ART210: Art and Architecture of Ancient Egypt

Prof. Francesca Tronchin    tronchinf@rhodes.edu
Clough 417      Office: Clough 420
MWF 10-10:50am     Office hours: MW 1:30-3pm, or by appointment

Course description and objectives
This course will explore the art and architecture of ancient Egypt. The chronological survey will examine the material remains of these cultures with a significant emphasis on the social, political, and religious contexts in which they were created. The rediscovery and study of these cultures in the 19th and 20th centuries and museological issues related to this material will also be discussed.

Students will approach ancient Egypt through the eyes of art historians, archaeologists, and anthropologists. Active reading, researching, and participation in class discussions are the means by which students will access and learn course content. Among some of the course goals are the following:

- To gain an understanding of Ancient Egypt and neighboring cultures, and the material world these peoples created and valued
- To explore the modern Western fascination with and reception of ancient Egyptian culture
- To learn to read critically, both introductory texts and scholarly articles
- To achieve the ability to discuss and write about art objects with appropriate and effective vocabulary

Textbooks and course resources

Additional readings will be provided to the students in PDF format through the course folder or will be made available on reserve at Barret Library. Powerpoints from class presentations, all handouts, assignments, and a copy of the syllabus are available in the course folder on the academic server.

Here is a page with some essential Egypt links, to be updated throughout the semester:
http://tronchin.wordpress.com/2013/01/03/egypt/

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Important dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm exam: 2/25  Paper due: 4/12  Presentations: 4/19-24  Final exam: May 1, 1pm</td>
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ART210: Ancient Egypt syllabus
Course requirements and grading

There will be two exams—one during the term and one during the final exam period (see course schedule below for dates and times). The exams will be comprised of slide identification and discussion and some short-answer questions. The exams are closed-book and are not cumulative (i.e. the final covers the material from the class after the midterm to the last day of class). Please bring your own blue book to exams.

There will be two short (5-10 minute) quizzes given in class regarding geography (a map quiz) and art historical vocabulary. A list of terms will be provided well before the dates of the quizzes.

All students will write a paper proposing a museum exhibition regarding art and culture in ancient Egypt, including objects from the University of Memphis’ Egyptian Collection. The paper is due April 12 in class and will be 1500-2000 words. This assignment will involve some library research and at least one visit to the museum.

Students will also briefly, informally present a website (blog, wiki, etc.) whose content deals with “junk Egyptology” or “pseudoarchaeology.” Because so many different kinds of people—frequently with dubious analytical abilities or with emphatic biases—can create content on the web, it is important to critically examine these resources and identify how bad science affects scholarship.

During the final week of class, each student will present a PechaKucha talk on the subject of his/her paper. A PechaKucha talk is a type of presentation in which 20 slides are shown for 20 seconds each, with the presenter narrating along with the images. Japanese for “chit-chat,” a PechaKucha presentation lasts 6 minutes, 40 seconds and the slides advance automatically.

All students will write a peer evaluation of one another’s PechaKucha talks. This is an in-class assignment designed as a means to offer feedback on both the form and content of students’ projects. Students will also have an opportunity to write a short written reflection on the challenges and rewards of creating these projects.

Further details about the assignments and tests will be given out well before the due date.

Evaluation/Basis of grading

15% Quizzes
20% Paper
15% PechaKucha talk
5% Peer evaluation (students must evaluate all talks to get full credit)
5% “Junk Egyptology” presentation
20% Midterm Exam
20% Final exam
ATTENDANCE POLICY, MAKE-UP EXAMS, AND EXTENSIONS
Class attendance is essential for your understanding of the material. Monuments and objects not pictured or discussed in the textbook will frequently be addressed in class, so presence in lecture will be beneficial to your grade. Attendance will be taken on a regular basis, especially at the beginning of the semester so that Professor Tronchin can get to know you.

