Course Description: This course provides an overview of selected works of art from the ancient and medieval worlds. Given the vast amount of material that can be covered in such a class, the artworks that we will examine in detail will be organized and presented in three chronological sections. Part I of the course will focus on artistic expressions created during some of the world’s earliest civilizations. Part II will highlight art of the ancient periods dating from the 6th century BCE to the 6th century CE. Part III will be concerned with the art produced in what is commonly called the medieval period, ca. 7th - 13th century. Within each chronological section, we will be examining art across the globe. This mode of presentation will allow us to compare and contrast the types of art produced during a specific historical timeframe and to come to a better understanding of the roles and meaning of art across varying cultures.

Course Objectives:
(1) to learn to look at artworks carefully and to articulate meaning from active looking
(2) to analyze the differences and commonalities in artistic expressions across cultures and across time
(3) to learn the skills to place an artwork within its historical context and to attempt to explain its function or meaning within that context
(4) to introduce students to the variety of approaches and paradigms employed in the study of art
(5) to develop the students’ writing skills


Required readings will also be available through Blackboard.

Course Structure: This is a lecture course that meets for fifty minutes, three times a week. Reading assignments for the course are listed below in the lecture schedule under each main subject of study. In order to fully prepare for lecture, the student should complete the reading assignment before the scheduled class.

Teaching Assistants (TAs):
We have three Teaching Assistants for this class. In order to make sure that student inquiries and appointments can be accommodated, students are assigned to one TA for the duration of the semester. This designation is based on the first initial of the student’s last name. TAs will be introduced on the first day of class. Contact information for the TAs can be found on the class home page on Blackboard.
While we rotate the grading of exams and assignments among the four of us (so that students are not
graded by the same person all semester), all inquiries about grades, lecture material, or tips for studying
for the exams should be directed to the student’s designated TA.

Attendance Policy:
Given the number of students enrolled in this course, attendance will not be taken in class. However, as
the exams are based on lectures and the visual material presented during class, you are expected to
attend all classes. My lectures supplement and often augment the material presented in your textbook. In
addition, my lectures will include visual material and analyses not found in your book and this
information will also be used in exams. Thus missing lectures will negatively impact your grade. Do not
rely solely on your textbook to try to pass this class!

Should you miss a class lecture, it is up to you to get notes from a classmate. However, if there are
remaining questions about the material you missed, please contact your designated Teaching Assistant
(see above). If there are further concerns, please come and see me during my office hours or make an
appointment with me.

Coming late to class:
As a courtesy to your fellow students, and to me, please use the doors at the back of the auditorium if
you are late to class or if you have to leave early. On days that assignments are due, tardiness will not be
tolerated under any circumstances. See section: Turning in Written Assignments.

Course Requirements and Grading Criteria:
Exam 1..........................................................................................20%
Exam 2............................................................................................25%
Exam 3............................................................................................25%
Written Assignments (2 at 15% each).................................30%

Description of Exams: There will be a total of three essay-based exams. The third (and last) exam,
which is not cumulative, will be held during the scheduled final time: Monday, December 13th at
10:30am. There are no make-up exams for this exam.

At least one week prior to each in-class exam, approximately 20-25 images will be available on
Blackboard for review. For the exam, I will select 6-8 images. On the exam, I will provide the title and
date of the artworks, but you will need to answer specific questions relating to the images (either as a
pair or individually). You will have approximately 12 minutes to write an essay in response to each of
the questions. It is imperative that you arrive to class on time as I will not re-show the images once the
exam is in progress.

In addition, there will be no make-ups for the in-class exams. If you miss an exam, you will receive a
zero on that test unless you provide proper documentation for a University-sanctioned absence (e.g.,
documented illness, team event, family emergency, religious observance, etc.). You also must notify me
AND your designated TA as soon as physically possible that you cannot take the exam and that you
have the necessary documentation to be excused. In the case of a University-sanctioned absence, a
make-up exam may be granted, but it must be arranged within one week of the original scheduled exam.
Please note: there will be no make-up exams for Exam 3 which is given during finals week.
Description of Written Assignments:
Twice during the semester, you will be asked to read a popular or scholarly article that is available on Blackboard. In a short paper (2 pages max), you will briefly summarize the article and assess the scholar’s use of evidence that supports his or her argument. Also consider how the author’s approach raises further questions about the issues addressed. All papers will be graded on the quality of writing. See the Format Requirements and Grading Criteria included at the end of this syllabus.

Turning in Written Assignments:
Written assignments are due in class and will be collected at the end of lecture. Do not attempt to hand them in at the beginning of class or during my lecture. In addition, if you are not present in the auditorium when lecture begins on the day an assignment is due, you will be asked by the TAs to wait outside and turn your paper in after my lecture has concluded. Do not ask the TAs to turn in your paper for you. These measures have to be undertaken given the size of this class and the disruptions that occur when students come into class late and/or try to hand in the assignment and leave early.

Late Assignments:
Papers received after the collection in class are considered late. Email submissions are not accepted at any time, under any circumstances. If you email your paper to either your designated TA or to me, we will simply delete it. You must hand in a hard copy. Late assignments will be marked down one full grade for each day (i.e., every 24 hours) it is late.

Checking Grades on Blackboard:
It is the student’s responsibility to verify that the recorded grade on an exam or written assignment matches the grade documented on Blackboard. Grades are released on Blackboard the day after I hand back an assignment or exam. Students have one week after that date to verify that the grades correlate. This means that I will not entertain a grade dispute at the end of the semester for a missing assignment or exam or for a grade recorded incorrectly.

