

# ART APPRECIATION

## EXPLORING ART AS HUMAN EXPERIENCE TODAY & THROUGH THE AGES

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Fall 2017 | ART 1301 001 | Tues 5:30-8:20pm | Dr. Leah McCurdy | Room: FA 148

**FINAL EXAM DATE: TUESDAY, Dec 12 @ 5:30 – 8:00pm**

Office Hours: Mon & Wed 1:00 – 2:00pm | Office: FA 297 | Email: leah.mccurdy@uta.edu

**Contact me via email. Weekdays: response within 24 hours. Weekends: response by next regular business day.**



Women under Wisteria. KITAGAWA UTAMARO from Japan, ca. 1790s, Woodblock print.



Buenavista Vase. Late Classic Maya from Buenavista, Belize, ca. 700 CE, ceramic.



Sande Society helmet mask. Mende from Sierra Leone, Africa, 20<sup>th</sup> century, wood and fiber.



Emperor Shah Jahan. Mughal from northern India, ca. 1660-70, paper.

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This course is an introduction to works of art and their cultural connections. It is designed for students with little or no experience in the visual arts, but who hold strong interest in the topic. This course covers the main concepts of art making, the various media and methods used to create it, and supportive context through art history. Please note that this course is memorization intensive and moves at a brisk pace. Please make use of study materials provided in class and online.

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### REQUIRED TEXT

- Dewitte, Debra J., Ralph M. Larman, and M. Kathryn Shields. 2011. ***Gateways to Art: Understanding the Visual Arts***, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Thames and Hudson. AVAILABLE FOR USE IN VISUAL RESOURCE COMMONS.
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### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Gain the basic tools we use to understand and analyze visual artforms based on the following themes:
    - Observe artworks from an objective point of view and describe physical characteristics
    - Analyze and review artworks through informed and subjective reaction statements
    - Understand social, political, and historical context and meaning(s) of artworks
    - Form personal critical points of view about art concerning aesthetic or cultural value
  - Investigate a variety of artforms in all media and manner of styles across art history
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**This syllabus represents the current plans and objectives for our course. As we go through the semester, these plans may need to change. I will communicate any changes verbally and in writing. Be sure to stay up-to-date with the schedule and any changes made over the course of the semester.**

## **EARNING A GRADE IN THIS COURSE**

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### **DAILY ATTENDANCE (15%) & PARTICIPATION (15%)**

Attendance will be taken every class meeting. Attendance grades will be determined based on this rubric:

- Earned 10% - consistent and punctual attendance
- Earned 5% - exceeds 3 unexcused absences
- Earned 0% - exceeds 5 unexcused absences (i.e. the highest grade you could earn is 90%)

Absences can ONLY be excused with **documentation** of an emergency, religious observance, or official university event. Documentation must come in the form of a signed and dated doctor's or official's note. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to consult with me or another student about notes, handouts, and assignments you missed.

In addition to participation relating to note-taking and discussion, there will be a variety of in-class activities focused on review and/or application of course material that will require your participation. As a collection, these participation activities will constitute 10% of your grade. You will earn points for each activity according to its specific instructions. I will drop your lowest 2 participation grades (including 0s for unexcused absences). Participation grades can only be made-up for excused absences.

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### **QUIZZES & EXAMS (45%)**

Quiz and exam dates are indicated on the course schedule. Quizzes and exams will include multiple choice, true/false, and matching questions. Questions will be drawn from lecture topics, reading assignments, and in-class discussions. You will need to bring a scantron to each quiz and exam. Grade percentages for each component are as follows:

**Quiz:** 10%

**Midterm Exam:** 15%

**Final Exam:** 20%

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### **THE ART EXPERIENCE PAPER (25%)**

You will write a short formal object analysis paper over an artwork on view at a local gallery (on-campus) or museum (off-campus), including a short summary review of the museum experience. The museum visit is part of the grade and is essential to understanding the assignment. You will explore new and different avenues of how to view the art world and its community, in terms of its ability to organize and present artworks for display, to showcase both its technical aesthetic qualities and beauty, as well as how to examine the artforms according to concepts covered in class.

Detailed instructions regarding required paper content, format, bibliography, and citations will be provided in class and on Blackboard. See class schedule for specific deadlines for components.

