ART 1301 – 01W GLB/Art Appreciation
Online, Asynchronous
SPRING 2026

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Sarah DePetris
Office Location: Art Building, 210
Office Hours: Wednesday 10-11am (via Zoom)
University Email Address: sarah.depetris@etamu.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: Email via D2L
Communication Response Time: M-Th 9-5, usually within 24 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Format:
This is a fully online, asynchronous course.

Textbook(s) Required:
There is no required textbook for this course.
All required readings, viewing and course content are posted to the D2L and are free to access.

Required Readings and Videos:
Online materials from sources such as Smarthistory, museum websites and OER course materials are accessed via D2L.

OER Course Materials:
This course uses the Open Educational Resource: *Art Appreciation Open Educational Resource* (2020) by Marie Porterfield of East Tennessee State University, that is designed to replace the need for a traditional textbook, with adaptations and adjustment. The OER is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution - Non Commercial - ShareAlike 4.0 International License (CC BY-NC-SA 4.0).

Porterfield, Marie. 2020. Art Appreciation Open Educational Resource. Johnson City, TN: East Tennessee State University.
https://dc.etsu.edu/art-appreciation-oer

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Supplemental textbook, recommended (available free via the below link)**:**

Sachant, Pamela J., ed. *Introduction to Art: Design, Context, and Meaning.* Dahlonega, GA: University of North Georgia Press, 2016.

https://ung.edu/university-press/books/introduction-to-art.php

Course Materials & Supplies
You are not expected or required to purchase any materials for the course.
A sketchbook or unlined notebook is recommended.

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.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, students will:

1. Gain an understanding of art terminology, the elements of art, and the principles of design.

2. Gain an understanding of the processes and materials used in the production of various works of art.

3. Gain an understanding of the visual arts as an expression of human insight, imagination, and technological achievement.

4. Learn how to critically interpret and evaluate works of art.

5. Learn the ways in which art reflects or communicates social, political, ideological, and religious values and constructions.

6. Explain and differentiate creative works as expressions of values within cultural and historical contexts.

7. Learn to recognize the interconnections between art and other expressions of human activity, such as literature, science, economics, music, and theatre.

Minimal Technical Skills Needed
Using D2L Brightspace learning management system, Microsoft Word, Microsoft PowerPoint.

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Course Instruction Methods and Student Expectations:

This is a fully online, asynchronous course. You are expected to interact with the course D2L each week. Online learning modules require students to be self-motivated, and to independently pace their work.

This course will require using D2L to complete all course content, reliable internet and the use of a laptop or desktop computer. You will be reading and reviewing material that is all located in the D2L classroom. Each week, you will have a series of thematic readings and viewings to work through shared via D2L. You will be submitting weekly Course Journal entries and participating in online class discussions. The midterm and final for the course are final submissions and reflections on your Course Journal and progress from the semester.

Assignments include writing, creative projects and quizzes. The majority of your writing assignments and creative projects will be from an ongoing Course Journal that you develop throughout the semester (combination of manual and digital processes, mostly writing with creative project elements as the course is limited to 15% creative projects).

CLASS PARTICIPATION
As a student in an online course, you agree to participate actively as a civil, respectful, and supportive member of an inclusive learning environment for all. As an active member of this class, you will be evaluated based on your participation in online course discussions. Each student is expected to actively contribute to class discussions where we engage in collaborative research, ideation and reflection. A component of your grade is based on your discussion involvement. We can all learn from each other's responses, solutions, challenges and questions. Please be respectful, professional and courteous in class and online.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Grading
Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

    A = 90%-100%
    B = 80%-89%
    C = 70%-79%
    D = 60%-69%
    F = 59% or Below

Grading Rubric

A: 90-100%	Outstanding, excellent work. The student performs well above the minimum criteria.
B: 80-89%	Very Good, impressive work. The student performs above the minimum criteria.
C: 70-79%	Good, college-level work. The student meets the criteria of the assignment.
D: 60-69%	Below average work. The student fails to meet some or most of the criteria.
F: 59-0%	Poor work. The student fails to meet minimum criteria &/or complete assignment.

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Assessments:

Journal Checkpoints - 120 points, 24% of course grade
Discussion Posts - 140 points, 28% of course grade
Quizzes - 40 points, 8% of course grade
Midterm Journal Review & Reflection - 100 points, 20% of course grade
Final Journal Review & Reflection - 100 points, 20% of course grade

Total: 500 points / 100%

Please note that grades are NOT rounded up. The corresponding letter grade applies as per ETAMU designated percentages as in the above set of letter grades and percentages.