Make-up exams are only allowed under compelling circumstances (e.g. a death in the family) or in the case of illness. In the event of the latter, excused absences will be granted only with a physician’s note. Please plan your semester wisely as make-up exams/quizzes will not be granted for students leaving early for vacations or traveling for weddings, for example.

Extensions for assignments will only be granted under compelling circumstances and before the due date of the paper.

Students with extracurricular activities (athletics, mock trial, etc.) that will require them to miss one or more classes during the semester should speak to Prof. Tronchin before anticipated absences.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND THE HONOR CODE
All work for this course it to be completed in accordance with the Rhodes College Honor Code. Plagiarism in particular will not be tolerated. If you have questions about plagiarism, please speak to Prof. Tronchin.

TECHNOLOGY POLICY
A TRUTH: Technology breaks. Servers go down, formats are not compatible, files become corrupt. The list goes on. These are not considered emergencies. They are part of the normal production process. Protect yourself by managing your time and backing up your work. Do not trust your computer to function correctly at the last minute! Technological malfunctions will not be accepted as an excuse for late work.

CONTACTING PROF. TRONCHIN
- Email is best: tronchinf@rhodes.edu
- Please include ART210 somewhere in the subject line of your email.
- Treat emails to all your professors as professional correspondence; please use proper grammar, spelling, salutations & sign-offs.
- Come to Clough 420 during office hours (MW 1:30-3pm) or make an appointment.
COURTESY POLICIES
To avoid disturbing your classmates and instructor, please observe the following policies:

- Arrive to class on time.
- Please set all cell phones to a silent mode. Any student responding to a phone call while in class will be asked to leave and will not be allowed to return to that class meeting. No texting during class. It is distracting to both your professor and your fellow students.
- Using laptop computers is permitted in class. Using such a computer for Facebook, gaming, etc. is not allowed.
- Drinking (water, coffee) is permitted in class; eating is not.
- Be respectful of other points of view expressed by your fellow classmates.
- Be present—in both mind & body—at class meetings. You will get a much better rest in a bed than at your desk during a lecture. In other words: no sleeping in class.
- A good grade in this course comes from hard work, not from just showing up.

SUGGESTIONS FOR SUCCESS in this course (and others)

- Keep up with reading assignments.
- Spend time looking at the artworks included in the reading assignments and review material on a weekly basis. In other words: don’t plan to cram the night before the exam.
- Begin written assignments early.
- Exchange email addresses or phone numbers with a few classmates; arrange a study group.
- Take advantage of instructor’s office hours.
- Do not hesitate to ask questions or clarify points during class meetings.
- Check email frequently for announcements about class meetings and assignments.

SPECIAL NEEDS
If a student has a documented disability and wishes to receive academic accommodations, the student should first contact the Office of Student Disability Services (x3994) and then provide the professor with an accommodation form as soon as possible.

SAFE ZONE
Professor Tronchin, her classrooms, and her office are Safe Zones. See the following page if you are unfamiliar with Safe Zones on the Rhodes campus: http://www.rhodes.edu/campuslife/11503.asp Please do not hesitate to speak with Prof. Tronchin about LGBTIQ issues.
**Schedule**

