ARTH Art History

ARTH 7231  Art and Architecture of the Ancient World
3 Credit Hours.  3 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
This course will encompass a study of the visual arts, primarily sculpture, painting, and metalwork, and architecture, both secular and religious, of the ancient world from Prehistoric times through circa 350 CE, with an emphasis on the art of Greece and Rome. A historical and cultural background will be provided to lay a contextual groundwork for the more specific information of the works of art and architecture. The material will begin with the examination of the earliest artistic creations by humankind in the Paleolithic era, proceed with the works of the ancient Egyptian, Greek, Etruscan, and ancient Roman cultures, and conclude with the conversion of the Roman Empire to Christianity and to the era known as Early Christian. The class will be held in a lecture format with images projected during lecture for a combination of visual and verbal information.

ARTH 7232  Medieval Art History
3 Credit Hours.  3 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
This course will encompass a study of the visual arts in Europe, primarily sculpture, painting, and architecture from the fall of the Roman Empire to the thirteenth century. While some secular works will be covered, primarily the course will address Christian art because of the Church’s strong sway in the Medieval world. The class will be held in a lecture format with images projected during lecture for a combination of visual and verbal information.

ARTH 7233  Italian Renaissance Art History
3 Credit Hours.  3 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
This course will encompass a study of the visual arts, primarily sculpture, painting, and architecture, both secular and religious, from the Italian Renaissance. The course will begin by establishing the artistic traditions of the Medieval era and exhibit how the early Renaissance artists both operated within these traditions and made marked innovations to the visual vocabulary, moves which eventually led to the new individualism of the artist and the renowned works of the High Renaissance, with which we will conclude the semester. The class will address differences in style between many of the Italian cities: Florence, Rome, Siena, Mantua, among others. The class will be held in a lecture format with images projected during lecture for a combination of visual and verbal information.

ARTH 7234  Baroque and Rococo Art History
3 Credit Hours.  3 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
This course will address the visual arts of the Baroque and Rococo periods in both Northern and Southern Europe. The class will primarily cover painting, and sculpture, with the inclusion of some architectural works. The course will begin by establishing the artistic traditions of the Late Renaissance era to lay the groundwork for the revised aesthetic and innovations of the Baroque, and go on to examine further shifts in style as we move into the Rococo. The class will be held in a lecture format with images projected during lecture for a combination of visual and verbal information.

ARTH 7235  19th Century Art History
3 Credit Hours.  3 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
This course examines the art, artists and issues in 19th century art through lectures and discussion. Topics for discussion include: Classicism & Romanticism, Representations of other cultures, Issues of gender, Realism, Impressionism & Post-Impressionism, Modernism, Abstraction, and Symbolism. The format of the course is lecture with discussion.

ARTH 7236  20th Century Art History
3 Credit Hours.  3 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
This course surveys European and American art, artists and issues/movements in the 20th century. The purpose of this course is to provide an understanding of not only stylistic principles of the century, but also those human values and cultural events which served as inspiration. Lectures, readings, discussions, and assignments focus on the intentions, creative biographies, and historical circumstances of 20th century artists. The format for this course is lecture with discussion.

ARTH 7237  Contemporary Art History
3 Credit Hours.  3 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
Through lectures and class discussion, this course explores the development of contemporary art from the 1970s to the present day. We will investigate issues pertaining to contemporary art such as place, memory, consumption, spirituality, identity, power, stories, loss and desire, time, humor, ecology, and protest. Course content also considers the nature of “mega-exhibitions” and the changing role of art, artists, and curators as cultural activists; art as the product of economic relations between parties with different vested interests in the material object; visual strategies used in the media and advertising; and the impact of technology on contemporary culture in general and art in particular.

ARTH 7238  African Art History
3 Credit Hours.  3 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
Surveys the major themes, cultural groups, and art traditions of Africa. Focuses on materials, functions, meaning and the distinctive aesthetic values of cultural objects and their ritual significance in African societies.

ARTH 7239  African American Art History
3 Credit Hours.  3 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
The study of African American art and design from the period of pre-colonial Africa to the contemporary United States. The course investigates the creativity and cultural identity of African Americans and their contributions to the visual culture in America.

ARTH 7330  American Art History
3 Credit Hours.  3 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
This course examines the history of American Art from the Colonial Period through the present. Works of art and other forms of material culture will be explored and discussed within the context of philosophical, historical, social, and cultural developments. Attention will be given to the writings of artists and critics, as well as texts by contemporary art historians, historians, and other scholars which illustrate the variety of methodologies and interpretations that are currently being brought to bear on American art, architecture, and material culture. The format for this course is lecture with discussion.

ARTH 7377  Graphic Design Art History
3 Credit Hours.  3 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
This course is a survey of the history of graphic communications from prehistory to the present, and will evaluate the impact of culture and technology on the development of graphic design in different historical contexts. Content includes the relation of art and graphic design, techniques of graphic representation, current trends, and the importance of graphic communication in contemporary society.

ARTH 7630  Art History Seminar
3 Credit Hours.  3 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
A seminar-format course on selected topics in art history with emphasis on directed readings and classroom discussion.
ARTH 8630  Art Theory and Criticism
3 Credit Hours.  3 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
This course will explore selected themes and issues in contemporary theory and criticism as they impact the ways in which art is produced, viewed, and written about today. This course will provide students with the practical knowledge and skills to comprehend and critically evaluate the vast body of theory and criticisms currently being written on the arts and to critically examine their own experience and perspectives on art education and the practice of art. Topics include formalism, gender and identity, otherness, realism and ideology, semiotics, representation, the gaze, surveillance, and power. The format of the course is lecture with discussion.

ARTH 8831  Art History Research
3 Credit Hours.  0 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
Independent research and study on selected topics in art history.