



ART, TECHNOLOGY, AND CIVILIZATION

Art 1301-01W
SUMMER I, 2015
Online Course



Instructor: William Wadley, Ph.D.

Office Location: Main Art Building 208 or 109 (*Online students see below.*)

Office Hours: I do not hold regular office hours on the A&M-Commerce campus during summer terms, but students may contact me freely through email. If an extenuating circumstance arises and a student requires a face-to-face conference, I will be happy to meet for scheduled appointments either in my office on the Commerce campus or at the satellite campuses in Rockwall or Mesquite between the days of Monday and Thursday. Such appointments can be scheduled by email.

Office Phone: 903-886-5203 or 903-886-5208 (As mentioned above, email is a quicker and more reliable method of contact for online students.)

Office Fax: 903-886-5987

University Email Address: William.Wadley@tamuc.edu

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbook(s) Required:

Fichner-Rathus, Lois. *Understanding Art*. 9th or 10th editions. Cengage Learning.

(9th edition: ISBN-13: 978-0-49-590567-7; ISBN-10: 0-495-90567-4)

(10th edition: ISBN-13: 978-1-111-83809-6; ISBN-10: 1-111-83809-7)

Students have the option of buying either the 9th or 10th edition of *Understanding Art*. Used 9th or 10th editions can be less costly than a brand new 10th edition. CDs and web connections that come with new editions are helpful, but they are not required.

Other Resources:

Students who purchase new textbooks have access to the online resources associated with the book. The access card in the textbook explains the login process at www.cengagebrain.com

www.artstor.org is a data base of digital images covering much of world art. An invaluable resource in the study of art history at A&M-Commerce, it is accessible online through the homepage of Gee Library (go to databases). Artstor includes images, titles, and descriptions of nearly all works of art discussed in class.

Course Description:

This course examines the relationships between the visual arts and other expressions of human imagination and invention. Special attention is given to parallel developments in the histories of ideas, technology, and art. Three semester hours.

Course Objectives:

This course has three major objectives. The first is to consider the definitions and boundaries of visual art, with an eye towards tolerance, understanding, and appreciation of the artist's intentions. The second is to impart an understanding of the physical techniques and expressive qualities of the various media used in the making of art. Thirdly, art will be examined in its context, that is, against the cultural and historical backdrop of the societies that produced it. The visual arts will be discussed in relation to other products of human activity and imagination, among which are history, literature, economics, philosophy, religion, science and the other arts.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. To gain an understanding of the visual arts as an expression of human insight, imagination, and technological achievement.
2. To see the ways in which art reflects or communicates social, political, ideological, and religious values and constructions.
3. To appreciate the creative process of the artist and the principles of visual design as integral to the meaning of works of art.
4. To understand the development of the visual arts against the patterns and chronology of human history.
5. To learn themes and meanings embodied in works of art.
6. To recognize the interconnections between art and other expressions of human activity, such as literature, science, economics, music, and theatre.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments:

Instruction includes readings from the textbook, online PowerPoint lectures, discussions, links to educational sites on the internet, online research projects, discussions, examinations, and research assignments.

Online Tutorial:

All students must complete the online tutorial for this course. Log on to this course by entering MyLeo and finding the course through eCollege.

Log In Verification:

Students must always log in to eCollege with their user name and password to complete the online readings and assignments for this course. While group study sessions are encouraged and may be beneficial for you, logging in under your name is the only way that you can be individually credited for the effort you have made in the course.

Online Connectivity for Graded Assignments:

When you are logging in to take an exam or completing other online assignments please use common sense and be prepared for glitches. Common sense dictates that it is always best to do this kind of work on a reliable and stationary laptop or desk top computer that has a dependable internet signal, preferably in your home, a college computer lab, or a quiet and stable environment. While always entertaining, the following are excuses that no instructor wishes to hear: "I thought the beach would have a signal." "I must have hit a key on my I-phone by accident when I was commuting to work." "I always had good reception at Starbucks before."

