

## Art Appreciation

### Syllabus

#### COURSE DETAILS

**NO.** ART 1301  
**LEVEL** Undergraduate  
**PREREQ.** None  
**TERM** Spring 2025  
**TIMES** TTH  
**ROOM** Classroom Hall 105

#### INSTRUCTOR

Sarah Fox  
[sfox@tamusa.edu](mailto:sfox@tamusa.edu)  
Office Hours:  
TTH  
By Appointment

#### COURSE OVERVIEW

This course will offer lectures, readings, discussions, activities, and projects aimed at providing students with a foundational introduction and deeper understanding of visual arts and the creative process. Students will explore various artists, formal elements, subject-specific terminology, as well as a diverse array of processes and materials that have shaped the evolution of art.

#### STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of the class students are able to:

- Enhance skills in analyzing, critically evaluating, and communicating ideas, arguments, and perspectives. (Critical Thinking)
- Acquire proficiency in essential art and art historical terms and concepts.
- Develop an understanding of diverse cultural approaches to artistic themes and socio-political ideologies. (Social Responsibility)
- Demonstrate proficiency in critically examining artworks and effectively communicating through visual and verbal channels. (Communication)
- Cultivate teamwork skills through collaborative projects and activities. (Teamwork)

#### COURSE STRUCTURE

We will be covering 5 units over the course of the semester. Each Unit will include lectures, readings, writing responses, presentations, and projects.

Unit 1: Drawing  
Unit 2: Color  
Unit 3: Photography  
Unit 4: 3D  
Unit 5: Zine

#### ASSESSMENTS

The final course grade will be calculated as follows:

- 16% Unit 1 (160 pts)
- 16% Unit 2 (160 pts)
- 16% Unit 3 (160 pts)
- 16% Unit 4 (160 pts)
- 16% Unit 5 (160 pts)
- 10% Critique Participation and Preparedness (1 per unit, 20 pts each=100 pts)
- 10% Art Analysis (1 per unit, 20 pts each=100 pts)

#### GRADING CRITERIA

- **Projects** are evaluated based on concept, formal qualities, and craftsmanship. Each week you will be assigned a Hands-on Exercise that will give tactile experience of the principles we've discussed in the lecture portion of the class. Late projects are penalized.
- **Critique Participation** grade is based on having the work completed by the start of class, showing up on time, and participation. You must actively give feedback on your peers work, and be willing to hear feedback from your instructor and peers. You will be introduced to several different ways to critique. Be willing to listen to the feedback of your peers and grow your work.
- **Art Analysis** will take place at the end of each Unit. You will be asked to write a 1 page analysis of a work of art. The papers will be graded on your ability to demonstrate your understanding of Art Elements and Principles and how the apply to the work of art described.

Final course grades are determined as follows:

- **A** = 100–90% (Outstanding work, perfect documentation, not only fills the requirements of the project, but pushes past expectations.)
- **B** = 89.99–80% (Good work meeting the minimum requirements. Student demonstrates an average understanding of techniques, materials and relevant concepts, and puts forth considerable effort. Strong work ethic, average documentation of work.)

- **C** = 79.99–70% (Average work not meeting the minimum requirements of the project. Adequate understanding of techniques, materials and relevant concepts. Underdeveloped technical skills and minimum innovation, poor documentation and effort.)
- **D** = 69.99–60% (Poor work. Requirements barely met. Student's work shows little understanding of techniques, materials and relevant concepts. Studio time is not used effectively and student puts forth little effort.)
- **F** = below 60% (Unacceptable work. Requirements for the course are not met; a majority of work has not been completed. Student's work shows minimal or no understanding of techniques, materials and relevant concepts; little or no regard shown for in-class and out-of-class assignments.)

#### **REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

- **Scissors**
- **Exacto Knife**
- **Eraser**
- **Notebook for sketching, taking notes, and writing papers**

#### **COURSE POLICIES**

##### **EMAIL**

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

##### **ATTENDANCE**

###### **I TAKE ATTENDANCE EVERY DAY DURING THE FIRST 5 MINUTES OF CLASS.**

- You will be able to accrue 3 absences without penalty in this class. These absences will not alter due dates. Please talk with your classmates about missed work, or check on blackboard to keep up with any missed content.
- The 4th absence will lower your course grade one full letter grade. Each additional absence will also lower your course grade by one full letter grade.
- Students who accumulate 7 or more absences are strongly advised to drop this course.
- Arriving late 3 times or leaving class early 3 times counts as an absence. If you are late, check in with me to make sure your attendance is recorded.
- Arriving to class unprepared is considered as absent.
- Working on other class materials or not actively participating is considered an absence.
- Attendance is calculated for each day of class meetings. Students enrolling after the first class day are counted absent for the days missed prior to enrollment.

##### **LATE WORK POLICY**

If your assignments are not completed for critique, you will not receive full credit for your critique grade. Assignments 1 class period late get a one letter grade deduction (Highest grade of a B), after 2 class periods late the highest grade is a C, and so on. Assignments will be **due at the start of class** on their specified due date.

