



EAST TEXAS A&M

UNIVERSITY

Art 1301

Dual Credit- Art Appreciation

Fall 2025

COURSE SYLLABUS:

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Katie H. Ritchie, MFA

University Email Address: katie.ritchie@tamuc.edu OR katie.ritchie@commerceisd.org

Preferred Form of Communication:

Communication Response Time: **24 Hours or less**

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials:

This course has been designed using Open Educational Resources (OER) and/or materials that are available through the [Waters Library](#). All materials are embedded within the course or are accessible via the internet or accessible through the Waters Library resource portal. After taking the pretest, students are encouraged to bookmark, download, or save materials provided via the internet for use with assignments and projects in this class.

Textbook and Readings:

Sachant, Pamela J., ed. [Introduction to Art: Design, Context, and Meaning](#). Dahlonega, GA: University of North Georgia Press, 2016.

You can download portions of the book as a PDF or install [Adobe Digital Editions](#) to download and read the entire book offline. PDFs are posted to the classroom.

Videos:

Videos linked to or embedded in the course provide in-depth looks at specific artists and/or artworks relevant to each module topic. Most videos are 3-5 minutes in length.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Art Appreciation refers to the exploration of visual art to gain an understanding of the relationships between the visual arts and other expressions of human imagination and invention. In this course, you will be introduced to the basic principles of visual arts. You will learn the vocabulary of art as it refers to analyzing the form of an artwork and how to interpret art as a means of understanding how, why, where, when, and to what purpose it was made to better understand the ways in which art reflects or communicates social, political, ideological, and religious values and constructions.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Competency 1: Students will identify what is considered art and why it is made.

Competency 2: Students will identify the role of art makers, patrons, and institutions that aid in the creation and dissemination of art.

Competency 3: Students will identify types of art media and forms of classification.

Competency 4: Students will identify the elements and principles of art as means to derive meaning from art and classify art.

Competency 5: Students will interpret artworks in order to associate artwork to particular art movements.

Competency 6: Students will apply knowledge in this course through the development of a virtual art exhibition.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Sketch Book (may be old spiral or old book)

Minimal Technical Skills Needed: Using D2L Brightspace learning management system, Microsoft Word, Google Sites, which requires a free Google Account if you do not already have one.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course: To be successful in this course, all content and course modules should be read and reviewed. All assignments and quizzes (both graded and not graded) should be completed. Please contact the instructor by email for any assistance.

REGULAR AND SUBSTANTIVE COURSE INTERACTION

As a general guide, students enrolled in a three-semester hour course should spend one hour engaged in instructional activities and two to three hours on out-of-class work per week in a traditional semester. Students are expected to double this effort of engagement given that this course is being delivered in a seven-week term. Educational activities in this course are designed to ensure regular and substantive interaction between students and faculty to ensure that students are able to demonstrate competency.

ASSESSMENT

GRADING

Attendance is mandatory- Four unexcused absences= a drop in letter grade

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are the technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements: <https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

If you encounter problems accessing D2L, please contact Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778.

Interaction with Instructor Statement

This is an online course; therefore, expect most communication to be online as well. If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your instructor. Correspondence will always be through university email (your “myLeo” mail) and announcements in myLeo online (D2L). The instructor will make every effort to respond to emails within 24 provided the correspondence follows the requirements listed below. Students are encouraged to check their university email daily.

All emails from students should include:

- **Course name and subject in the subject line (ex. EDCB 517 – Posttest)**
- **Salutation**
- **Proper email etiquette (no “text” emails – use proper grammar and punctuation)**
- **Student name and CWID after the body of the email**

UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

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

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health – Counseling Services

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

WEEK 1	WELCOME TO ART APPRECIATION	SYLLABUS, D2L, AI AND PLAGERISM ASSIGNMENTS, ETC. SYLLABUS CONTRACT ACTIVITY
WEEK2	WHAT IS ART?	NOTES ACTIVITY
WEEK 3	ELEMENTS OF ART	ELEMENT LINE ELEMENT SHAPE AND COLOR ASSIGNMENTS DUE
WEEK 4	ELEMENTS OF ART	TEXTURE AND VALUE DUE
WEEK 5	PRINCIPLES OF DESIGN	BALANCE- RHYTHM EMPHASIS- PATTERN RHYTHM, VARIETY AND MOVEMENT DUE
WEEK 6	PRINCIPLES OF DESIGN	USING ELEMENTS AND PRINCIPLES TO DEFINE A WORK TEST 1
WEEK 7	VIEWING ART	ART DETECTIVE SHEET DUE
WEEK 8	ART AND POLITICS	PAPER 1 DUE
WEEK 9	PERIODS OF ART	TIMELINE DUE
WEEK 10	ART TALK	ARTIST SHEET
WEEK 11	MEDIA AND MEDIUMS	
WEEK 12	MEDIA AND MEDIUMS	COIL POT ANALYSIS PAPER 2
WEEK 13	WORKING ON SKETCHBOOK	

WEEK 14	ART EXHIBITION	SKETCHBOOK DUE
WEEK 15	FINALS WEEK	ART EXHIBIT DUE