

College of Visual Arts and Design, University of North Texas
Fall 2025
ART 1301 Section 004
Honors Art Appreciation (3 hrs.)

Tuesdays & Thursdays 9:30-10:50am in ART 288

Instructor: Julia Freund
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Office Hours: by appointment

Course Description :

CORE Creative Arts – Component Area Option A. Honors Course.

"History and analysis of Western art with reference to non-Western cultures."

This course develops visual awareness and literacy through a thematic investigation of global art, architecture, and design, from the earliest human artistic activities to contemporary issues such as collective memory, identity, and repatriation. Lectures as well as breakout activities and discussions will equip students to appreciate art in their world and beyond, discuss it from different perspectives, think critically, and make oral and written arguments. Field Visits will enrich course readings and lectures and become the venue for applying newly learned vocabulary and skills in oral and written formats.

Learning Outcomes :

- Survey historical art from a global perspective.
- Explore interdisciplinary approaches to art's creation, reception, and meaning.
- Connect past and present, examining how later artists engage earlier art and history.
- Develop skills in art analysis, historical context, and basic research.
- Analyze, interpret, and evaluate artworks.
- Build confidence in discussing and experiencing art.

Core Objectives

Critical Thinking Skill: Students will learn to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information.

Communication Skills: Students will learn how to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual Communication.

Teamwork: Students will examine works of art as a group which includes the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.

Social Responsibility: Students will gain intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

****Please be aware that some students may find the information and images disturbing and challenging due to the violent, sexual, and political themes often found and discussed in Art Appreciation.**

Course Structure: This 14-week course meets twice a week for discussions, lectures, and presentations. Reading assignments for the course are listed on campus under each main subject of study. In order to fully prepare for lecture, the student should complete the reading assignment *before* the scheduled class. This course meets primarily in ART 288 with two pre-scheduled field visits during class time and one individually scheduled visit, on your own time, to a location such as an art museum.

Students will be **expected to use canvas** for readings, presentation, writing assignments, and uploading documentation of applicable assignments.

Required Text : There is no assigned textbook for this course. Students will have access to the required readings via canvas. Supplementary materials and/or readings will be at the student's discretion regarding personal research topics.

Technology requirements for courses with digital materials : This course uses digital materials. You will need internet access, Canvas, and Microsoft Office. Any additional requirements will be announced. For tips on succeeding in a digital environment, visit [Learn Anywhere](#).

Attendance Policy: Regular, on-time attendance is required. Research has shown that students who attend class are more likely to be successful. You should attend every class unless you have a university excused absence such as active military service, a religious holy day, or an official university function as stated in the Student Attendance and Authorized Absences Policy (PDF)(<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-039>).

Attendance and participation: Although it is not recommended to miss class, personal illness and emergencies do come up, 3 unexcused absences are allotted before your grade will be penalized; each additional absence lowers your final grade by one letter unless excused under [UNT policy 06.039](#) with **proper documentation**. Two late arrivals or early departures equal one absence. Most lectures, demonstrations, and assignments occur at the start of class and are not repeated. Missed quizzes, exams, or in-class work can only be made up with an approved excuse; missed discussions cannot be made up.

Late arrivals and early departures: Being punctual indicates our respect for others. Please arrive before class begins to find a seat, prepare your materials, and connect with your peers. The beginning of class is especially critical—just like the beginning of a movie or book. Being late to class is sometimes inevitable. If you are late, know that you are welcome to join the class, but please do so without distracting others. If you are 10+ minutes late three times it will constitute an unexcused absence. Leaving early will likewise affect your grade.

Should you miss any portion of class, it is up to you to get notes and announcements from a classmate.

Late Work Policy: I will **not accept late work** in this course. 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**. Emailed submissions are *not* accepted *at any*

time, under any circumstances. All writings, readings, discussions, presentations, and assignments must be completed and ready to be presented **before class starts**, unless otherwise stated by the instructor.

Recording: Recording of the class is not permitted unless you have documented accommodation with the UNT Office of Disability Access (ODA) and have received permission from the instructor.

Time Commitment: Make a commitment to spending at least 6 hours a week on this course. Each opportunity to read, write, contribute to discussions, collaborate, refine technical skills, experiment, and create original research will directly benefit your grade and personal growth.

Communication Expectations: While I aim to be as available as possible, there are limits on when and how I can be contacted. For general course or assignment questions, please post in the Q&A forum on the Discussion Board so that the entire class can benefit from the answers. Classmates are encouraged to respond as well. You may also choose a “class buddy” to share questions and resources with. For private matters, contact me in person or via email. I typically respond within 24 hours on weekdays; if you have not heard back in two days, send a polite follow-up. Please do not expect responses over the weekend.

Professionalism: When reaching out, be respectful and professional in tone. Before emailing, check Canvas, the syllabus, and assignment prompts, and consider whether a classmate might have the answer. Think about whether your question would be valuable for the entire class to hear. For your first three absences, no explanation is required—just notify me (e.g., “I can’t make it today”). You are responsible for catching up on missed material by coordinating with peers before contacting me.

