Instructor: Dr. Kurt Rahmlow
Office: Art Building, Room 229
Office phone: 940-369-7952
E-mail: Please use the e-mail messaging system on Blackboard
Office hours: M, W 12:30-1:30 and by appointment

Teaching assistant: Ms. Jennifer Russell
Office: Art Building, Room 225
E-mail: Please use the e-mail messaging system on Blackboard
Office hours: T, Th 12:45-1:45

Please avail yourselves of your T.A.’s assistance. She is here to help you. If you have questions, or if you need help reviewing for an exam, please contact her. In addition, if you have a question about a grade, please first speak to the person who evaluated your work during his or her office hours. If the T.A. scored your work, and you are not able to resolve your concern by first speaking with her, then contact me. If I did not score your work, I will not address the issue with you until you have first met with the TA. This is a matter of professional courtesy. In addition, when attempting to contact someone, please direct your Blackboard message to a specific person, not to “all instructors.”

ART 2350-001:
Art History Survey I*

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Introduction to the development of Middle Eastern and European art forms from the earliest prehistoric cave paintings through the Gothic Cathedrals of the late Middle Ages. Satisfies the Cross-cultural, Diversity and Global Studies requirement of the University Core Curriculum.

As the catalog description indicates, this course will offer a preliminary overview of major artistic developments in a wide range of contexts. This survey will be organized by geography, culture, and chronology. Ultimately, the purpose is to give students a very basic familiarity with works from a broad spectrum of historical and cultural settings—in other words, its purpose is to give students a sort of “visual vocabulary,” so that they will be able to contextualize and better understand works and/or concepts that they encounter in their upper-level CVAD coursework. This class is designed for students who have had little or no experience with art historical coursework—that is, it presupposes little working familiarity with art historical terminologies, methodologies, and practices. Due to the size and the nature of this class, meetings will almost exclusively involve PowerPoint lectures. Students will be required to complete a series of on-line quizzes, prepare several short writing assignments, and sit a series of in-class exams.

Please bear this in mind: You may find this course challenging. The interpretation and analysis of art can be quite demanding, intellectually speaking. It is by no means impossible to excel, but if you are looking for that “easy A,” you may want to look elsewhere. Hard work CAN help you to excel, but please remember that it does not guarantee the sort of success you may be looking for.
COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Art History Survey I is designed to give students a basic knowledge of major developments in the visual arts. It is also intended to fuel students’ interest in exploring the subject more fully after they leave the classroom. Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Be able to perform a visual analysis of a work of art.
2. Have the ability to describe what they see to others.
3. Recognize that a work of art reflects not only the ideas of the artist who made it, but also the time and place in which it was made.
4. Be prepared to assess the significance of a variety of artworks from different cultures and times and, as a result, gain a greater respect for different cultures.
5. Be able to distinguish the processes and materials used in making different kinds of artworks.
6. Understand how architectural spaces are designed to accommodate the activities and beliefs of human beings.
7. Have developed critical thinking and organizational skills through written assignments.

Course Textbooks


Using Blackboard

We will be using Blackboard Learn in this class. Students are required to check the course Website on Blackboard on a regular basis. I will be using the Blackboard messaging system to communicate with the class rather than e-mail, so please keep on top of your Inbox. In addition, I will post a number of important documents to the website, including this syllabus, but also including informational sheets and assignment sheets. Finally, you will be able to track your grades on this site, and I will require you to turn in your formal writing assignments electronically using its Turnitin function. You can access Blackboard by following these steps:

1. Go to the UNT homepage.
2. Click on the Blackboard link.
3. Log into the system.

To use the Turnitin function to submit your work, simply click on the appropriate assignment link on the “Course Content” portion of the course Website on Blackboard (it will be labeled clearly). The software will lead you through the submission process, but **be sure that your submission actually goes through!** If you do not receive a message telling you that the submission was successful and giving you a submission ID number, your paper was not submitted properly.

When using the Turnitin function, please remember that it is your responsibility to (1) keep a copy of your submission, as well as proof of submission (your “digital receipt” number), (2) remember that your Turnitin submissions are final once the due date passes (you will be able to
revise your paper up to that time, but not after, so please format it properly before that date passes), and (3) upload your paper in a timely fashion in **advance** of the deadline—it is not an excuse that the Turnitin link was slow or overloaded on the day the paper was due (you will have several weeks to complete these assignments and submit them). I will not accept a hard copy in lieu of an electronic submission; all submissions MUST go through the designated Turnitin link on Blackboard. If you are having difficulty uploading your paper, you must see the TA (or me) during office hours in advance of the due date, and that person will help you.

