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ART 151-02, History of Western Art, Fall 2012

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ART 151: Survey of Western Art
Fall 2012
Frazier Jelke C
MWF 2:00-2:50pm

Prof. Francesca Tronchin
Email: tronchinf@rhodes.edu
Office: Clough Hall 422
Office hours: Tues. & Thurs. 1:30 – 3:00 pm,
or by appointment

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION

The objectives of the course are as follows: (1) to provide students with a comprehensive overview of major images, artists, and movements in Western art from Prehistory through the 20th century; (2) to integrate the art with the broader cultural history of the period; and (3) to develop visual and analytical skills appropriate to further study in Art History. This course is a one-semester survey of Western Art and students are not expected to have completed any previous courses in Art History. Students with previous study in art history should consult the department Chairperson about taking intermediate-level courses. It is hoped that students follow this course by taking the survey of Contemporary Art, which begins where this concludes.

Students will learn to:

1. recognize representative monuments of architecture, sculpture, and painting from Prehistory through the 20th century;
2. both identify and explain the principal features of these monuments, using the appropriate art historical vocabulary;
3. discuss relevant aspects of the historic, social, and religious context for most of these monuments;
4. discuss the significance many of these monuments (or the historic styles they represent) had for later eras.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required: Fred Kleiner, *Gardner's Art through the Ages: The Western Perspective*.

Recommended: Sylvan Barnet, *A Short Guide to Writing About Art*, any recent edition.

Earlier editions of these books are acceptable, but be advised that page numbers and some images will be different. The *Gardner's* textbook, moreover, has a number of different versions (concise, global, digital, etc.); just follow along with chapter/section headings and lecture topics. These books are also available on reserve in Barret Library.

Additional course materials will be provided to the students through the course folder.

This material is for study purposes only and students should observe the honor code and copyright restrictions while making use of them.

IMPORTANT DATES

Exam 1: September 10

Exam 2: October 10

Exam 3: November 9

Paper due: December 3

Final Exam: December 11, 8:30am

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Students should **read** the assigned passages in the textbook *before* the class meeting on that topic and be prepared to discuss relevant concepts and monuments in class.

There will be **four exams**—three during the term and one during the final exam period. The exams will be comprised of slide identification and discussion, compare and contrast, and connoisseurship questions. *The first three exams are closed-book and are not cumulative.* The final exam will include one essay question which deals with “big picture” concepts which have been covered over the course of the semester. More details about the exams will be presented in class.

The exam material comes from class lectures, class discussion, and reading assignments. Memorization of dates, names, and places will only make up a small percentage of the grade on the exams. It is much more important that students learn the major stylistic developments in each period, the cultural and political contexts for the works of art, and why the monuments were created at their specific point in history. A list of monuments for each lecture will be provided to students to use as a study guide.

Spelling does not “count” on exams, but students must make an effort to reproduce the spelling of names and places. Some leeway is allowed in providing dates on exams. Try to provide a date within 25 years of the one noted in lecture/textbooks. When specific dates are given (e.g. 447-432 BCE for the Parthenon), you should learn that date. Understanding the relative chronology of the works studied in class is absolutely essential.

After the second exam, students will receive their **paper assignments**. The 750-1000 word paper will be a connoisseurship essay and will involve a visit to the Brooks Museum in Overton Park. The paper is due December 3 in class.

EVALUATION/BASIS OF GRADING

Paper	20%
Exam 1	20%
Exam 2	20%
Exam 3	20%
Exam 4	20%

If at any point in the semester you are concerned about your grade, please contact Professor Tronchin to receive an estimated evaluation of your standing.

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 will not be granted for students leaving early for vacations or traveling for weddings, for example.

Extensions for paper 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 is 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 **ART151** 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.

COURTESY POLICIES

To avoid disturbing your classmates and instructor, please observe the following policies:

- Arrive to class on time.
- Please set all cell phones and other communication devices to a silent mode. Any student responding to a cell 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.

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.

COURSE SCHEDULE

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

Reading assignments:

Students should prepare for each class by reading the appropriate section/chapter in the *Gardner* textbook. Specific chapter numbers are not provided since students may be using different versions of the text. I encourage students to purchase used books, electronic books, recent previous editions, or one of the many versions of the most recent print edition (Global History/ Western Perspective/ 2-volume paperback edition, etc.). The appropriate chapter should be clear by the subject matter listed.

MONDAY	WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY
	August 22 Introduction to the course	August 24 Art Before History
August 27 Mesopotamia I	August 29 Mesopotamia II	August 31 Art of Egypt I
September 3 NO CLASS Labor Day	September 5 Art of Egypt II	September 7 The Prehistoric Aegean
September 10 EXAM ONE	September 12 Archaic Greece	September 14 Classical Greece
September 17 Late Classical Greece	September 19 Hellenistic Greece	September 21 The Etruscans
September 24 The Roman Republic	September 26 The Early Roman Empire	September 28 The High Roman Empire
October 1 The Late Roman Empire	October 3 NO CLASS Prof. Tronchin giving a lecture out of town	October 5 Late Antiquity

MONDAY	WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY
October 8 Byzantium	October 10 EXAM TWO	October 12 Early Medieval Europe
October 15 FALL RECESS!	October 17 Romanesque Art & Architecture	October 19 Gothic Art and Architecture
October 22 Late Medieval Italy	October 24 Northern Europe in the 15 th century	October 26 Early Renaissance Italy
October 29 Leonardo, Michelangelo, Raphael	October 31 Venice and Mannerism	November 2 Northern Renaissance Art
November 5 Baroque Italy and Spain	November 7 Northern Baroque Art	November 9 EXAM THREE
November 12 Rococo to Neoclassicism	November 14 Romanticism and Realism	November 16 Impressionism
November 19 Post-Impressionism	THANKSGIVING BREAK	THANKSGIVING BREAK

MONDAY	WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY
November 26 Fauvism and Expressionism	November 28 Cubism, Dada, Surrealism	November 30 Modernism & Postmodernism
December 3 Abstraction & Representation PAPER DUE	December 5 But is it Art?	
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11 FINAL EXAM 8:30am		