

SYLLABUS

ART APPRECIATION

Arts 1301.610, 611
Online Course Delivery
Asynchronous Online Course

Professor: Brittany Ham, MFA
Office Hours: Classroom Hall 314I
T/TH 2PM - 3PM
F Via Zoom by appointment only
Email: bham@tamusa.edu

SPRING 2025

Department Offering the Course:
Arts & Humanities

Pre-requisites: None

Materials Required:

Gateways to Art 4th Edition
by Debra J. DeWitte, Ralph M. Larmann, and M. Kathryn Shields
ISBN: 978-0500845066

Suggested Materials: none

THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME, BUT YOU WILL RECEIVE AN EMAIL IF CHANGES OCCUR.

ABOUT THE COURSE:

Course Description:

This introduction to the visual arts is designed for the general student, as an exploration of purposes and processes in the visual arts including evaluation of selected works. This course presents a survey of the visual arts, including artistic media and techniques, and art history. Students will also explore visual principles and elements through hands-on activities.

Professor Ham's Perspective:

In Art Appreciation, we will be looking at the basic principles of design, medium, history, and context which animate contemporary and historic art. This will serve as an introduction to the art world and empower students to be critical viewers.

Course Structure:

We will be covering two Units.

Unit 1 is devoted to the elements and principles of design. This unit will help us develop a common vocabulary so that we

can effectively discuss art, and will show how artists across, time, location, and specialty have a common set of visual tools.

Unit 2 is focused on different artistic media such as painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpting, etc. In this unit we will look at the different technical means that artists have used to create artworks.

Each week you will earn three grades:

- A reading quiz grade.
- A note taking grade.
- An art assignment grade.

In addition to the weekly assignments, you will be asked to go visit San Antonio art spaces three times throughout the course of the semester.

Blackboard:

I will use Blackboard to provide you with copies of the syllabus, calendar, and other course materials. This will also be where the most up-to-date grading information will be shared with you. Make sure you regularly check Blackboard for updates. If you require technical support with your Blackboard account please contact Academic Technologies.

Email Format:

When contacting me through email make sure that you provide all the necessary information. Provide me with your full name, class, section number, and the specific name of the assignment or material that you have questions about so that I can accurately answer your questions.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will have:

- Thought critically about the meaning and impact of art in our world.
- Communicated our ideas clearly in your writing, verbal language, and artwork.
- Mobilized your individual strengths to work collaboratively as part of a team to accomplish a final project.
- Engaged with local, national, and global art and better understand diverse perspectives and practices of art.
- Visited several art venues in our local community.

Core Competencies:

1. Critical Thinking: Students will engage in creative and/or innovative thinking, inquiring analysis, evaluation, synthesis of information, organizing concepts, and constructing solutions.
2. Communication Skills: Students will demonstrate effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.
3. Team Work: Students will demonstrate the ability to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal and consider different points of view.
4. Social Responsibility: Students will demonstrate intercultural competency and civic knowledge by engaging effectively in local, regional, national, and global communities.

ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS:

Online Course Expectations

This class is an online asynchronous course, which means that students are tasked with the responsibility to self-motivate their progress in this course. The

professor will maintain regular contact with students throughout the semester to keep them up-to-date on the weekly expectations of course, but it is the responsibility of the students to find the time to complete their coursework.

Likewise, if student's find themselves struggling with assignments or general management of the class it is their responsibility to contact the professor for help or advice.

Attendance Policy:

This course will meet asynchronously, meaning that we will not meet at an assigned time. Instead, this course will be based in the completion of weekly work, and participation with the course content on Blackboard.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:

Reading Quizzes:

Each week you will be assigned reading in our textbook, Gateways to Art 4th Edition. You will then be quizzed on Blackboard over the material covered in the reading. The quiz must be completed on Sundays by 11:59PM. Reading Quizzes count for 20% of your final grade.

Artist Lecture/Talk/Documentary Notes

Each week you will be assigned a recorded video lecture by or about an artist engaging with the weekly course content. You will take notes while watching the video and submit them for a grade. These notes should use with headings, sub-headings, and sub-sub-headings to encourage use to think in depth and organize our thoughts. Finally, the notes should demonstrate that you engaged with material from throughout the entire depth of the talk/lecture/documentary. The notes must be completed on Sundays by 11:59PM. Notes count for

20% of your final grade.

1 Hour Art Projects

In weeks 1-12, we'll be creating our own artworks inspired by our reading and by the work of a contemporary artist. In these assignments, we are putting into practice the theory that we gained. These artworks will utilize common materials that you are likely to have around the house and share your creations with your classmates by posting photos of your art to discussion boards. 1 Hour Art Projects must be completed on Sundays by 11:59PM. 1 Hour Art Projects will count for 20% of your final grade.

Community Art & Discussion Boards:

In weeks 3, 7, and 10 you'll be tasked with visiting local art venues. In week 3 you'll be choosing to visit either the San Antonio Museum of Art or the McNay Museum of Art. In week 7 you'll be choosing to visit Contemporary at Blue Star, Ruby City, or Artpace (be sure to book an appointment if needed). In week 11 you'll be choosing to visit a public artwork in San Antonio.

For each of these visits you'll create a discussion board post with a selfie at the venue, an image of an artwork, and a five sentence paragraph describing what you think the central thesis of the artwork is. You'll then be asked to comment on at least 3 of your classmates posts adding to or critiquing their analysis with at post that is at least 3 sentences in length. Community Art Discussion Boards will count for 15% of your final grade.

Visual Analysis Assignments:

One large visual analysis assignment scheduled for the end of the semester will act as the final exam. This assignment is worth 100 points and has a clearly outlined rubric for how those points are achieved. This assignment is an opportunity to apply the terminology from your reading, the critical and context-

ual analysis from our lectures, and the multiple perspectives from our discussion boards. This is your chance to demonstrate what you've learned this semester. The VAA's will count for 25% of your final grade.

Reading Quizzes: 20%

Artist Video Notes: 20%

1 Hour Art Projects: 20%

Community Art Discussion Boards: 15%

Visual Analysis Assignment: 25%

GRADING

Grading Scale:

A.....	100 - 90
B.....	89 - 80
C.....	79 - 70
D.....	69 - 60
F.....	59 and Below

Late Work Policy:

Late work will not be accepted. All coursework is due at 11:59PM on its assigned due date. However, in extreme cases or under extenuating circumstance I may— at my discretion— offer an extension on an assignment. To receive an extension you must email me before the deadline for that assignment passes. **You will only be granted an extension if you contact me before the due date.** Be sure to contact me as soon as possible when situations arise that affect your coursework. Early and transparent communication is always valued.

Extra Credit:

Students will have the opportunity to earn extra credit by repeating the The Community Art Discussion Board Assignment. You can earn up to 5 bonus points for completing this extra credit and the assignment can be repeated as desired.

ACCOMMODATIONS, RESOURCES, AND POLICIES:

For a complete list of TAMU-SA
Accommodations, Resources, and
Policies, please scan the QR code:



**CONGRATULATIONS, YOU'VE REACHED
THE END OF THE SYLLABUS!**