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# COURSE POLICIES

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## GRADE SCALE

Your final grade will be calculated as a percentage according to the component percentages provided in the "Course Components" section. Your final grade percentage will be rounded to the nearest whole number, e.g. 89.2 = 89 but 89.6 = 90. Letter grades and GPA will be determined according to the following scale:

A = 90-100% (4.00 GPA) - Excellent
B = 80-89% (3.00 GPA) – Good
C = 70-79% (2.00 GPA) – Satisfactory
D = 60-69% (1.00 GPA) – Poor
F = 59-0% (0.00 GPA) - Fail

Grades will be posted on Blackboard. I recommend setting preferences to notify you about grades & announcements to track your progress throughout the semester. All students will receive Midterm Grades and Final Grades according to the university schedule.

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## LATE WORK, MAKE-UPS, & INCOMPLETES

See attendance policy in the "Course Components" section. Late submissions of the paper will be penalized with a 10% deduction per calendar day. Make-ups for quizzes and exams will not be allowed except for excused absences (see attendance policy). Incompletes will be given only in the event of documented and extreme emergencies. There are no grade changes.

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## CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE & APPROPRIATE USE OF TECHNOLOGY

**ALL PHONES & MOBILE DEVICES MUST BE SILENCED & PUT AWAY UPON ENTERING THE CLASSROOM.** You may take notes with a laptop or tablet. Other non-class related activities on such devices are not allowed. Repeated issues with phones or electronics will result in the offending student receiving a zero on the daily grade and/or changes to no electronics use in class for all students. If you are expecting an important call or text during class, let me know beforehand.

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## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University. "Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts." (Regents' Rules and Regulations, Series 50101, Section 2.2)

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## DROP POLICY

Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/ses/fao>).

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## SUPPORT & RESPECT

I encourage you to utilize the academic and support services available to you. Resources include:

- Visual Resource Commons (FA 2109) and Rita Lasater (rlasater@uta.edu)
- UTA Library ([library.uta.edu/](http://library.uta.edu/) 817-272-3395); Art History Librarian Diane Shepelwich (dianec@uta.edu)
- Maverick Resource Hotline (817-272-6107) or [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu)
- The English Writing Center (appointments and walk-in; [uta.mywconline.com](http://uta.mywconline.com); [www.uta.edu/owl/](http://www.uta.edu/owl/))
- The IDEAS Center offers free tutoring ([ideas@uta.edu](mailto:ideas@uta.edu); 817-272-6593).

UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting: The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD) [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or calling 817-272-3364. Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS) [www.uta.edu/caps/](http://www.uta.edu/caps/) or calling 817-272-3671.

Title IX: *The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates.* For more information, visit [uta.edu/eos](http://uta.edu/eos). For information regarding Title IX, visit [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX).

# ART 1301 CLASS SCHEDULE

Week 1	NO CLASS	<b><u>READINGS DUE</u> from <i>Gateways to Art</i> indicated by chapter number and title.</b>
T Aug 29	Course Overview, The Art Experience & Art on Campus, Seek & Find	None
T Sept 5	What is Art? How Art Made the World	Introduction
T Sept 12	The Fundamentals of Art The Exquisite Corpse	1.1 Line, Shape, etc.; 1.2 Form, Volume, etc.; 1.3 Implied Depth
T Sept 19	Color, Motion, Time, & Space <b><u>QUIZ 1, ARTWORK CHOICE FOR PAPER DUE</u></b>	1.4 Color; 1.5 Time and Motion; 1.6 Unity, Variety, and Balance
T Sept 26	Pushing the Boundaries David Hockney's Secret Knowledge	1.7 Scale & Proportion; 1.8 Emphasis & Focal Point; 1.9 Pattern & Rhythm
T Oct 3	Seeking the Meaning in Art	1.10 Content and Analysis; 4.3 Art and the Life Cycle
T Oct 10	Art & Community Midterm Exam Review	4.1 Art and Community
T Oct 17	<b><u>MIDTERM EXAM</u></b>	None
T Oct 24	Drawing & Painting Art on the Right Side of the Brain	2.1 Drawing; 2.2 Painting
T Oct 31	Printmaking and Communication Design Andy Warhol	2.3 Printmaking; 2.7 Visual Communication Design
T Nov 7	Paper Work Day prior to submission	None
T Nov 14	<b><u>THE ART EXPERIENCE PAPER DUE</u></b> Sculpture & Architecture	2.4 Sculpture; 2.5 Architecture
T Nov 21	Craft & Photography Dorothea Lange	2.6 Craft; 2.8 Photography
T Nov 28	Film, Video, and Digital Arts Edward Muybridge	2.9 Film/Video and Digital Art
T Dec 5	Alternative Art Final Exam Review	2.10 Alternative Media and Processes
T Dec 12	<b><u>FINAL EXAM @ 5:30 – 8:00pm</u></b>	None

**SUBJECT TO CHANGE**