



Shanghai Jiao Tong University

CL920 Survey of Western Art: Prehistoric to Medieval

Instructor:	Pier Luigi Tucci	Email:	ptucci2@jhu.edu
Home Institution:	Johns Hopkins University	Office:	505 Main Bldg
Office Hours:	TBD		
Term:	28 May – 28 June, 2018	Credits:	4 units
Classroom:	TBD	Teaching Assistant(s):	TBD
Class Hours:	Monday through Thursday, 3.20 pm-5.20 pm		
Discussion Session:	2 hours each week, conducted by teaching assistant(s)		
Total Contact Hours:	66 contact hours (1 contact hour = 45 mins, 3000 mins in total)		
Required Texts (w/ ISBN):	There is no single required text. The instructor will place excerpts from many books, as well as scans of primary source documents and essays, online on reserve.		
Prerequisite:	N/A		



Course Overview

This course surveys the major developments in Western Art History through the Middle Ages. In addition to familiarizing students with the primary historical developments in the visual arts during this period, the course also addresses some of the most significant conceptual questions that the use of images during this span of time confronts: What were the purposes of images understood to be? How did they feature in religious practice? Why were they sometimes seen as dangerous? What role did images play in mobilizing social energies? How were they imagined to relate to theoretical or scientific knowledge? While dedicating much attention to the history of images itself, the course also situates that history in relation to broader developments in social, intellectual, and cultural history.

Course Goals

While the course will focus on ensuring mastery of the historical materials it surveys, it will also place a premium on the acquisition of certain skills. Above all, the course will seek to instruct students in the fundamentals of visual analysis (how do we talk significantly about images?), as well as hone their skills in historical and critical reading.

Attendance at every class is mandatory. The students will be required to sign in at the beginning of each class period. The students who must miss a class or an examination must inform the instructor as early as possible in order to be excused from class or to make up any work that is missed.

Grading Policy

Paper	25%
Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	30%
Attendance and Participation	20%

Paper: Students are expected to write a 12-page paper on monument, artifact, etc. More detailed instructions for this assignment will be handed out during the first week. The paper is due by the end of the course. No late papers will be accepted.

Mid-term Exam: This exam will ask students to identify the important works of art that we have discussed to this point, define key terms that have informed our discussion, and write two essays that engage with the central ideas of the class. I will circulate, by June 8 four essay questions for which students will prepare, and I will select two on which students will actually write. The exam will take ninety minutes.

Final Exam: This exam will ask students to identify the important works of art that we have discussed since the previous exam, define key terms that have informed our discussion, and write two essays that engage with the central ideas of the class. I will circulate, by June 23, four essay questions for which students will prepare, and I will select two on which students will actually write. The exam will take ninety minutes.



Grading Scale

Number grade	Letter grade	GPA
90-100	A	4.0
85-89	A-	3.7
80-84	B+	3.3
75-79	B	3.0
70-74	B-	2.7
67-69	C+	2.3
65-66	C	2.0
62-64	C-	1.7
60-61	D	1.0
≤59	F (Failure)	0

Course Schedule

Date	Lecture	Reading
WEEK 1		
28 th May	Course Introduction	Ernst Gombrich, “Meditations on a Hobby Horse,” David Summers, Real Spaces (selections), History of Art, H.W. Janson (selections)
29 th May	Ancient Origins	
30 th May	Art of the Near East	
31 st May	Egyptian Art	
WEEK 2		
4 th June	Archaic and Pre-Classical Greece	History of Art, H.W. Janson (selections); Course Packet on Sacred Centers
5 th June	Classical Greece	
6 th June	Late Classical and Hellenistic Art	
7 th June	Sacred Centers in the Ancient World	
WEEK 3		
11 th June	Mid-term Exam	
12 th June	The Roman Republic	Gardner’s Art Through the Ages (selections)
13 th June	Roman Imperial Art and Constantine	
14 th June	Late Antique and Early Christian	
WEEK 4		
18 th June	Byzantine Art and Architecture	



19 th June	The Art of Islam	Gardner's Art Through the Ages (selections)
20 th June	Romanesque Art in Western Europe	
21 st June	The Gothic Style	
Date	Lecture	Reading
WEEK 5		
25 th June	The Proto-Renaissance	Marilyn Stokstad, Medieval Art (excerpts), Gardner's Art Through the Ages (selections)
26 th June	Quattrocento Art in Italy	
27 th June	Reading Day	
28 th June	Final Exam	