EXAMINATIONS

- 1. WEEK 1 EXAM. Friday, June 12.**
Textbook, Chapters 1-4
Instructor's Power Points, Chapters 1-4
- 2. WEEK 2 EXAM. Thursday, June 18.**
Textbook, Chapters 5-9
Instructor's Power Points, Chapters 5-9
- 3. WEEK 3 EXAM. Thursday, June 25.**
Textbook, Chapters 10-14
Instructor's Power Points, Chapters 10-12
- 4. WEEK 4 EXAM. Thursday, July 2.**
Textbook, Chapters 15-18
- 5. WEEK 5 EXAM. Thursday, July 9.**
Textbook, Chapters 19-22

Each exam will focus on the readings and assignments of the preceding segment of the course, although there may be some questions that require general knowledge gathered throughout the course.

Each exam is open for 24 hours on the scheduled day, but once started you have only **1 hour** to complete it. You cannot log off the exam and resume it later. **If you log off before completing it, the exam is over and you will receive credit only for the answers you finished.**

All exams will be administered in a multiple choice or true-false format. Expect to be tested over the textbook and PowerPoints alike through Chapter 12. The instructor's PowerPoints end with Chapter 12, thus the textbook is the primary source of information thereafter. In preparing for the exams, be certain to study how art terms and concepts are reflected in works of art. Be ready too to recognize the ways in which art reflects historical and cultural conditions.

Exams must be taken at the scheduled times. Reopening an exam or any other online assignment will require verifiable documentation of an emergency or medical situation (see the heading below, “Medical Situations or Emergencies”). Excuses that a computer “glitch” occurred or that you couldn’t get online will have to be verified by evidence, so it will be important to have a back-up plan for accessing this course to complete an assignment. If genuine problems of this kind arise, please contact eCollege the instant it occurs and also call 903-886-5208 immediately thereafter and leave a message for me that includes your name, the course number, the nature of the problem, and the exact time that it happened. You will be asked for verification that you have done this. A friendly warning: Do not wait until the last minute to take your exams and assignments lest you encounter a glitch or be timed out. If a student qualifies to take a make-up exam, it will sometimes be necessary to administer it in a different format than the exam online.

4 WEEKLY DROP BOX ASSIGNMENTS. (Each assignment will be open for 1 week.)

The specifics of the drop box assignments are described online under the heading, “Assignments for this Week.”

- 1. WEEK 1 DROP BOX ASSIGNMENT. Opens June 8, closes 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, June 14.**
- 2. WEEK 2 DROP BOX ASSIGNMENT. Opens June 15, closes 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, June 21.**
- 3. WEEK 3 DROP BOX ASSIGNMENT. Opens June 22, closes 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, June 28.**
- 4. WEEK 4 DROP BOX ASSIGNMENT. Opens June 29, closes 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, July 5.**

Please consult the online instructions for the 4 drop box assignments. Each assignment must be submitted in **Word format**. **Be certain to save back-up copies of your drop box work** in case I am unable to download the file. Please also be prepared to send your assignment to my regular campus email address in the body of an email (as regular text) if any downloading--or uploading--issues occur.

PARTICIPATION IN 5 WEEKLY DISCUSSIONS (Each discussion will be open for 1 week.)

The weekly discussion topics are assigned online. The grading rubric is outlined under the next heading, “Calculaton of Grades.”

- 1. WEEK 1 DISCUSSION. Opens June 8, closes 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, June 14.**
- 2. WEEK 2 DISCUSSION. Opens June 15, closes 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, June 21.**
- 3. WEEK 3 DISCUSSION. Opens June 22, closes 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, June 28.**
- 4. WEEK 4 DISCUSSION. Opens June 29, closes 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, July 5.**
- 5. WEEK 5 DISCUSSION. Opens July 6, closes 11:59 p.m. on Thursday, July 9.**

Each Monday the instructor will open a topic pertaining to the reading assignments for the week. Each student will respond **at least two times** to the topic. The first response must be an original and informed commentary on the topic. The second may be original or a reaction to a fellow student’s remarks. Each response should be **at least one paragraph in length** (6-12 sentences minimum). Please remember that this is not a chat room but a college-level discussion of serious subjects. There is an expectation that students will provide well considered and researched comments that are knowledge-based and supported by fact. In other words, purely personal, unsubstantiated opinions are unacceptable. Students should endeavor to advance thoughtful commentary in clear and proper English that is devoid of spelling and grammatical errors. Slang language and internet abbreviations such as “fyi” and

“lol” are not permitted. Above all, please remember to hold your classmates in high esteem and to respond to their commentaries with courtesy and respect.