Discussion Posts & Peer-Feedback:

In order to receive full credit for discussion and peer-feedback assignments, the student must publish a discussion post before the due date and then actively participate during the discussion period. Discussion posts and assignments that are missing required peer-feedback receive a maximum of 50% credit.

Late Work:

Late work is not accepted in this course. Assignment due dates/deadlines are posted in D2L. All work turned in after the deadline will receive a grade of zero unless the student has a [university-excused] [absence] and provides documentation within 48 hours of the missed deadline. It is the student's responsibility to communicate with the instructor in a timely manner within this timeframe.

Discussion posts, peer feedback, checkpoints and other non-major assignments may not be submitted after the assignment is closed. Computer issues do not qualify as an excuse for late or missed work in this course. Occasionally problems arise – files can be accidentally erased, disks can get corrupted, networks crash and printers or other digital devices break down. Since this is a fully online and asynchronous course, computer issues do not qualify as an excuse for late or missed work as this is not an acceptable real-world professional practice. Please schedule and manage your time to submit all assignments well in advance of the deadlines, as assignments cannot be reopened.

Addendum for late work for Midterm and Final Assignments/Assessments: Eligible major assignments/assessments may be submitted for a late grade up to 2 days after the due date, with 20 points deducted for each day, or part thereof, from the due date. Course work will not be accepted after the last day of the term unless arranged as part of a pre-approved course extension. This is at the discretion of the instructor.

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Extra Credit:

During the semester, opportunities for extra credit may be shared with everyone in the class via D2L, at the discretion of the instructor. These are not required and will not impact a student's grade if they choose not to complete them or participate. The instructor will provide all students with the same variety of opportunities.

Extra credit is not available to students that have engaged in academic dishonesty. Extra credit is provided at the discretion of the instructor and is not eligible to be applied toward specific assignments or offered to students individually. A total of 5 points of extra credit may be earned towards the student's final course average.

Grade & Course Questions:

Please stay in contact and keep up with the course D2L. Please ask questions well before an assignment deadline. The more time given, the better support you will be able to receive. If you have a question about a grade in the class, please email your instructor to set up an individual meeting within 1 week, as grades cannot be discussed by email. Please note that instructors are not able to adjust grades based on need or desire, etc. and that all grades are assigned according to the syllabus.

COURSE POLICIES:

Attendance:
Each student is expected to actively contribute to class discussions and engage in the online course format. Your participation and engagement in the D2L represents your attendance in the online course.

If you have not participated in the course and missed over 40% of the course assignments at the midpoint of the semester, you may be administratively dropped from the course.

Please visit the ETAMU attendance policy to learn more.

Academic dishonesty:
There is zero tolerance for academic dishonesty in this class. Be sure that you understand what constitutes academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on exams, theft of instructional material or exams, representing the work of someone else as one's own, etc.). Academic dishonesty is a severe transgression in college and may result in referral to the Dean of Students, dismissal from class, expulsion from the University, and a failing grade. Turn-it-in is used for all written assignments in the course.

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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 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

Interaction with Instructor Statement

Students are encouraged to ask questions about the course and to reach out when needed. Please contact me via D2L email. I respond to messages and emails usually within 24 hours. Please do not expect a reply over the weekend. Please email me as soon as possible if you need assistance, additional support or resources during the semester.

The *syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

I value your time, growth, and effort and do my best to complete grading promptly (within one week of the deadline). If there is more time needed, I will let you know as soon as possible about the delay. Office hours are a resource and time for you to ask questions and meet for support in the course.

Please email your instructor via D2L to schedule a Zoom meeting during office hours and don't hesitate to reach out if you need a different time to meet.

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

ETAMU Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the Attendance webpage and Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01.
http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf

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

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf

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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

http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/

Nondiscrimination Notice

East Texas A&M University provides non-discriminatory working, learning and living environments for all members of the university community. East Texas A&M provides equal opportunity to all employees, students, applicants for employment or admission, and the public regardless of race, color, sex (including pregnancy and related conditions), religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender expression or gender identity. East Texas A&M will promptly, thoroughly and fairly investigate all complaints of discrimination, harassment (including sexual harassment), and related retaliation based on a protected class in accordance with Texas A&M University System (TAMUS) Policy 08.01.01 Civil Rights Compliance, East Texas A&M rules and/or procedures and applicable federal and state laws.