**Course Requirements**

*Attendance*—5% of final grade  
*On-Line Quizzes*—10% of final grade  
*Canonicity Paper*—25% of final grade  
*Exam #1*—20% of final grade  
*Exam #2*—20% of final grade  
*Exam #3*—20% of final grade

**Attendance**  
Attendance and timely arrival are mandatory. If you cannot commit to attending lectures, or if you believe you will regularly be late to class, please drop this course. I will take attendance five times during the course of the term, on random dates. If you should miss more than half a class meeting, you will be counted absent. If you arrive late or leave early and are not present when I call role, it is your responsibility to speak with me before we adjourn for the day; otherwise, you will not receive credit for attendance. If you are absent for a legitimate reason on one of these days and wish to receive credit for the class, (1) you will have to provide me with proper documentation of your excuse, and (2) you will have to make up the work for that day by writing a short response paper reviewing the material we covered in class. Please see me for details. If you cannot document a legitimate reason for missing class (illness, a death in the family, military duty, a religious holiday, for instance), you may not make up an absence. If you are going to be absent in order to observe a religious holiday, I ask that you notify me in advance, by e-mail, during the first two weeks of the term.

It is also essential that you arrive having carefully prepared the day’s assignments. I cannot emphasize this last point enough. This means that you must read the day’s assignments closely, making written notes about items of interest, points of critique, possible connections to other material that we have covered, etc.

I ask that you refrain from using **cellular phones, pagers, laptop computers, iPads, or recording devices** in this classroom. If you have a disability that forces you to use a laptop or a recording device, please provide me with the proper documentation (see below), and I will gladly make an exception in your case. If you are in the midst of a personal emergency that requires you to keep your telephone active, please silence it and excuse yourself discreetly if it should ring. Otherwise, I ask that all cell phones and laptops be shut off and put away before the start of class. If you do not adhere to this request and your non-compliance creates a disturbance in the classroom, I will ask you to leave. If I see you photographing or recording my lecture without
permission, you will be dismissed. If you do not leave the classroom when instructed to do so—either by me or one of my assistants—I will file a disciplinary report with the Dean of Students.

Finally, please be aware that I hold this class to appropriate standards of **collegiality** and decorum. The free exchange of ideas requires that we respect each other and listen carefully to one another. Please feel free to disagree with an interpretation and debate ideas with other students and with me. I do ask, however, that you refrain from insulting or abusing other students, and I ask that you do not conduct conversations, sleep, read the newspaper, send text messages, or wander in and out of class while I or one of your classmates is speaking. If you cannot observe this requirement, I will ask you to leave the classroom.

**On-Line Quizzes**
As we move through the term, you will be required to take a series of short quizzes on-line using links made available on the Content page of Blackboard. These will be based on readings in the course textbook, and they will be designed to help you review that material in preparation for larger exams. These will be open-book, and you will sit them outside the classroom, but you must complete them within a specific window of time. Please see the course schedule for due dates and times. Because you will have multiple opportunities to complete these assignments, **missed quizzes may not be made up.**

**Canon Paper**
At the mid-point of the term, you will be required to submit a **750- to 1,000-word** paper treating a specific work of art or architecture NOT included in our textbook. This essay will be your response to a specific task, as outlined in an assignment sheet that I will post to Blackboard approximately one week before the essay is due. This assignment will receive a numerical grade ranging from 0 to 100. A corresponding letter grade will conform to the grading scale below. This assignment must be submitted electronically using the Turnitin function on Blackboard.

**Examinations**
You will demonstrate your grasp of the material we have covered in class by sitting three in-class examinations (see the course schedule for respective dates and times). The format will consist of multiple choice and essay questions. Please note: Because they are largely information-based, and because they will involve the memorization of facts and names and dates, some of you may find these exams quite challenging). Exams will receive a number grade ranging from 0 to 100. Corresponding letter grades will conform to the grading scale listed below.