STUDENT OUTCOMES EXAM

In the final week of the semester students will take a short exam that evaluates what they have learned during the semester. The exam will not adversely affect your grade in the course, as it is only a tool to help the university and instructor identify the strengths and weaknesses of the course. However, the State of Texas and Texas A&M University-Commerce have mandated that all students be assessed in this way, and therefore **the exam must be taken to pass the course**. As an incentive, the instructor will add the points you score on the exam to your final tally (up to 20 extra points).

CALCULATION OF GRADES:

Grades will be calculated as follow:

5 Exams (100 points each) = 500 points.

A = 100-90 points
B = 89-80 points
C = 79-70 points
D = 69-60 points
F = 59-0 points

4 Drop Box Assignments (24 points each) = 96 points (Due weekly)

Using a recent version of Word, students will complete each drop box assignment within a 2-week period. These assignments are usually fact-based assignments in which a student is either correct or incorrect in fulfilling them. However, should shades of gray occur, the rubric below will determine the grade.

A = 24-20 points (The requested information is essentially correct.)
B = 19-15 points (Information may contain a minor flaw or two.)
C = 14-10 points (The student's response is partially correct.)
D = 9-5 points (There are significant errors in what the student has provided.)
F = 4-0 points (The response to the assignment is seriously flawed or incorrect.)

5 Weekly Discussions (20 points each) = 100 points (Due weekly)

Below is a general rubric for grading. Grades will reflect one or more of the qualities or flaws described under each level. Students will submit at least **two** responses to each weekly discussion, either commenting on the original topic or adding insights to what other students have said. (Remember to be polite and respectful!)

A = 20-17 points (Responds to topic with informed, thoughtful, and fact-based comments; well written; no spelling or grammatical errors; long enough to express one's ideas clearly and thoroughly)
B = 16-13 points (Responds well to topic with informed comments; capably written; minimal spelling or grammatical errors; sufficiently long to get across one's ideas)

- C** = 12-9 points (Responds to topic; written with some difficulty; noticeable spelling or grammatical errors; insufficient time spent composing one's ideas)
- D** = 8-5 points (Does not fully grasp or address the topic; poorly conceived and written; distracting spelling and grammatical errors; minimal effort)
- F** = 4-0 points (Fails in most ways to address or write about the topic; less than two responses)

Calculation of Final Grade:

- A** (100-90%) = 696-625 points
- B** (89-80%) = 624-555 points
- C** (79-70%) = 554-486 points
- D** (69-60%) = 485-416 points
- F** (59-0%) = 415-0 points

Student Outcomes Exam:

Students may earn up to 20 points on the Outcomes Exam. These points will be added as a bonus to the total sum of points you earned in the course.

SUMMARY OF ALL GRADED AND EXTRA CREDIT ASSIGNMENTS

Summary of All Graded and Extra Credit Assignments

5 Exams: 500 points

4 Drop Box Assignments: 96 points

5 Discussions: 100 points

Student Outcomes Exam: Extra credit up to 20 points added to your final tally of points

Total: 696 points + 20 possible extra points from the Student Outcome Exam

A WORD ON COMPLETING YOUR WORK ON TIME

Online courses offer students flexibility and ease in completing their classes and degree requirements. In online classes deadlines and closure dates are established well ahead of time, so that students can organize their academic, professional, and private schedules around them. Because of this it is imperative that students follow instructions and achieve their work within the schedules provided. If a student fails to finish an assignment or exam within the open period, an instructor does not want to hear such excuses as "I was out of town" or "I couldn't get a signal where I was." Any issues of this sort should be foreseen, and if a student has a genuine conflict or reason for missing a deadline, that information should be brought to the instructor's attention beforehand. If, in rare instances, a student is allowed to make up a missed assignment the work must be made up in accordance with the timetable and guidelines established by the instructor.