NB: Dates and topics are subject to change. Such changes will be announced in class and by email.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 January</td>
<td>Introduction to the course</td>
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<td>11 January</td>
<td>Ancient Egypt Boot Camp: Historical Outline</td>
<td>Shaw, Chapter 1</td>
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<td>14 January</td>
<td>Ancient Egypt Boot Camp: Geography, climate, and natural resources</td>
<td>Shaw, Chapters 5 &amp; 6</td>
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<td>16 January</td>
<td>Ancient Egypt Boot Camp: Gods and Goddesses</td>
<td>Shaw, Chapters 7 &amp; 8</td>
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<td>18 January</td>
<td>Ancient Egypt Boot Camp: Signs and Hieroglyphs</td>
<td>Shaw, Chapter 4</td>
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<td>21 January</td>
<td>NO CLASS MLK Jr. Day</td>
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<td>23 January</td>
<td>The Rediscovery of Egypt</td>
<td>Shaw, Chapter 2</td>
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<td>25 January</td>
<td>The Rediscovery of Egypt, continued</td>
<td>Shaw, Chapter 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 January</td>
<td>The Rediscovery of Egypt, continued</td>
<td>Shaw, Chapter 9</td>
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<td>30 January</td>
<td>Archaeology at the time of Revolution: Egypt since January 2011</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>(31 January: Prof. Tronchin gives a presentation on her research, 4PM)</td>
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<td>1 February</td>
<td>Predynastic and Early Dynastic Egypt</td>
<td>Robins, pp. 12-39</td>
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<td>4 February</td>
<td>Old Kingdom Egypt</td>
<td>Robins, pp. 40-45</td>
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6 February  | Old Kingdom Egypt  
Reading: Robins, pp. 45-57  

(7 February: Lecture by Prof. Mark Lehner, UofM, details TBA )

8 February  | The Old Kingdom  
Readings: Smith “The Workforce,” and Fitchen, “Building Cheops’ Pyramid” (PDFs)

11 February  | The Old Kingdom  
Reading: Robins, pp. 58-67

13 February  | The Old Kingdom  
Reading: Robins, pp. 67-79

15 February  | The Old Kingdom

18 February  | The First Intermediate Period  
Reading: Robins, pp. 80-89

20 February  | The First Intermediate Period

22 February  | Exam review  
Come to class with your questions about the material and format of the exam!

25 February  | Midterm Exam

27 February  | Discussion of final project, PechaKucha presentations  
By this date, you should have selected a topic for the project and begun researching and outlining the main points of your topic. We’ll discuss the basic parameters of the assignment and specific sources of research for individual projects.

1 March  | The Middle Kingdom  
Reading: Robins, pp. 90-109

4 March  | The Middle Kingdom  
Reading: Robins, pp. 110-121

6 March  | Pseudoarchaeology and Junk Egyptology  
Assignment: Find a “junk Egyptology” website (e.g. blog, video, even a Wikipedia article!) and be prepared to discuss its errors, erroneous assumptions, oversimplifications, or bias.

8 March  | Pseudoarchaeology and Junk Egyptology, part 2  
Assignment: Students who did not present on Wednesday will present today.
18 March  |  The Middle Kingdom & The Second Intermediate Period  
Reading: Troy, “She for Whom All That Is Said Is Done: The Ancient Egyptian Queen” (PDF)

20 March  |  The New Kingdom  
Reading: Robins, pp. 122-131

22 March  |  The New Kingdom  
Reading: Robins, pp. 131-137

25 March  |  The New Kingdom  
Reading: Robins, pp. 138-147

27 March  |  The Amarna Period  
Reading: Robins, pp. 148-157

29 March  |  The Amarna Period  
Reading: Robins, pp. 158-165

1 April  |  The Amarna Period

3 April  |  The Tomb of Tutankhamun  
Reading: Metropolitan Museum catalogue (PDF)

5 April  |  The New Kingdom, after Amarna  
Reading: Robins, pp. 166-181

8 April  |  The New Kingdom, after Amarna  
Reading: Robins, pp. 181-193

10 April  |  The Third Intermediate Period  
Reading: Robins, pp. 195-209

12 April  |  Late Period Egypt  
Reading: Robins, pp. 210-229

⇒ Papers Due

15 April  |  The Ptolemaic Period: Egypt after Alexander the Great  
Reading: Robins, pp. 231-255

17 April  |  Egypt & Rome: Class discussion  
Reading: Swetnam-Burland, “Egyptian Objects, Roman Contexts: A Taste for Aegyptiaca in Italy” (PDF)
19 April  |  Student PechaKucha Presentations, evaluations

22 April  |  Student PechaKucha Presentations, evaluations

24 April  |  Student PechaKucha Presentations, evaluations

1 May, 1PM |  Final Exam, Clough 417