**Late and Missed Assignments and Exams**
All major written assignments must be submitted in electronic form using the Turnitin function on Blackboard—Turnitin is the plagiarism detection software used by UNT. These projects are due on the dates and at the times noted on their respective assignment sheets. Any assignment submitted later than the time specified on the assignment sheet, even by one minute, will be counted late. Late submissions of major assignments will be accepted for several days after the posted deadline. However, once we have begun grading, late submissions will no longer be accepted. All late major assignments will be penalized **one full letter grade for every calendar day** they are late. If you miss a deadline of any sort due to absence, and you have a legitimate excuse (for example, you were seriously ill, or your car exploded in the parking lot of
McDonald’s while you were inside getting breakfast on the way to class), then you MUST notify me by electronic message within 24 hours. You MUST also have proper documentation of your excuse. If you cannot document a legitimate excuse, then your work will be subject to late penalties. If you are experiencing difficulties that you believe will interfere with your ability to complete an assignment on time, please notify your TA in advance of the due date so that you can discuss the situation. If you are going to be out of class to observe a religious holiday on the day a written assignment is due, we require advance notification of the absence. Students are encouraged to turn in assignments early in this case, but reasonable accommodation will be made for excused students who submit their work in a timely manner. As for exams, we only grant make-ups in extreme cases, and we require formal documentation of hardship before we schedule them. The exception to this rule is the observance of religious holidays; however, if you are going to miss an exam for this reason, we require advance notification. Additionally, no matter what the cause of your absence, you MUST contact me by electronic message no more than 24 hours after the exam concludes to schedule a make-up; if you fail to contact me within this period, you will forfeit your right to taking a make-up exam. Finally, please note the exam dates for this course. I do not give exams early. If you are planning to leave campus before Exam #3 is given to the rest of the class, you will either have to rearrange your schedule or take a 0 on that test.

Resubmission of Work Originally Done for Other Courses
All written work must be original to this course. That is, you may not submit a paper that you originally wrote to submit to another course. If you do so, you will receive a 0 for the assignment.

Grading Scale
Your final grade in this course will appear on your transcript as a straight letter grade, without a “+” or a “-.” However, individual assignments will be scored as follows:

- **A+**: 97-100
- **A**: 94-96
- **A-**: 90-93
- **B+**: 87-89
- **B**: 84-86
- **B-**: 80-83
- **C+**: 77-79
- **C**: 74-76
- **C-**: 70-73
- **D+**: 67-69
- **D**: 64-66
- **D-**: 60-63
- **F**: 0-59
**University and Departmental Policies**

**Plagiarism and Cheating**
Please note: I feel very strongly about this. Please do not do this in my course. It would embarrass us both, and it would make me feel stressed out, disappointed, and depressed. If I catch you cheating or plagiarizing, I will fail you for the assignment, possibly for the course, and report you to the Office of Academic Integrity for disciplinary action. Please take pride in your abilities and your work and give this class your best honest effort. If you are not sure what constitutes plagiarism or cheating, please see me. In general, if you use someone else’s words or ideas, you must acknowledge that you are borrowing them—you may not pass them off as your own. (In other words, DO NOT copy passages from internet sources and paste them into your paper!) In addition, if you accept so much assistance on a project that the work is no longer substantially your own, you have cheated. Regarding exams, all of these will be “closed book.” Accepting or seeking any assistance from, or seeking reference to, another person, piece of writing, or electronic source, constitutes cheating. Put simply, just bear in mind that your responsibility in this course is to earn your score by virtue of your own best effort.

**Students with Disabilities**
The College of Visual Arts and Design is committed to full academic access for all qualified students, including those with disabilities. In keeping with this commitment and in order to facilitate equality of educational access, faculty members in the College will make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with a disability, such as appropriate adjustments to the classroom environment and the teaching, testing, or learning methodologies when doing so does not fundamentally alter the course. If you have a disability, it is your responsibility to obtain verifying information from the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) and to inform me of your need for an accommodation. Requests for accommodation must be given to me no later than the first week of classes for students registered with the ODA as of the beginning of the current semester. If you register with the ODA after the first week of classes, your accommodation requests will be considered after this deadline. Grades assigned before an accommodation is provided will not be changed. Information about how to obtain academic accommodations can be found in UNT Policy 18.1.14, at www.unt.edu/oda, and by visiting the ODA in Room 321 of the University Union. You also may call the ODA at 940-565-4323.