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.

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A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

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**

AI use policy

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

Course Schedule
Please see attached

The *syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

Course Schedule & Calendar
ART 1301 - 01W: Art Appreciation
Spring 2026
East Texas A&M University
Instructor: Sarah DePetris

The course schedule reflects expected class progress in course subject matter and is considered tentative. The course is subject to change in content and scope at the Course Instructor's discretion. Any changes will be announced in advance via D2L.

WEEK	MODULE & CONTENT	ASSIGNMENTS	DUE DATES /NOTES
Week 1 *Mon 1/12*	**Introduction Module** Discussion Post, Syllabus Quiz & Course Forms	Intro Discussion Post Course Forms Syllabus Quiz	Due Friday 1/17
Week 2 *Mon 1/19*	**Module 1:** What is Art? **Module 2:** The Language of Art	Module 1: Journal Discussion Module 2: Journal Checkpoint	Due Wed *(comments due Fri)* Due Friday
Week 3 *Mon 1/26*	**Module 3:** Prehistory - Connections to Humankind Before Text **Module 4:** Death & Mourning in the Prehistoric & Ancient World	Module 3: Journal Discussion Module 4: Journal Checkpoint	Due Wed *(comments due Fri)* Due Friday
Week 4 *Mon 2/2*	**Module 5:** Beauty & Ideals in the Ancient World **Module 6:** Divine Architecture	Module 5: Journal Discussion Module 6: Journal Checkpoint	Due Wed *(comments due Fri)* Due Friday

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	QUIZ 1		Due Friday
Week 5 *Mon 2/9*	**Module 7:** A History of Blue **Module 8:** The Renaissance	Module 7: Journal Discussion Module 8: Journal Checkpoint	Due Wed *(comments due Fri)* Due Friday
Week 6 *Mon 2/16*	**Module 9:** High Renaissance to Mannerism **Module 10:** Portraiture & The Northern Renaissance	Module 9: Journal Discussion Module 10: Journal Checkpoint	Due Wed *(comments due Fri)* Due Friday
Week 7 *Mon 2/23*	**Module 11:** Bosch & Other Scenes of the Apocalypse **Module 12:** Hans Holbein & Kerry James Marshall	Module 11: Journal Discussion Module 12: Journal Checkpoint	Due Wed *(comments due Fri)* Due Friday
Week 8 *Mon 3/2*	**Midterm Journal Submission & Reflection**	Midterm Journal & Reflection	Due Friday 3/6
SPRING BREAK	**Spring break** March 9th - 13th, no classes	Spring Break	Spring Break
Week 9 *(3/16)*	**Module 13:** Mirrors & Reflections **Module 14:** Judith & Other Heroines	Module 13: Journal Discussion Module 14: Journal Checkpoint	Due Wed *(comments due Fri)* Due Friday
Week 10 *(3/23)*	**Module 15:** Rococo through the French Revolution **Module 16:** Reactions to Modernity (Part I)	Module 15: Journal Discussion Module 16: Journal Checkpoint	Due Wed *(comments due Fri)* Due Friday
Week 11 *(3/30)*	**Module 17:** Reactions to Modernity (Part II) **Module 18:** On the Dada of Art vs the Dada of War **QUIZ 2**	Module 17: Journal Discussion Module 18: Journal Checkpoint	Due Wed *(comments due Fri)* Due Friday Due Friday
Week 12 *(4/6)*	**Module 19:** Unraveling - Abstraction in the Modern Era **Module 20:** Consumerism, Pop & Commodification	Module 19: Journal Discussion Module 20: Journal Checkpoint	Due Wed *(comments due Fri)* Due Friday
Week 13 *(4/13)*	**Module 21:** Postmodernism **Module 22:** Vision & Abstraction	Module 21: Journal Discussion Module 22: Journal Checkpoint	Due Wed *(comments due Fri)* Due Friday
Week 14 *(4/20)*	**Module 23:** The Postmodern Body in Art **Module 24:** Converging and Expanding Histories	Module 23: Journal Discussion Module 24: Journal Checkpoint	Due Wed *(comments due Fri)* Due Friday
Week 15 *(4/27)*	Course Reflection	Course Reflection Discussion	Due Wed 4/30

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