

**ART 2350 001**  
**ART HISTORY SURVEY I**  
**MW:9:30-10:50**  
**SAGE 116**

**Instructor:** Dr. Li Xu

**Email:** [Li.Xu@unt.edu](mailto:Li.Xu@unt.edu)

**Office Hours:** Monday 1-2 pm at room 225 at CVAD or by appointment

Teaching Assistants for this course is:

Carina Hernandez, [CarinaHernandez2@my.unt.edu](mailto:CarinaHernandez2@my.unt.edu), in room #221 at CVAD Art building

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**Course Description**

Introduction to the development of art forms from the earliest prehistoric cave paintings through the late Middle Ages.

PLEASE NOTE: Content in the arts can sometimes include works, situations, actions, and language that can be personally challenging or offensive to some students on the grounds, for example, of sexual explicitness, violence, or blasphemy. As the College of Visual Arts and Design is devoted to the principle of freedom of expression, artistic and otherwise, it is not the college's practice to censor these works or ideas on any of these grounds. Students who might feel unduly distressed or made uncomfortable by such expressions should withdraw at the start of the term and seek another course. You can also contact me privately at any time to discuss your concerns.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- Demonstrate an understanding of art and architecture from the Paleolithic through the 15th century.
- Critically analyze and communicate interpretations of the art and architecture from this period in a clear and well-informed manner.
- Develop and hone skills in critical thinking, communication, and social and personal responsibility.

**REQUIRED MATERIALS**

- NO TEXTBOOK. All required readings are Smart History online articles or museum websites
- In class: Bring a way to take notes. Laptops, tablets, handwritten.
- Out of class: You need access to a computer with a reliable internet connection. Quizzes and readings are online. [Click here for UNT Computer Lab locations/hours](#)

## **ASSIGNMENTS/GRADING**

### ***Discussion Postings: 30% total***

- There will be three sets of group discussion. Three discussion topics will be provided; you will explore each issue and share your own opinion in your post. In the response part, you will engage with your groupmates, reflect on their posts and offer thoughtful responses. See Canvas for more information.

### ***Exams: 40% total (Midterm and Final exam)***

- You will demonstrate your grasp of the material; we have covered in class by sitting two in-class examinations, midterm and final exams (see the course schedule for respective dates and times). The format will include some combination of choice questions, short answers, and essays. The first midterm exam will cover less material than the other one, so it will count for 15% of your final grade. The final exam will each cover significantly more material, so they will each count for 25% of your final grade.

### ***UNT CORE Assignment: 30%***

- This is a UNT Core class. Per UNT policy, it must assess 4 categories: Developing Critical Thinking, Communication Skills, Social Responsibility, and Personal Responsibility. You will have an assignment that will meet this requirement. Details to follow.

### **Grading scale:**

A: 100 - 89.5

B: 89.4 - 79.5

C: 79.4- 69.5

D: 69.4 - 59.5

F: 59.4 or below

## **Course policies**

### **Attendance Policy**

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. 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 reading materials to try to pass this class

### **Late work policy**

All written assignments must be submitted through Canvas before due date. Please be aware that Canvas can be glitchy and is easily overwhelmed. DO NOT wait until the last minute to submit assignments. Late assignments will be penalized at a rate of 1 point per calendar day past the deadline. If you miss a deadline due to an excused absence (e.g., serious illness), you must notify your TA within 24 hours and provide proper documentation. Without documentation, the late penalty will apply. 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.

### **Academic Integrity**

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences: According to UNT Policy 06.003, 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.

### **AI Policy**

The emergence of GenAI has been rapid, and we understand adapting to this change can feel overwhelming. While AI is powerful, it also carries risks. It is now part of our reality, and while we cannot avoid it, we must use it thoughtfully in education. In this course, students may have limited use of AI programs, e.g. ChatGPT in this course for any assignment. The material generated by these programs may be inaccurate, incomplete, or otherwise problematic. If you use AI to generate a formal analysis paper, it will be treated as plagiarism. You cannot use AI to identify visual elements and principles of design in artworks for the assignments. If you have questions about what constitutes a violation of this statement, please contact us.

### **Extra Credit**

I do give students extra credit, students who complete the SPOT Evaluation at the end of semester will receive 2 points boost to their final grade.