Supporting Your Success and Creating A Safe Learning Environment: I value the many perspectives students bring to our campus. Please work with me to create a classroom culture of open communication, mutual respect, and belonging. All discussions should be respectful and civil. Although disagreements and debates are encouraged, personal attacks are unacceptable. Together, we can ensure a safe and welcoming classroom for all. If you ever feel like this is not the case, please set up an appointment to meet with me during my office hours and let me know. We are all learning together.

Acceptable Student Behavior : Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students’ opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student’s conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University’s expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct .

Statement on Flexibility : Your success in this class is important to me. We will all need to be adaptable because we all learn differently. I highly recommend registering for academic accommodations if you have ongoing circumstances. If there are aspects of this course that prevent you from learning or exclude you, please let me know as soon as possible. Together we’ll develop strategies to meet both our needs and the requirements of the course.

Assurances:

ADA Accommodation : The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first [register with the Office of Disability Access \(ODA\)](#) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information, refer to the Office of Disability Access website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.

Academic Integrity : According to [UNT Policy 18.1.16](#), Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University. [Academic Integrity Policy \(PDF\)](#) (<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>)

Academic Integrity Continued; Use of GenAI tools (such as ChatGPT):

Non-Permitted Use: Per the UNT Honor Code, all work you submit must be your own. Using Generative AI (GenAI) to fully write responses, scripts, or complete assignments—whether or not you credit it—is not allowed. Example: copying a ChatGPT-written response directly onto Canvas.

Permitted Use: You may use GenAI tools (e.g., Claude, ChatGPT, Gemini) to support your learning, get a list of resources, template, or check your own writing (e.g., using Grammarly for grammar). GenAI should add to—not replace—our course work.

Health & Safety Program : Students are required to follow the Department of Studio Art Health and Safety guidelines and are required to complete training for each studio course. The goal of the Studio Art Health and Safety Program is to protect the health and welfare of all faculty, staff, and students and to cooperate with the University of North Texas' Office of Risk Management. Please visit the website for details and the departmental handbook: <https://art.unt.edu/healthandsafety> .

Course Evaluation : Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT) is the student evaluation system for UNT and allows students the ability to confidentially provide constructive feedback to their instructor and department to improve the quality of student experiences in the course. For additional information, please visit the spot website at www.spot.unt.edu.

Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress : A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Please visit the financial aid office or website for more information.

Title IX is a federal law that protects against sex and gender-based discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, unprofessional or inappropriate conduct of a sexual nature, dating/domestic violence and stalking at federally funded educational institutions. Senate Bill 212 requires all employees of Texas universities, including faculty, report any information to the Title IX Office regarding sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking that is disclosed to them. Texas law requires that all employees who witness or receive any information of this type (including, but not limited to, writing assignments, class discussions, or one-on-one conversations) must be reported. I am a Responsible Employee and must report any Title IX related incidents that are disclosed in writing, discussion, or one-on-one. Before talking with me, or with any faculty or staff member about a Title IX related incident, be sure to ask whether they are a responsible employee. If you would like to speak with someone who can provide support or remedies without making an official report to the university, please reach out to UNT [survivor advocate](#) . For more information about reporting options and resources visit, <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/dean-of-students/programs-and-services/survivor-advocate/get-help>

Emergency Notification & Procedures * UNT Emergency guide : UNT uses a system called [Eagle Alert](#) to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to the course management system for contingency plans for covering course materials. Students will be notified by Eagle Alert if there is a campus closing that will impact a class, the calendar is subject to change, Campus Closures Policy (<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/15-006>).

Course Risk Factor : According to University Policy, this course is classified as a category 1 course. Students enrolled in this course will not be exposed to any significant hazards and are not likely to suffer any bodily injury. Students in this class will be informed of any potential health hazards or potential bodily injury connected with the use of any materials and/or processes and will be instructed how to proceed without danger to themselves or others.

Mental Health UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

- [Student Health and Wellness Center](#)
- [Counseling and Testing Services](#)
- [UNT Care Team](#)
- [UNT Psychiatric Services](#)
- [Individual Counseling including Walk in Crisis Hours](#)

UNT Libraries: Website: <https://library.unt.edu/> . Research and catalog: <https://library.unt.edu/research/> ,

Additional Research Help - Email the [Art Librarian](#) for research help: Rebecca.Barham@unt.edu

Writing Center : Writing assistance such as proof reading for all students, available through booking a free appointment on the writing center's website:

Academic Success Center: <https://www.unt.edu/success/asc>

Academic Resource Center : <https://digitalstrategy.unt.edu/>

Technology Support : Part of working in a digital world is dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. I highly recommend you take all technical problems to a [UNT IT](#) service desk. Here at UNT and within [CVAD](#) we have a [Student Help Desk](#) that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

UNT Help Desk :

UNT Student Help Desk site (<http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm>)

Email: helpdesk@unt.edu

Phone: 940-565-2324

Walk-In Availability: Monday-Friday: 8am-5pm

Telephone Availability: Monday-Thursday 8am-9pm; Fri 8am-5pm; weekend 11am-3pm

UNT CVAD IT :

CVAD IT Help Desk site: (<https://cvad.unt.edu/cvad-it-services/index.html>)

Email: CVAD.ITServices@unt.edu

Phone: 940-565-4522

Service Desk Office: Art Building, Room 371

Hours of Operation: Monday–Friday: 8am-5pm; Closed Weekends