Americans with Disabilities Act (Disabilities Accommodation): 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.
**Student Behavior in the Classroom:**
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 Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities 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 www.unt.edu/csrr

**Academic Dishonesty -- Plagiarism:** It is very important that you understand what plagiarism is and recognize that it is a serious academic offense. When you use other people’s ideas or other people’s words without giving acknowledgement, this is plagiarism. According to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities (www.unt.edu/csrr), “the term plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:
(a) the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement and/or
(b) the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.”

Plagiarism necessitates that I file an incident report to the appropriate authorities and this may result in your failing the assignment, failing the course, or being expelled from the University. Please consult the University’s Code of Student Conduct or ask me if you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism and how you should give proper acknowledgement to your sources in your written work.

**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.

**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 teacher and act accordingly.

**Please Note:** The instructor reserves the right to alter this syllabus if necessary. © 2010 Lisa N. Owen

**Schedule of Lectures, Exams, and Assignments**

Aug 27 (F): Introduction to the Course

**PART I -- Art of Ancient Civilizations**

Aug 30 - Sept 3 (M-W-F): Paleolithic and Neolithic Art in Europe; Chp 1. pp. 1-25

**Sept 6 (M): Labor Day -- No Class**

Sept 8 - 10 (W-F): Art of the Ancient Near East (Mesopotamia and Persia); Chp. 2. pp. 27-47

Sept 15 - 17 (W-F): Art of Ancient Egypt continued

Sept 20 (M): Written Assignment #1 due in class; Art of the Ancient Indian Subcontinent (Indus Valley); Chp. 9. pp. 291-295

Sept 22 - 24 (W-F): Art of the Ancient Indian Subcontinent continued

Sept 27 – Oct 1 (M-W-F): Art of Ancient China (Shang, Zhou, and Qin Dynasties); Chp. 10. pp. 325-332

Oct 04 (M): EXAM 1

**PART II -- Art from the 6th century BCE to 6th century CE**

Oct 6 - 8 (W-F): Art of Ancient Greece (Early Classical through Late Classical periods); Chp. 5 pp. 101-2; 107; 114-116; 119-135; and 142-146

Oct 11 - 15 (M-W-F): Roman Art (Art of the Early Empire); Chp. 6 pp. 174-199

Oct 18 - 22 (M-W-F): Jewish and Early Christian Art; Chp. 7 pp. 217-233


Oct 27 - 29 (W-F): Art of Ancient India continued

Nov 1 (M): Work on Writing Assignment #2 – No Class

Nov 3 (W): Writing Assignment #2 due in class; Art of Ancient India continued

Nov 5 - 10 (F-M-W): Art of the Americas (Mesoamerica); Chp. 12 pp. 377-390

Nov 12 (F): EXAM 2

**PART III -- Art from the 7th-13th century CE**

Nov 15 - 17 (M-W): Art of Early Africa (Ife, Benin and Jenné); Chp. 13 pp. 403-417

Nov 19 - 24 (F-M-W): Art of the Early Islamic World (Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, Spain, Iran and Egypt); Chp. 8 pp. 261-281

Nov 26 (F): Thanksgiving Holiday – No Class
Nov 29 - Dec 1 (M-W): Art of Early Japan (Asuka, Nara and Heian periods); Chp. 11 pp. 355-367

Dec 3 - 6 (F-M): Art of Medieval France and Spain (Romanesque); Chp. 15 pp. 453-464; and 473-479

Dec 8 (W): Art of Medieval France and Spain (Gothic); Chp. 16 pp. 491-507

Dec 10 (F): Reading Day -- No Class; prepare for Exam 3

Dec 13 (M): EXAM 3 (10:30-12:30)

Format Requirements for Written Assignments:

The two papers for this class must follow this format: 2 pages maximum with 1” margins and a 12-point font. No title page or cover is needed. Simply include your full name and date in the upper right corner. When citing or paraphrasing from the assigned article, please use parenthetical citations for the page numbers. As these assignments are not research papers, you do not need to consult other sources. However, if you do choose to include material from your textbook, please cite author and page number, e.g. (Stokstad 108).

Grading Criteria for Written Work:

A = Such a grade indicates that the student accurately summarized the main points of the reading assignment and did so with rigor and clarity of thought. The student also excelled in his/her assessment of the evidence that was used by the author to support his/her arguments. An ‘A’ paper means that there were little to no errors in grammar/spelling and that the introduction and conclusion were clear as was the development of the body of the paper.

B = Such a grade indicates that the student wrote a solid paper and was able to execute the assignment with diligence and forethought. The assessment of the author’s use of evidence was well written but perhaps did not cover all types (textual, visual, epigraphical, etc.). A grade of ‘B’ usually indicates that there were limited structural, spelling, or grammatical problems.

C = This is similar to the ‘B’ description, but the number of problems is more extensive. These may include significant grammatical or structural problems, weak introduction, adding irrelevant material inappropriately, too many generalities, and/or relying too heavily on quotes.

D = A grade of ‘D’ indicates that the student did not fully understand the assignment or only vaguely covered the article’s content. The paper typically lacks an introduction and does not demonstrate that the student carefully read and thought about the assignment. Further, grammatical/structural problems make a ‘D’ essay quite difficult to follow. There are usually far too many generalities and a lack of in-depth analysis.

F = This either indicates that the assignment was not done or what was done was simply unacceptable for any number of reasons.
Please fill out the following and return it to your designated TA by Friday September 3

I _______________________________ (print name) acknowledge that I have read the course syllabus. I understand the course structure, criteria for grading, attendance policy, scheduled dates for assignments and exams, the definition of plagiarism, and the policy for turning in written work. I also understand the risk factor rating of 1 for this class. I hereby agree to the syllabus and its provisions.

Art History Survey I (Ancient through Medieval Art)       ART 2350       Risk Rating Category 1

____________________________________  _____________________________  _______________
Student email address                     Signature                     Date