For any sort of software or connection "glitch" that prevents you from logging in or completing your assignments online, you must provide verification that you informed eCollege immediately, left a message for me at 903-886-5208 (as described earlier), and made every effort to remedy the problem.

EXTRA CREDIT

Other than the points added by taking the required Student Outcomes Exam (see Course Requirements above) it is not possible to receive extra credit in this course. So, please do not ask. There are already many opportunities to make high grades in this course, so please spend your extra time working on the existing assignments and requirements.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

The specific technological requirements below apply to this online version of Art 1301:

- Broadband connection to the internet, such as Cable, DSL, or the A&M-Commerce campus network. Recent versions of Internet Explorer, Firefox, or Safari are necessary for connectivity and speed. (Dial-up, satellite, or other non-broadband internet connections will not function properly within eCollege.)
- PC computer with at least a 2.0 GHz processor and 1 GB RAM; or a MAC computer with comparable configurations.
- Windows XP, Vista, or Windows 7/8 operating systems; or MAC OS 9 or X operating systems.
- Microsoft Word (current or recent version).
- Students must have the necessary software (e.g., Adobe Reader, Java, etc.) to navigate the internet and view interactive sites storing videos, slide shows, music, and similar resources. If you experience connectivity issues or downloading problems with your current internet browser, check with eCollege to evaluate the matter.

Additionally, students should take advantage of www.artstor.org, a data base of digital images covering much of world art history. Artstor includes annotated images of nearly all works of art projected in this course and is accessible through the Gee Library home page (databases).

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor:

Although Art 1301-01W is an online course, I will endeavor to be accessible to each and every student. Like many of you, I am usually off-campus when engaged in this course, so I am not likely to answer the telephone in my office on the Commerce campus. Email is the quickest and most reliable way to contact me, and I will conduct email correspondence according to the following schedule:

Monday – Wednesday: Every effort will be made to answer your emails within a 24-hour period.

Thursday – Sunday: I will try to answer your emails in a timely manner, but please understand that I cannot assure a response until the following Monday.

When emailing me about matters pertaining to this online course it is imperative that you provide as much information as possible in your subject line. Please indicate the course number and the subject of your email. In this way I can quickly separate your email from the many others I receive and give it the attention it deserves. Please also remember to include your full name at the end of

the message, as I cannot tell you how many emails I have received from students whose only identity is an email address, which often does not correspond to his or her name. **Please also maintain a running correspondence with me by replying to my emails rather than sending new messages after you first contact me.** In this way we will both have a record of our email conversations over the entire semester. Just change the subject line to reflect the current matter you are bringing to my attention. Please note that some mobile software does not store the original text message when it is replied to, so please make every effort to send me important messages in a form that does preserve our correspondence, preferably by means of a laptop or stationary computer.

Students taking online courses should check their email **daily** and respond to any correspondence from the instructor in the same timely manner that they would expect in return. Responding within 24-48 hours is a good rule of thumb.

If a student wishes to schedule a face-to-face meeting, please set up an appointment via email. As a convenience to my students, there are three locations where we can meet: The main campus in Commerce; the A&M-Commerce campus in Rockwall; and the A&M-Commerce Metroplex Center in Mesquite. For urgent matters of the last resort you may speak to an administrative secretary in the Department of Art or leave a voice mail message, and in turn it will be conveyed to me. This number is 903-886-5208.

eCollege Technical Support:

The following information comes from the introductory page of eCollege:

eCollege Technical Concerns: Please contact the eCollege HelpDesk, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, by sending an email directly to helpdesk@online.tamuc.org. You may also reach the HelpDesk by calling (toll-free) 1-866-656-5511 or 720-931-3847 (direct), or through the Online Chat by clicking on the "Tech Support" tab within your eCollege course.