## **TECHNOLOGY POLICY:**

You may use laptops and tablets to take notes and reference course readings only. Do not message/text others, watch/listen to videos, visit non-course related websites, or work on assignments for other courses

Phones must be put away. Please remove headphones unless this is an approved ODA (Office of Disability Access) accommodation. Do not make audio or visual recordings of class unless you've received approval from the ODA.

### **PRIVACY AND COURSE CONTENT**

You may not record class lectures or discussions unless you have documented academic accommodations with the Office of Disability Access (ODA). If this is the case, you must sign and submit UNT's Agreement Form for Recording

Lectures [https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/sites/default/files/Office-of-](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/sites/default/files/Office-of-Disability/Documents/PDFS/Agreement_Form_for_Recording_Lectures.pdf)

[Disability/Documents/PDFS/Agreement\\_Form\\_for\\_Recording\\_Lectures.pdf](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/sites/default/files/Office-of-Disability/Documents/PDFS/Agreement_Form_for_Recording_Lectures.pdf) Do not use any course materials (including recordings) for purposes not directly related to this course.

### **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

Please discuss/confirm your accommodations with me via email during the first 2 weeks of class. You may also meet with me during my office hours.

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodations 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 <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access>. You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.

### **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](http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct).

### **RULES OF ENGAGEMENT**

Rules of engagement refer to the way students are expected to interact with each other and with their instructors. Here are some general guidelines:

- While the freedom to express yourself is a fundamental human right, any communication that utilizes cruel and derogatory language on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law will not be tolerated.
- Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in any communication online or face-to-face, even when their opinion differs from your own.
- Ask for and use the correct name and pronouns for your instructor and classmates.
- Speak from personal experiences. Use “I” statements to share thoughts and feelings. Try not to speak on behalf of groups or other individual’s experiences.
- Use your critical thinking skills to challenge other people’s ideas, instead of attacking individuals.
- Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm in emails or discussion posts as tone can be difficult to interpret digitally.
- Proofread and fact-check your sources.
- Keep in mind that online posts can be permanent, so think first before you type.

See these [Engagement Guidelines](https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips) (https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips) for more information.

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## **COURSE SCHEDULE**

**(Schedule and readings are subject to change at instructor's discretion)**

### **WEEK 1**

Aug 18 - Introduction to the course

Aug 20 - Paleolithic

- [Paleolithic Art: An Introduction](#)
- [Woman of Willendorf](#)
- [Lascaux Cave](#)
- [Warty Pig](#)
- [Chauvet Cave](#)

### **WEEK 2**

Aug 25- Neolithic

- [Neolithic Revolution](#)
- [Catalhoyuk](#)
- [Stonehenge](#).

Aug 27– Ancient Near East/Mesopotamia

- [Sumerian Art: An Introduction](#)
- [White Temple and ziggurat, Uruk](#)
- [Standard of Ur and other objects](#)

### WEEK 3

Sep 1 - No class, Labor Day

Sep 3 - Ancient Near East/Mesopotamia

- [Victory Stele of Naram-Sin](#)
- [Rethinking approaches to the art of the Ancient Near East](#)

### WEEK 4

Sep 8 - Ancient Egypt

- [Reframing Art History: World of Ancient Egypt](#)
- [Palette of King Narmer](#)
- [The Pyramids of Giza](#)

Sep 10 - Ancient Egypt

- [King Menkaure and queen](#)
- [Paintings from the tomb chapel of Nebamun](#)
- [House Altar Depicting Akenaten, Nefertiti and Three of their Daughters](#)

### WEEK 5

Sep 15 – Ancient Greece

- [Kouroi-korai](#).
- [Reframing-art-history/pottery-body-gods-ancient-greece](#)
- [Ajax and Achilles Playing a Game](#)

Sep 17– Ancient Greece

- [Spearbearer](#)
- [Reframing Art History: War, Democracy, Art in Ancient Greece.](#)
- [The Parthenon.](#)
- [Winged Victory of Samothrace.](#)

## **WEEK 6**

Sep 22 – Roman Art

- [Introduction to Ancient Roman Art.](#)
- [Augustus of Prima Porta.](#)
- [Arch of Titus](#)
- [Trajan's Column](#)