**Course Risk Factor**
According to University Policy, this course is classified as a category one course. Students enrolled in this course will not be exposed to any significant hazards and are not likely to suffer any bodily injury. Students 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.

**Building Emergency Procedures**
In case of emergency (alarm will sound), please follow the building evacuation plans posted on each floor of your building and proceed to the nearest parking lot. In case of tornado (campus sirens will sound) or other weather related threat, please go to the nearest hallway or room on your floor without exterior windows and remain there until an all clear signal is sounded. Follow the instructions of your teachers and act accordingly.
Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities
Each University of North Texas student is entitled to certain rights associated with higher education institutions. See www.unt.edu/csrr for further information.

Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress
Please be advised of the following university policy: A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total registered hours per term. Students cannot exceed attempted credit hours above 150% of their required degree plan. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility. If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. Please visit “http://financialaid.unt.edu/satisfactory-academic-progress-requirements” for more information about financial aid Satisfactory Academic Progress. It may be wise for you to schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course before doing so.

Course Schedule

06/03: Introduction/s; overview of course material.

   A brief introduction to the discipline.

06/04: Prehistory; reading—Gardner, pp. 15-29; **review sheet distributed.**

06/05: Mesopotamia and Persia; reading—Gardner, pp. 30-53.

06/06: Egypt Under the Pharoahs; reading—Gardner, pp. 54-83; **Quiz #1 due by 5:00 pm.**

06/07: The Prehistoric Aegean; reading—Gardner, pp. 84-103.

   **Week 2**

06/10: **Exam #1.**

06/11: Ancient Greece; reading—Gardner, pp. 104-163.

06/12: Ancient Greece (cont.), followed by the Etruscans; reading—Gardner, pp. 164-177.

06/13: The Roman Empire; reading—Gardner, pp. 178-231; **review sheet distributed; Quiz #2 due by 5:00 pm.**

   **Week 3**

06/17: The Roman Empire (cont.), followed by Late Antiquity; reading—Gardner, pp. 232-253.
06/18: Byzantium; reading—Gardner, pp. 254-281; Quiz #3 due by 5:00 pm.

06/19: The Islamic World; reading—Gardner, pp. 282-305; Canon Paper assigned.

06/20: Exam #2.

Week 4

06/24: Early Medieval Europe; reading—Gardner, pp. 306-331.

06/25: Romanesque Europe; reading—Gardner, pp. 332-363.

06/26: Romanesque Europe (cont.), followed by Gothic Europe; reading—Gardner, pp. 364-399; Quiz #4 due by 5:00 pm.

06/27: Gothic Europe (cont.), followed by Late Medieval Italy; reading—Gardner, pp. 400-421; review sheet distributed; Canon Paper due.

Week 5

07/01: Late Medieval Italy (cont.), followed by South and Southeast Asia before 1200; reading—Gardner, pp. 422-447; Quiz #5 due by 5:00 pm.

07/02: Art of the Americas before 1300; reading—Gardner, pp. 448-519.

07/03: Exam #3—10:00-11:50, ART 223.

07/04: No class today—Independence Day!

*The instructor reserves the right to alter this syllabus at his discretion, with or without notice.
ART 2350-001:  
Art History Survey I

I have read this syllabus. I agree to comply with all of the provisions it describes. I understand the course structure, grading and attendance policies, as well as the risk factor rating. I understand that this class includes a substantial amount of reading and discussion. I understand the attendance and late policies, and I am aware that absences and late work will result in a lowered final grade. By taking this course, I agree not to commit acts of academic dishonesty, including plagiarism, cheating, and failing to cite sources. I understand that, at a minimum, any act of academic dishonesty will result in a grade of “F” for the assignment. I further understand that Dr. Rahmlow will pursue disciplinary actions against me with the University of North Texas should I commit any act of academic dishonesty. These disciplinary actions may range all the way from an “F” for the assignment to an “F” for the course, even to suspension or expulsion from the University. I acknowledge that Dr. Rahmlow reserves the right to alter his syllabus at his discretion during the course of the semester.

______________________________________________________________________________

Signature

______________________________________________________________________________  Date

Printed name

______________________________________________________________________________

Student ID Number

The return of this syllabus agreement is required for continued enrollment in the course.