Course Concerns: If you have questions pertaining to the content of this course (e.g., questions about an exam, about course due dates, etc.), please contact your instructor via email, through the Virtual Office (if the instructor has elected to set it up), or during office hours (no always available in summer terms).

Other Questions/Concerns: Contact the appropriate TAMU-C department relating to your questions/concern. If you are unable to reach the appropriate department with questions regarding your course enrollment, billing, advising, or financial aid, please call 903-886-5511 between the hours of 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Format of the Course:

As an online course, Art 1301 requires to students to pace themselves and manage their time on a tight weekly schedule. In summers the five-week term will be over before you know it! An online course is not the sort of class where a student can fall behind and expect to make up the time later, as assignments and exams come up quickly and frequently. If you miss deadlines or fail to complete

your assignments within the “windows” of time opened online, there is no way to make up the work.

Online Etiquette:

Just as in my classrooms in Commerce, I endeavor in my online courses to create an atmosphere that is comfortable and conducive to learning. Towards this end, I insist upon courtesy and fairness to everyone and always try to lead by example. Please help me in making this online course a positive experience, a learning laboratory that you enjoy logging on to.

When interacting with your classmates, please abide by the following rules of “netiquette.” They are copied from the website: <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

- Rule 1: Remember the Human
- Rule 2: Adhere to the same standards of behavior online that you follow in real life
- Rule 3: Know where you are in cyberspace
- Rule 4: Respect other people's time and bandwidth
- Rule 5: Make yourself look good online
- Rule 6: Share expert knowledge
- Rule 7: Help keep flame wars under control
- Rule 8: Respect other people's privacy
- Rule 9: Don't abuse your power
- Rule 10: Be forgiving of other people's mistakes

Medical situations or emergencies:

There can be no absences as such in an online course. An advantage of the online format is that students are able to log in and complete assignments and exams within generous windows of time, making scheduling far more flexible than in the classroom setting. However, in rare instances a student may be involved in an accident or have a serious illness that prevents him or her from logging on. If this occurs, it is imperative to communicate with the instructor immediately and to provide an official excuse or legal form that can be verified. Explanations alone are not acceptable; they must be accompanied by a (1) a scan of the official documentation in the form of a PDF attachment and (2) names and telephone numbers of people who can attest to the emergency. There are no exceptions to this policy.

Academic Dishonesty:

Academic dishonesty comprises a broad range of forbidden and punishable practices that include plagiarism, collusion with other people, cheating on exams and assignments, and misrepresenting your work. Students should especially guard against plagiarism, which is the use of others' words, ideas, and phrases without proper citation. Instances of academic dishonesty will be treated seriously and will result in a failing grade in the course, as well as the possibility of disciplinary action on the part of the university. Remember that academic dishonesty is not only a violation of trust but an unlawful act in many cases.

Codes of conduct and information about student life at Texas A&M University-Commerce are detailed online in the *Student Guide*. (Search *Student Guide* at www.tamuc.edu)

Grades of Incomplete (“X”):

University guidelines on Incomplete Grades have recently changed, as described in *Student's Guidebook* and *Texas A&M University-Commerce Procedures* (Supplements System Policy 13.02). In short, students are eligible to receive an "X" only if they been unable, because of circumstances beyond their control, to attend classes during Finals Week or the preceding three weeks. If a student meets these criteria, he or she must still petition the instructor and the instructor's department head by filling out and submitting a "Plan for Completing the Grade of X." Whether or not a petition is valid will be determined by the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Students with Disabilities:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services, Texas A&M University-Commerce, Gee Library, Room 132, Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835, Fax (903) 468-8148, StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

COURSE OUTLINE, READINGS, AND ASSIGNMENTS: SUMMER I, 2015

(For academic purposes, weeks begin on Monday.)

