**ARTD 1010 Art history and its meaning (57520)**

*Prof. Natalie Greenberg*

*Mo We 12:50 – 2:05*

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Room 3129 Boylan

*(Office Hours Wed 12-12:45 Room 5307 Boylan)*

# COURSE DESCRIPTION

This class is an introduction to the study of art and its history from ancient times to the present. In this course, we will study the history of Western art, beginning with the first objects created by prehistoric humans around 20,000 years ago and ending with the art and architecture of contemporary times.        
 The information presented in this course will provide you with the tools to recognize important works of art and historical styles, as well as to understand the historical context and cultural developments of Western art history through the end of the modern period.  Introductory readings paired with detailed lectures will provide you with a well-rounded sense of the history, art, and culture of the West up through modern times.  
 At the end of this course, you will be able to identify key works of art and artistic periods in Western history.  You will also be able to discuss the development of stylistic movements and relate those developments to important historical events.

# COURSE GOALS & LEARNING OBJECTIVES

This course has several goals:

1. **To develop visual literacy**. Rather than focus solely on visual memory, this course has specific assignments designed to increase your ability to read imagery. You will develop skills in identifying, describing, and analyzing works of art.
2. **To expose you to some of the most important artworks** from a variety of geographic areas and time periods. This is accomplished through lecture, reading, and exams. You will learn to identify shared characteristics among diverse artworks based on periods/styles and themes. You will also relate works of art to their cultural and historical origins.
3. **To expose you to some of the most influential ideas and research** that shape Art History as a discipline. Rather than learn facts as if they evolved out of thin air, this course focuses on how our understanding of art and history is constantly changing based on current investigations. In particular, this class encourages the idea that knowledge is constantly changing, and with it our understanding of history.
4. **To discuss the various methods and approaches to understanding art**, including formal analysis, iconography, social history of art, and feminist art history. A basic understanding of *how* scholars make their arguments and select their evidence demonstrates how knowledge is produced, as well as models for students how to craft arguments.
5. **To develop your vocabulary** with which to discuss art-historical issues. Art History has its own disciplinary language, and students will finish the course with a foundation with which to take further courses. Daily, students will be exposed to this vocabulary in their readings and in lecture.
6. **To assist you in writing and thinking more critically** about artworks and art-historical scholarship.

**Art History is as much about looking as it is about writing.** Low stakes writing assignments as well as a paper, along with exams, will assist students in accomplishing this learning objective.

# COURSE STRUCTURE:

The course involves traditional lecturing and time for discussion. This course requires time outside of lecture to complete readings and written assignments, and to prepare for examinations. **Students are also required to take at least one trip to a museum for their course paper.**

# COURSE WEBSITE

The website for our course is on art1010.cuny.brooklyn.edu , which can be accessed through the Library OER Portal.

OR

<http://art1010student.blog.brooklyn.edu/>

Course Sections

Professor Greenberg

# REQUIRED TEXTS

1. In lieu of the traditional textbook (that typically cost $140), this course will use the following: Smarthistory: an open access (free!), web-based, art history textbook. You can find it at: smarhistory.org. We will also use the Metropolitan Museum’s Heilbrunn Timeline (free) and the Grove Dictionary of Art (free, accessible through the Library’s website).
2. Readings posted to art1010student.blog.brooklyn.edu

# STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

# Attendance

* **Attendance is mandatory**.
* I take attendance every class session
* After **three absences**, you should expect a **letter grade lower** as a result. I reserve the right to withdraw students for excessive absences. Every lecture includes material not covered in your readings, so it is essential that you come to lecture. Borrow another student’s notes if you miss lecture. Ask him or her any questions you might have about material you missed.
* Once you arrive in class, I expect you to be able to stay in the classroom for 75 minutes.
* If you must leave the classroom for any reason, please take your things with you and you will be marked absent for that day.
* If you must be absent for any reason, please [contact me in advance via e-mail](mailto:ritafabris@hotmail.com)
* There will be **NO makeup exams**, no exceptions. Only those students who can produce a **documented medical or family emergency** will be afforded the chance to make up a missed exam [Remember: must be documented! And the doctor cannot be a family member.]
* **Punctuality** is a behavior expected of all students. Please be in your seat at the beginning of class and remain until the end**. Students entering class after it has started will be marked as absent.** Unless there is an emergency, you should not leave the classroom prior to the end of class. If you must leave class, please take your belongings and you will be marked absent for that day.
* **Three lateness’ will constitute one absence**.
* **Lateness & Submission Policy: NO** assignments or papers will be accepted through email. **Lateness, missed trains, broken printers or computers, work schedules, or negligence are not acceptable excuses for late work either.**

# COURSE REQUIREMENTS

**Course Grades**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * **Attendance** | 10% |
| * **Exam 1** | 20% |
| * **Exam 2** * **Exam 3** | 20%  20% |
| * **Short Writing Assignments** | 10% |
| * **Museum Paper** | 20% |
|  |  |

Final grades will not be curved or rounded up. Please refer to the scale below for what constitutes a specific letter grade.

