



Shanghai Jiao Tong University

CL921 Survey of Western Art: Renaissance to Present

Instructor:	Madeline Eschenburg	Email:	MCE21@pitt.edu
Home Institution:	University of Pittsburgh	Office:	505 Main Bldg
Office Hours:	TBD		
Term:	28 May-28 June, 2018	Credits:	4
Classroom:	TBD	Teaching Assistant(s):	TBD
Class Hours:	Monday through Thursday, 5.30 -7.30 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 from the Renaissance to the Present. 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: How are we to understand the rise of illusionistic painting or optical naturalism in the 14th and 15th centuries, and the abandonment of such picture making in avant garde and abstract work of the 19th and 20th centuries? What effect did the appearance of new media, such as photography and film, have on the visual arts more broadly? What role have images played during this period in mobilizing social energies? How do they 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		
28th May	Course Introduction	Ernst Gombrich, <i>Meditations on a Hobby-Horse</i> ; David Summers, <i>Real Spaces</i> (selections); Gardner's <i>Art through the Ages</i> (selections)
29th May	Substitution or Imitation?	
30th May	The Proto-Renaissance	
31st May	The Quattrocento Readings:	
WEEK 2		
4th June	The Classical Inheritance	Gardner's <i>Art through the Ages</i> (selections)
5th June	The Renaissance Outside of Italy	
6th June	Baroque Art and the Establishment of Art Academies	
7th June	Review Session	



WEEK 3		
11 th June	Mid-term Exam	
12 th June	Negotiating the Classical	Harrison and Wood, Art in Theory (selections); Herschel Chipp, Theories of Modern Art (selections)
13 th June	Romanticism and Realism	
14 th June	Impressionism and Post-Impressionism	
WEEK 4		
18 th June	The Invention of Photography	Herschell Chipp, Theories of Modern Art (selections) Lady Elizabeth Eastlake, "Photography" Edward Weston, "Photography Not Pictorial," "Seeing Photographically" Erwin Panofsky, Style and Medium in
19 th June	Forms of Modernism	
20 th June	Cinema	
21 st June	Cubism and Early Abstraction	
WEEK 5		
25 th June	The Avant Garde Militant: Futurism, Surrealism, and Dada	Harrison and Wood, Art in Theory (selections); Herschel Chipp, Theories of Modern Art (selections)
26 th June	High Modernism at Mid Century	
27 th June	Pop Art and After: Art of Today	
28 th June	Final Exam	