additional Information

This course is required for the minor in Art History as well as for majors in Studio Art and Graphic Design. Minors in Studio Art must take either ARHS 20003 or ARHS 21003.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify and describe major works of art and artistic styles from the era before the development of writing through the Gothic era.
2. Differentiate and discuss major works of art in terms of - Who, What, Where, How, & Why - in order to fully understand their importance.
3. Appraise works of art in relation to social and historical issues.
4. Identify and use basic art historical vocabulary in discussing and writing about works of art.
5. Write a formal analysis of a work of art.
6. Develop a facility with critical analysis through a response paper requiring research.
7. Identify and analyze the creative process and how it relates to the cultures studied in the course - as applicable to the period.

B. University Learning Outcomes

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking Skills

Students will identify and evaluate works of art, and use this information in tandem with historical, religious, economic, sociological, anthropological, political, and geographical factors in order to interpret and analyze the artwork's meaning and value to its makers/patrons/audiences.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will effectively convey their analysis and interpretation of works of art through a variety of written forms. Students will acquire and use appropriate art historical vocabulary and will be able to successfully articulate their ideas and pertinent information through class discussion and oral presentations.

Ethical Decision Making

Students will model ethical-decision making processes. Students will explore ethical issues in art history, including art acquisition, sale, theft, restoration/conservation and installation, as well as art repatriation.

Global and Cultural Perspectives

Reflecting upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures, students will analyze how works of art both reflect and influence the cultures that created them, including cultures outside the Western canon. Non-Western Art is an integral component of ARHS 20003.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Art created before the written word
- B. Art of Ancient Mesopotamia
- C. Art of Ancient Egypt
- D. Art of Ancient Greece
- E. Art of Ancient Rome
- F. Art of the European Middle Ages
- G. Art of Ancient China
- H. Art of Ancient Japan
- I. Hindu and Buddhist Art