

Hagerstown Community College
OFFICIAL COURSE SYLLABUS DOCUMENT

COURSE: ART 231 – History of Western Art I 3 credits
INSTRUCTOR: Joan Bontempo **SEMESTER/YEAR:**
TIMES: **ROOM:**
Instructor contact information: 240-500-2221

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Prerequisite: [ENG 100](#) or placement into [ENG 101](#).
(3 Credits)

From the course catalog: This course surveys the history of Western art from prehistoric times to the Renaissance through the study of painting, sculpture, architecture, and other arts. Special consideration is given to cultural factors which contribute to the rise of specific movements in art. Students are required to develop their critical ability and express their depth of knowledge through weekly writings on each period's works of art and cultural development. Readings, slides, and virtual tours enhance student understanding of traditional and contemporary art forms. Students are encouraged to attend the optional trip to the National Gallery each term. Total of 45 hours of lecture.

From the Instructor: This is an introductory level survey of the history of art of the Western World. Lectures will focus on the development of painting, sculpture and architecture from the Prehistoric period to the Late Gothic period and the International Style. The course will be a lively mix of lecture, discussion, films and active learning. Our focus will be on learning to see the difference in the artists' intentions through the ages by considering not only the art of each period, but discussion social developments, historical achievements and the philosophies of each time period. In class we will concentrate on the textbook materials, slides and discussion. There is an optional trip to the National Gallery in Washington DC, where you can see some of these earliest works first hand, and students will be encouraged to think critically in short essay papers throughout the course.

TEXTBOOK:

Required Janson's History of Art: The Western Tradition, 8/E Volumes I AND II \\
Davies, Denny, Hofrichter, Jacobs, Roberts & Simon
ISBN-10: 0205685188 | ISBN-13: 9780205685189 ISBN-10: 0205685196 | ISBN-13: 9780205685196

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Students study vocabulary and terms unique to 2- and 3-dimensional artforms
2. Students will study the works of notable artists, and cultural styles in specific historical eras
3. Students analyze, discuss and develop writing skills that present universal human traits independent of advances in technical and scientific knowledge as expressed in works of art.
4. Students will define and correctly use terms that reference styles, materials and processes of making art

ARTS/HUMANITIES General Education Outcomes:

1. Evaluate important artistic, cultural, and philosophical mechanism of cultural transmission.
2. Understand the impact of historical movements in and on the arts and humanities.

COURSE CONTENT OBJECTIVES:

1. Students analyze aesthetic philosophies and apply these to judge and understand art of the past, as well as contemporary art.
2. Students question the application of some traditional models of understanding history, such as learning that time and space are independent and may not apply to understanding the history of the arts.
3. Students participate in dialog on how art has influenced economic, political, cultural and religious systems and concepts.

4. Students discern in their written essays how the content and concepts contained within the art of the past are prevalent within modern western societies.
5. Students learn specific information related to the arts of prehistory, Egypt, the Near East, Aegean, Greek, Etruscan, Roman, Early Christian, Byzantine, Romanesque, and Gothic art

COURSE TIME COMMITMENT

Total Hours of Coursework:

To earn one academic credit at HCC, students are required to complete a **minimum** of 37.5 clock hours (45 fifty-minute “academic” hours) of coursework per semester. This course is 3 credits, which equals 112+ hours of time for the semester. Those hours of coursework may be completed through a combination of hours within the classroom and hours outside the classroom.

Total Hours of Coursework: Expected Course time for ART 232 classes:	
In-class instruction and discussion	37.5 hours
Assigned readings	35 hours
Weekly writings on assigned topics	20 hours for preparation, review and writing
One term paper paper/project	20 hours for writing, research, documentation, and revision
TOTAL MINIMUM TIME AN AVERAGE STUDENT SHOULD EXPECT TO SPEND ON THIS CLASS	112.5 HOURS

Assessment procedures and grading:

1. **Three Scheduled exams** will be given, dividing the course roughly in thirds. The exams will test your knowledge of material covered during class as well as from the required readings in T/F and Multiple Choice questions, **plus visual identification of important artists and works.**
2. Weekly **Short Essay Assignments** encourages exploration of a work of art, artist or artistic movement covered in this course. The topic should be investigated using the textbook. Consideration and research should be given to the historical and social context in which the work was made, used, and received.

Assignment	Due Date	Value
Essays or in class assignment	Weekly	40%
First exam	Week 6	20%
Second Exam	Week 10	20%
Term Paper (critical analysis) and Final Exam	Week 15	20%
1. Exam dates are subject to	Change dependent on	Chapter material – check Moodle announcements often

Course Policies:

- **Cell phones:**
- **Withdrawal:** If a student wishes to withdraw from this course, or stops coming to class for any reason, it is his/her responsibility to officially withdraw from the course through the Registrar’s office. **Failure to do so will** result in an “F” grade at the end of the term, affect the students GPA and may affect scholarship funds. The instructor will not assume the student has withdrawn just because he/she stops coming to class, nor will take any action on the student’s behalf.

- The instructor reserves the right to modify the course content and/or the evaluation (testing) procedures as deemed necessary.
- Honor Code – Please review the Honor Code you signed upon registering at HCC. All the work you do must be your own, and **sources of information must be documented and verifiable**. This means documenting all sources of information (books, magazines, online web pages) in any paper in which you have drawn any information from any source other than your own personal knowledge and the course textbook.

Services for Students with Special Needs: Reasonable accommodations are provided to qualified students based on current documentation. Contact the Coordinator of Disability Support Services at 240-500-2273, to request accommodations.

Paper Standards – Visual Arts/Art History

A Papers demonstrate an excellent understanding of the theme and critical issues in the assignment or readings. The paper also provides strong evidence of critical thinking and original, creative insights. “A” papers also indicate familiarity and understanding of art terms in an analysis of the topic. The paper has a well developed introduction and organized ending with an appropriate conclusion. The paper presents evidence to support pertinent points with material quoted from research sources in a correctly attributed and punctuated method. The paper has few if any grammatical, punctuation or mechanical errors and appropriately addresses the assignment.

B Papers demonstrate good understanding of the subject and critical issues in the assignment of readings. There is some critical art analysis expressed in the paper, and it shows a good familiarity and understanding of art terms in an analysis of the topic. The paper is well organized and uses support from research sources in a correctly attributed and punctuated method. There are few errors in grammar, punctuation and mechanics, but they do not impede the meaning or understanding of the written project.

C Papers show a competent understanding of the assignment and critical issues in the assignment or readings. There is little critical thinking or originality, and the insights are standard. The paper shows some understanding and proper use of artistic terms. The organization is acceptable, but there may be lapses in content development. Artistic analysis is present, but may be lacking in appropriate attribution of supporting research sources (if applicable). There may be problems with grammar, punctuation, and mechanics, but overall the paper is readable.

D Papers demonstrate a below average understanding of the assignment or readings. There is no critical thinking or originality, and few if any insights into the artistic issue or theme assigned. The paper is disorganized and shows poor paragraph development, introduction, transitions and conclusion. There is little or no supporting research evidence (if applicable), but it is poorly presented. Grammatical, punctuation and mechanical errors seriously impede understanding and meaning.

F Papers show no understanding of the assignment. There is little or no discernable organization. The paper provides no critical thinking and may be simply a summary of the assignment. Errors are pervasive