

# 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 | Room: FA 148 | Instructor: Dr. Leah McCurdy

**FINAL EXAM DATE: TUESDAY, Dec 12 @ 5:30 – 8:00pm** | <https://mentis.uta.edu/explore/profile/leah-mc-curdy>

Office Hours: Mon & Wed 1:00 – 2:00pm | Office: FA 297 | 817.272.2891 | 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.



Buena Vista Vase. Late Classic Maya from Buena Vista, 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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### STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

- 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	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.
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	

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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

Students enrolled in all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code in their courses by having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System Regents' Rule 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University. Additional information is available at <https://www.uta.edu/conduct/>.

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## UNIVERSITY ATTENDANCE POLICY

At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required but attendance is a critical indicator in student success. Each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, I have established the attendance policy described in the "Earning a Grade in this Course" section. While UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients "begin attendance in a course." UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Blackboard. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients.

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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 AVAILABLE TO YOU

UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, contact [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the info at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>.

- Visual Resource Commons (FA 2109) and Rita Lasater ([rlasater@uta.edu](mailto:rlasater@uta.edu))
  - UTA Library ([library.uta.edu/](http://library.uta.edu/) 817-272-3395); Art History Librarian Diane Shepelwich ([dianec@uta.edu](mailto:dianec@uta.edu))
  - The English Writing Center (**FREE** appointments and walk-in; [www.uta.edu/owl/](http://www.uta.edu/owl/) ; Central Library 411)
  - The IDEAS Center offers **FREE** tutoring ([ideas@uta.edu](mailto:ideas@uta.edu); 817-272-6593); located 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of Library
  - University Tutorial & Supplemental Instruction (UTSI) (817-272-2617; [www.uta.edu/utsi](http://www.uta.edu/utsi) ; Ransom Hall 205) offering 60 minute one-on-one tutoring sessions, Start Strong Freshman tutoring program, and Supplemental Instruction.
  - Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) ([www.uta.edu/caps/](http://www.uta.edu/caps/) ; 817-272-3671); available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives
  - On-campus Emergency – UT Arlington Police Department 817-272-3003 or 911.
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## DIFFERENTLY-ABLED ACCOMMODATIONS

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). Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. 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. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability).

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## NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

*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).

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## TITLE IX POLICY

The University of Texas at Arlington (“University”) is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. For information regarding Title IX, visit [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX) or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or [jmhood@uta.edu](mailto:jmhood@uta.edu).

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## ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Info about activating and using MavMail: <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

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## CAMPUS CARRY

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>

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## **STUDENT FEEDBACK SURVEY**

At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as "lecture," "seminar," or "laboratory" are directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students' anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

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## **FINAL REVIEW WEEK**

For semester-long courses, a period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week unless specified in the class syllabus. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

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## **EMERGENCY EXIT PROCEDURES**

Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located out the sliding doors on the first floor or down the main stairwell on the second floor. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

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# ART 1301 CLASS SCHEDULE

		<b>READINGS DUE from <i>Gateways to Art</i> indicated by chapter number and title.</b>
Week 1	NO CLASS	
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>QUIZ 1, ARTWORK CHOICE FOR PAPER DUE</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>MIDTERM EXAM</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>THE ART EXPERIENCE PAPER DUE</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>FINAL EXAM @ 5:30 – 8:00pm</b>	None

**SUBJECT TO CHANGE**