WEEK 1 (June 8-14)

Readings for Week 1:

- Textbook, Chapter 1 ("What is Art?")
- Instructor's Power Point, Chapter 1
- Textbook, Chapter 2 ("Visual Elements of Art.")
- Instructor's Power Point, Chapter 2
- Textbook, Chapter 3 ("Principles of Design.")
- Instructor's Power Point, Chapter 3
- Textbook, Chapter 4 ("Style, Form, and Content.")
- Instructor's Power Point, Chapter 4

Graded Assignments for Week 1:

- Discussion: Opens June 8 and closes at 11:59 p.m. on June 14.
- Drop Box: Opens June 8 and closes at 11:59 p.m. on June 14.
(*The assignments above are described fully online.*)
- **Exam 1, Friday, June 12 (open all day until 11:59 p.m.). Covers textbook and PowerPoint chapters 1-4. Subsequent exams in this course will be scheduled on Thursdays.**

WEEK 2 (June 15-21)

Readings for Week 2:

- Textbook, Chapter 5 (“Drawing”)
- Instructor’s Power Point, Chapter 5
- Textbook, Chapter 6 (“Painting”)
- Instructor’s Power Point, Chapter 6
- Textbook, Chapter 7 (“Printmaking”)
- Instructor’s Power Point, Chapter 7
- Textbook, Chapter 8 (“Imaging: Photography, Film, Video, and Digital Arts”)
- Instructor’s Power Point, Chapter 8
- Textbook, Chapter 9 (“Sculpture”)
- Instructor’s Power Point, Chapter 9

Graded Assignments for Week 2:

- Discussion: Opens June 15 and closes at 11:59 p.m. on June 21.
- Drop Box: Opens June 15 and closes at 11:59 p.m. on June 21.
(The assignments above are described fully online.)
- **Exam 2, Thursday, June 18 (open all day until 11:59 p.m.). Covers textbook and PowerPoint chapters 5-9.**

WEEK 3 (June 22-28)

Readings for Week 3:

- Textbook, Chapter 10 (“Site-Specific Art”)
- Instructor’s Power Point, Chapter 10
- Textbook, Chapter 11 (“Architecture”)
- Instructor’s Power Point, Chapter 11
- Textbook, Chapter 12 (“Craft and Design”)
- Instructor’s Power Point, Chapter 12
- Textbook, Chapter 13 (“The Art of the Ancients”)
- Textbook, Chapter 14 (“Classical Art: Greece and Rome”)

Graded Assignments for Week 3:

- Discussion: Opens June 22 and closes at 11:59 p.m. on June 28.
- Drop Box: Opens June 22 and closes at 11:59 p.m. on June 28.
(The assignments above are described fully online.)
- **Exam 3, Thursday, June 25 (open all day until 11:59 p.m.). Covers textbook chapters 10-14 and PowerPoint chapters 10-12.**

WEEK 4 (June 29-July 5)

Readings for Week 4:

- Textbook, Chapter 15 (“Christian Art: From Catacombs to Cathedrals”)
- Textbook, Chapter 16 (“The Renaissance”)
- Textbook, Chapter 17 (“The Age of the Baroque”)
- Textbook, Chapter 18 (“Art Beyond the West”)

Graded Assignments for Week 4:

- Discussion: Opens June 29 and closes at 11:59 p.m. on July 5.
- Drop Box: Opens June 29 and closes at 11:59 p.m. on July 5.
(The assignments above are described fully online.)
- **Exam 4, Thursday, July 2 (open all day until 11:59 p.m.). Covers textbook and chapters 15-18. (There are no PowerPoints for these chapters).**

WEEK 5 (July 6-9)

Readings for Week 5:

- Textbook, Chapter 19 (“Modern Art”)
- Textbook, Chapter 20 (“The Twentieth Century: The Early Years”)
- Textbook, Chapter 21 (“The Twentieth Century: Post-War to Postmodern”)
- Textbook, Chapter 22 (“Art in the Twenty-First Century: A Global Perspective”)

Graded Assignments for Week 5:

- Discussion: Opens July 6 and closes at 11:59 p.m. on July 9.
(The assignment above is described fully online.)
- **Exam 5, Thursday, July 9 (open all day until 11:59 p.m.). Covers textbook chapters 19-22. (There are no PowerPoints for these chapters.)**
- Student Outcomes Exam, open July 6-9 at 11:59 p.m. Students are required to take this exam, but the points scored on it will be added as extra credit.