Sep 24 - Roman Art

- [Introduction to Roman Architecture.](#)
- [The Pantheon](#)
- [Arch of Constantine](#)

## **WEEK 7**

Sep 29 - - Roman Art/Early Christian

- [Sarcophagus of Junius Bassus](#)
- [Early Christian Art.](#)
- [Building New Rome.](#)

Oct 1 No class- Museum Day

## **WEEK 8**

Oct 6 - Byzantine

- [Building New Romes.](#)
- [San Vitale and the Justinian Mosaics.](#)

Oct 8 Exam day

## WEEK 9

Oct 13-Arts of the Islamic World

- [Introduction to Islam.](#)
- [Continuity and Innovation: Early Islamic art and architecture of the Umayyads and Abbasids.](#)
- [Dome of the Rock](#)
- [Mosaics in the early Islamic World](#)

Oct 15-Arts of the Islamic World

- [Great Mosque of Córdoba.](#)
- [Visual Cutures of the Islamic West](#)

## WEEK 10

Oct 20- Arts of Asia

- [Challenges, opportunities, and approaches for studying South Asian art.](#)
- [Hinduism and Buddhism, an introduction](#)
- [Sanchi Stupa](#)
- [Angkor Wat](#)

Oct 22-Arts of Asia

- [Terracotta Warriors](#)
- [Tale of Genji](#)
- [Gold and Jade Crown](#)
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## WEEK 11

Oct 27–Arts of the Americas

- [Olmec Colossal Heads](#)

- [Teotihuacan](#)
- [Taíno Zemi](#) Romanesque and Gothic Architecture

Oct 29– Arts of the Americas: Part 2

- [Nasca Geoglyphs](#)
- [Paracas Bird Textile](#)
- [Cliff Palace, Mesa Verde National Park, Colorado](#)
- [Great Serpent Mound](#)

## WEEK 12

Nov 3 - Arts of Africa

- [Christian Ethiopian Art.](#)
- [Great Mosque of Djenné \(Djenné peoples\)](#)
- [Igbo-Ukwu.](#)
- [Head of a ruler, Ife.](#)

Nov 5 -Arts of Africa

- [Patterns without End: The Techniques and Designs of Kongo Textiles](#)
- [Great Zimbabwe](#)

## WEEK 13

Nov 10 - Early Medieval England/Ireland

- [Sutton Hoo Ship Burial.](#)
- [Book of Kells](#)
- [Lindesfarne Gospels.](#)

Nov 12 -Carolingian Art

- [Carolingian art, an introduction.](#)
- [Palatine Chapel, Aachen, Germany](#)
- [Ebbo Gospels](#)

## **WEEK 14**

Nov 17 - Romanesque and Gothic Architecture

- [A Beginner's Guide to Romanesque Art.](#)
- [Art of Conquest in England and Normandy.](#)
- [Bayeux Tapestry/Embroidery.](#)
- [Pilgrimage routes and the cult of the relic.](#)
- [A Beginner's Guide to Romanesque Architecture.](#)
- [Gothic Architecture: An Introduction.](#)

Nov 19 – Gothic

- [Abbot Suger and St. Denis.](#)
- [Chartres Cathedral](#)
- [Medieval Prayer Books](#)

**WEEK 15** No Class---Thanksgiving Break

## **WEEK 16**

Dec 1 - Gothic

- [Abbot Suger and St. Denis.](#)
- [Chartres Cathedral](#)
- [Medieval Prayer Books](#)

Dec 3 – Final Exam

## **ADDITIONAL UNT POLICIES**

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY:**

According to UNT Policy 06.003, 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. Submitting work to this class that is found to violate UNT's academic integrity policy will result in a failing grade in the class.

### **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 NOTIFICATION AND PROCEDURES:**

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 Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

### **SURVIVOR ADVOCACY**

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Federal laws (Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act) and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, and therefore prohibit sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. UNT's Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence by filing protective orders, completing crime victim's compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a room change where appropriate, and connecting students to other resources available both on and off campus. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at [SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu](mailto:SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu) or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565-2648. Additionally, alleged sexual misconduct can be non-confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at [oeo@unt.edu](mailto:oeo@unt.edu) or at (940) 565 2759.