



## ART 1301-9RE: ART APPRECIATION

### Course Syllabus

Fall 2026

**Instructor:** Professor Lisa Batchelder

**Academic Department:** Art / Visual & Communication Arts

**Course:** ART 1301-9RE - Art Appreciation

**Instructional Site:** Rains ISD - Dual Credit

**University:** East Texas A&M University

**University Address:** PO Box 3011, Commerce, TX 75429-3011

**University Email Address:** Use Professor Batchelder's East Texas A&M University email listed in D2L

**Office Hours:** By appointment and during posted school availability

**Course Delivery:** Face-to-face dual credit with D2L Brightspace course materials and submissions

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

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ART 1301 Art Appreciation introduces students to the visual arts through the study of artistic media, visual elements, principles of design, historical and cultural contexts, and methods of interpretation and criticism. Students develop visual literacy and learn to describe, analyze, interpret, and evaluate works of art using appropriate art vocabulary. Course activities include readings, discussions, quizzes, visual-analysis activities, and formal academic writing.

### STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

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- Identify and apply the Elements of Art and Principles of Design when examining works of art.
- Use appropriate art vocabulary to describe, analyze, interpret, and evaluate visual works.
- Distinguish among major artistic media, processes, and approaches to artmaking.
- Examine art within historical, cultural, social, political, environmental, and contemporary contexts.
- Communicate ideas about art through college-level discussion and academic writing supported by visual evidence.
- Complete formal analyses demonstrating observation, critical thinking, organization, grammar, and academic conventions.

### REQUIRED MATERIALS AND RESOURCES

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Required readings and resources are provided through D2L. The course uses the open educational resource Introduction to Art: Design, Context, and Meaning, along with instructor-selected readings, images, videos, museum resources, and learning materials. Students need reliable access to D2L, university email, and a device capable of opening and submitting PDF documents.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

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**Weekly Readings:** Two assigned readings are used each week when scheduled in the module.

**Discussions:** Students answer two questions from the reading or create two questions and respond to classmates as directed.

**Writing Lab:** Writing Lab begins on Thursdays and builds college-level writing skills for formal analysis.

**D2L:** Students are responsible for reviewing weekly modules, directions, rubrics, announcements, and due dates.

### WRITING STANDARDS

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This is a university-level course. Written work must use complete sentences, correct grammar, punctuation, capitalization, paragraph structure, and academic vocabulary. Formal analyses follow Professor B's Guide to Writing and use a six-paragraph structure: introduction, four body paragraphs, and conclusion. The thesis

statement is the final sentence of the introduction. Students should proofread carefully and read their work aloud before submission. Written assignments submitted as documents must be actual PDF files; screenshots of pages are not acceptable.

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## MAJOR ASSESSMENTS

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- Formal Analysis I - Midterm writing assessment
- Formal Analysis II - Final writing assessment
- Vocabulary assessment and vocabulary-based quizzes
- Weekly/module discussions and responses
- Visual Elements and Principles of Design scavenger hunts
- Writing Lab assignments and daily/module work

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## EVALUATION AND GRADING

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| Category                                      | Weight |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------|
| Tests / Major Writing Assessments             | 50%    |
| Participation / Discussions                   | 15%    |
| Quizzes                                       | 20%    |
| Daily Work / Writing Lab / Module Assignments | 15%    |

Grading Scale: A = 90-100% | B = 80-89% | C = 70-79% | D = 60-69% | F = 59% and below

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## ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

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Regular attendance and active participation are essential to success in a dual-credit college course. Students are expected to attend scheduled class meetings, participate in discussions and Writing Lab activities, and keep up with D2L assignments. Students who miss class remain responsible for announcements, readings, assignments, and deadlines.

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## LATE WORK AND MAKE-UP WORK

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Students are expected to submit work by the posted due date. When an absence or emergency affects a deadline, the student should contact the instructor as soon as possible. Make-up opportunities and adjusted deadlines are determined according to university policy, documented circumstances, and the requirements of the individual assignment.

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## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND D2L

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Students need reliable internet access, D2L Brightspace, university email, and software capable of opening and creating PDF documents. Course materials are organized under Start Here and weekly modules. Students should maintain a backup plan for technology problems and should not wait until a deadline to begin an online submission.

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## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

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Students are responsible for submitting their own work and giving appropriate credit when using the ideas, words, images, or research of others. Cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized assistance, or misrepresentation of work may result in academic consequences under East Texas A&M University policy. Assignment-specific directions identify permitted forms of assistance.

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## STUDENT CONDUCT

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Students are expected to follow East Texas A&M University standards for student conduct and contribute to a respectful learning environment. Discussion and critique should address ideas and artwork respectfully and use appropriate academic language.

## STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES - ADA

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East Texas A&M University provides reasonable accommodations to qualified students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodations should work with the University's Office of Student Disability Resources and Services and provide appropriate documentation to the instructor.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

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**Weeks 1-2:** What Is Art?; Elements of Art; Visual Elements Scavenger Hunt; Principles of Design; Principles Scavenger Hunt; introductory Writing Lab.

**Weeks 3-4:** Language of Art; visual analysis; media and artistic processes; vocabulary and quiz work.

**Weeks 5-6:** Identity and representation; historical and cultural context; discussion and Writing Lab development.

**Weeks 7-8:** Architecture / built environment; deities, belief, and visual culture; preparation for Formal Analysis I.

**Midterm:** Formal Analysis I - first major college writing assessment.

**Weeks 9-10:** Power and politics in art; art as communication; social protest and public meaning.

**Weeks 11-12:** Environment, place, and art; contemporary approaches; continued formal analysis and discussion.

**Weeks 13-14:** Virtual art exhibition / museum-based learning; synthesis of course vocabulary and concepts.

**Weeks 15-16:** Course review; final Writing Lab; Formal Analysis II / final major writing assessment.

## SYLLABUS CHANGE POLICY

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The syllabus and course schedule are guides for the semester. Circumstances such as student progress, school calendar changes, or instructional needs may make adjustments necessary. Any substantive changes will be communicated in advance through class and/or D2L.