### Letter grades are determined as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Letter Grade** | **Equivalent number** |
| A+ | 97-100 |
| A | 93-96 |
| A- | 90-92 |
| B+ | 87-89 |
| B | 83-86 |
| B-\_ | 80-82 |
| C+ | 77-79 |
| C | 73-76 |
| C- | 70-72 |
| D+ | 67-69 |
| D | 63-66 |
| D- | 60-62 |
| F | Below 59 |

* **Exams:** There are three exams for this class; they are not cumulative. They are based on lecture material, required course readings, discussions, and videos. There will not be in-class reviews. Exams will be composed of slide identifications, multiple choice, short answers and essays (single slide of comparisons). What is a slide i.d.? You identify an image by providing the artist’s name, work’s title, date, and original location. Images for which you need to know the i.d. information will be marked with a star\* on the PowerPoints.
* **Short Writing Assignments:** There are several writing assignments throughout the quarter. They will be posted on art1010student.blog.brooklyn.edu
* All assignments, unless otherwise noted, should be typed in Times New Roman or Arial, with 12-point font, 1” margins all around, double-spaced.
* These assignments are low-stakes writing assignments intended to develop your writing and critical thinking skills. They will be graded on a scale of 1- 10.

**Museum Paper:** Each student will write one short paper on an object of his or her choice from a local museum, such as the Brooklyn Museum, Metropolitan Museum, or Museum of Modern Art. The paper will be 3 full-pages in length. The goals of this assignment are threefold: (1) to look in detail at a work of art, (2) to describe a work of art using art vocabulary, and (3) to analyze the formal qualities of an artwork. More details will be posted on the art1010student blog.

# IMPORTANT DATES

* **Exam #1**: (in class) **Monday Sept 23rd**
* **Exam #**2 (in class) **Wednesday Nov 6**
* **Exam #3 (during final exams Dec 14-20)**
* **Museum Paper Due**: Monday November 25th
* Holiday (No Classes): Monday September 30, Wednesday October 9, Monday October 14
* October 21- I will not be teaching this day

COURSE ETIQUETTE

* During both lecture and discussion, please be respectful of the instructor and other students. Please refrain from talking, eating, sleeping, browsing the internet, checking email or Facebook, reading the newspaper, text messaging, doodling, and any other action that serves as a distraction to those around you. Please do not leave class early; it is disruptive. And please, KEEP YOUR CELL PHONES OUT OF SIGHT! *I will ask you to leave i f you are engaging in distracting actions, including texting or talking.*
* **Emails**: Consider emails a last resort. If you have questions, please come see me in office hours. I am but one person; there are many of you. For this reason, please consider emailing a privilege. Post questions to the Art 1010 student blog. When you email me, include in the subject heading the course number and reason for your email, and always include your name. The following are not appropriate reasons for communicating with the professor by email: (1) to request extra credit; (2) to attempt to negotiate changes in exam grades or final grade; (3) to find out what you missed during an absence; (4) or to ask what material will be covered on exams or quizzes--this information is announced in class.

# ACADEMIC HONESTY

* + You are all expected to be students of integrity. If anyone is caught cheating or plagiarizing, there will be serious repercussions; you will be reported to the Dean of Students. If you do not know what constitutes plagiarism or cheating, please come talk to me and review the following resources:
    - Plagiarism: What is it and how to recognize it: [http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml](http://www.indiana.edu/%7Ewts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml)
    - Is it Plagiarism Yet? <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/02/>
    - Or consult with someone at the BC Learning Center: <http://lc.brooklyn.cuny.edu/>
  + If a student is found cheating or plagiarizing then no credit will be given for the assignment and the incident will be reported as per Brooklyn’s policy, which states:

“The faculty and administration of Brooklyn College support an environment free from cheating and plagiarism. Each student is responsible for being aware of what constitutes cheating and plagiarism and for avoiding both. The complete text of the CUNY Academic Integrity Policy and the Brooklyn College procedure for implementing that policy can be found at this site: [http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/bc/policies.](http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/bc/policies) If a faculty member suspects a violation of academic integrity and, upon investigation, confirms that violation, or if the student admits the violation, **the faculty member MUST report the violation.”** [This means that if you cheat on a test or an assignment, I *will* file a report, which will initiate academic penalties.]

# SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

* If you require certain accommodations (e.g., additional time on tests), please read this statement from the Center for Student Disability Services: **“In order to receive disability-related academic accommodations students must first be registered with the Center for Student Disability Services. Students who have a documented disability or suspect they may have a disability are invited to set up an appointment with the Director of the Center for Student Disability Services, Ms. Valerie Stewart-Lovell at 718-951-5538. If you have already registered with the Center for Student Disability Services please provide your professor with the course accommodation form and discuss your specific accommodation with him/her.”**
* If you qualify, then you need to notify the professor to make arrangements for a quiz/exam in the testing center at least one week before the exam/quiz date.
* \*\*\*No special accommodations will be made for anyone unless there is a documented reason.

# PLEASE NOTE: The professor reserves the right to change the syllabus as needed over the semester. By remaining enrolled in this class, you accept that this syllabus is a binding contract between the student and professor.