##### **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. Resources for Blackboard help can be found online at: [http://www.tamusa.edu/its/student\\_resources/BlackboardStudentHelp/BbStudentHelp.html](http://www.tamusa.edu/its/student_resources/BlackboardStudentHelp/BbStudentHelp.html)

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Students should be familiar with the Texas State Academic Honor Code and know that the general rules and student rights therein apply to this class. A copy of the Code's passages on plagiarism and cheating are available in the Student Handbook or online. You must adhere to these policies. Any violation of the honor code, no matter how slight, will result in the notification of five disciplinary officials.

### **CLASSROOM ACCOMMODATIONS**

All persons with disabilities are welcome in the classroom and will be provided reasonable accommodation. Students are asked to contact the Office of Disability Services for classroom accommodations within the first two weeks of class.

### **TEACHING PHILOSOPHY**

Texas A&M believes that freedom of thought, innovation and creativity are fundamental characteristics of a community of scholars. To promote such a learning environment, the university has a special responsibility to seek diversity, to instill a global perspective in its students, and to nurture sensitivity, tolerance and mutual respect. Discrimination against or harassment of individuals on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, or disability are inconsistent with the purposes of the university.

### **STATEMENT ON CIVILITY AND COMPLIANCE IN THE CLASSROOM**

Civility in the classroom is very important for the educational process and it is everyone's responsibility. If you have questions about appropriate behavior in a particular class, please address them with your instructor first. Disciplinary procedures may be implemented for refusing to follow an instructor's directive, refusing to leave the classroom, not complying with social distancing or sneeze and cough etiquette, and refusing to implement other health and safety measures as required by the university. Additionally, the instructor, in consultation with the department chair/school director, may refer the student to the Office of the Dean of Students for further disciplinary review. Such reviews may result in consequences ranging from warnings to sanctions from the university.

## Course Calendar | Spring 2025 (Course Calendar is subject to change)

### **Week 1 | 1/21: Intro and UNIT 1**

#### Getting Started

##### Tuesday:

- Syllabus Introduction

##### Thursday:

- Lecture on LINE, SPACE
- Line Collecting Collage Intro

### **Week 2 | 1/28: UNIT 1**

##### Tuesday:

- Line Collecting Collage: Workday

##### Thursday:

- Lecture on VALUE, TEXTURE
- Ink Drawing Intro

### **Week 3 | 2/4: UNIT 1**

##### Tuesday:

- Ink Drawing: Workday

##### Thursday

- Ink Drawing: Workday
- Unit 1: Art Analysis

### **Week 4 | 2/11: UNIT 1 & 2**

##### Tuesday:

- UNIT 1 DELIVERABLES DUE

##### Thursday:

- Lecture: COLOR, SHAPE
- Surrealist Collage Intro

### **Week 5 | 2/18: UNIT 2**

##### Tuesday:

- Collage: Workday

##### Thursday:

- Collage: Workday

### **Week 6 | 2/25: UNIT 2**

##### Tuesday:

- Lecture: FORM, EMPHASIS
- Color Gel Photos Intro

**Thursday:**

- Color Gel Photos: Workday

**Week 7 | 3/4: UNIT 3**

**Tuesday:**

- Unit 2: Art Analysis
- Color Gel Photos: Workday

**Thursday:**

- UNIT 2 DELIVERABLES DUE

**Week 8 | 3/11: SPRING BREAK**

**Tuesday:**

- Spring Break

**Thursday:**

- Spring Break

**Week 9 | 3/18: UNIT 3**

**Tuesday:**

- Lecture: BALANCE, CONTRAST
- Camera Build Intro

**Thursday:**

- Camera Build Workday

**Week 10 | 3/25: UNIT 3**

**Tuesday:**

- Camera Build Photography Day

**Thursday:**

- Unit 3: Art Analysis
- UNIT 3 DELIVERABLE DUE

**Week 10 | 4/1: UNIT 4**

**Tuesday:**

- Lecture: MOVEMENT, UNITY
- Mask Intro

**Thursday:**

- Mask Workday

## **Week 11 | 4/8: UNIT 4**

### **Tuesday:**

- Lecture: SCALE/PROPORTION
- Mask Workday

### **Thursday:**

- UNIT 4 Deliverable Due

## **Week 12 | 4/15: UNIT 4 (The Remainder of the Semester will meet on-line)**

### **Tuesday:**

- Unit 4: Art Analysis Due (No Class Meeting)

### **Thursday:**

- (No Class Meeting)

## **Week 13 | 4/22: UNIT 4**

### **Tuesday:**

- Lecture: ZINES & NARRATIVE ART

### **Thursday:**

- Lecture: PATTERN, RHYTHM

## **Week 14 | 4/29: UNIT 4**

### **Tuesday:**

- Brainstorm/Story Board due

### **Thursday:**

- Zine making

## **Week 14 | 5/8: FINAL DAY TO TURN WORK IN**