Art Appreciation
SYLLABUS

Arts 1301 Section 006
3 Credit Hours

Meeting: Tuesday & Thursday from 12:30 pm – 1:45 pm
Central Academic Building 223

Professor: Megan Harrison, MFA
Office: Central Academic Building 223
Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 9:00am -9:30am by appointment

Email: megan.harrison@tamusa.edu

Spring 2020

Department Offering the Course:
Arts & Humanities Pre-requisites: None

Materials Required:

Gateways to Art 2nd Edition by Debra J. DeWitte, Ralph M. Larmann, and M. Katheryn Shields
ISBN-10: 0500292035

Suggested Materials: All of these materials will be supplied in class but if you wish to work at home you might consider some of these materials: pencil, ruler, scissors, colored pencils, polymer eraser, sharpie marker, tape, and watercolors.
This syllabus is subject to change at any time, but you will receive an email if changes occur.

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

**About the Course:**

**Course Description:** Course Catalog: 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.

*Each student will be required to make one self-guided visit to a local museum in order to fulfill the requirements for the museum project as a part of your midterm. If you are absolutely unable to visit a museum due to complicated personal situations there is an alternate assignment available. If you wish to complete the alternate assignment let me know well in advance of the deadline.*

The main goal of this course is two-fold. First, this course is designed to empower students to investigate and interpret works of art wherever it is encountered throughout daily life. And second, this course will help students become aware of the power and importance of their own creative abilities.

**Semester Course Structure:** We will be covering two units over the course of the semester. Unit 1 is devoted to the elements and principles of design. Our shared goal here is to develop a common vocabulary so that we can effectively discuss art. We will also see how artists across, time, location, and specialty have a common set of visual tools. This unit will culminate in our midterm examination.

Unit 2 is focused on a variety of critical issues in Contemporary art. We will utilize the formal vocabulary that was gained in the first 12 weeks of the course to analyze artworks with an eye towards the broader context of culture.

**Weekly Course Structure:** Tuesdays will be devoted to group discussions and lectures where I supplement the information provided to you in the weekly readings. We will also be preparing for weekly projects that will be completed every Thursday. I will demonstrate any techniques and explain what you will need to do in order to be prepared to work.
Thursdays will be our experiential learning day where we complete various projects based on our weekly topic. The goal in these hands-on exercises is to engage tactile learning and give practical experience with the ideas discussed each week. **These hands-on exercises will always be due on Tuesday of the following week.**

**Blackboard:** I will use Blackboard to provide you with copies of the syllabus, calendar, assignments sheets, 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 and announcements.

You will be completing weekly reading quizzes on blackboard so be sure you have regular and reliable access.

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/tech-support/studentresources/BlackboardStudentHelp/BbStudentHelp.html](http://www.tamusa.edu/its/tech-support/studentresources/BlackboardStudentHelp/BbStudentHelp.html)

IT Phone Number: (210) 784 - 4357

**Learning Outcomes:**

**Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:**

1. Use visual, oral, and written communication skills, explain the purposes and processes of the visual arts in their historical context.
2. Apply the formal elements and principles of design to works from the text.
3. Compare and contrast selected artworks using the terminology and iconography of art.
4. Evaluate selected artworks using the terminology and iconography of art.

**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.
Basic Expectations:

**Standards of Campus Conduct:** Members of the University community assume full responsibility for compliance with Texas laws and for proper self-conduct. In addition to behaving according to the ordinary conventions of adult society, members of the University community are bound by University rules, procedures, administrative procedures, handbooks, catalogs and other university approved directives conducive to creating a positive campus atmosphere and general academic well-being.

The code for student conduct is set forth in the Student Handbook. Specific attention is given there to rules addressing academic misconduct, hazing, sexual harassment and substance abuse, including alcohol abuse and the illicit use of drugs. Grievance procedures and guidelines for sanctions are outlined.

When students engage in behavior that the professor deems to be disruptive to the learning environment of the classroom the professor will first verbally prompt the student to stop their behavior, if the behavior is especially gratuitous or persistent the professor may ask the student to leave the classroom (resulting in an absence), or drop the student from the course.

**Attendance Policy:**

- You will be able to accrue 6 absences without penalty in this class. These absences will not alter due dates, and reading quizzes cannot be made up.

- The 7th absence will lower your course grade up to one full letter grade. Each additional absence will continue to lower your course grade by up to one full letter grade.

- Student who accumulate 7 or more absences are strongly advised to drop this course to avoid damage to your GPA.

- Be aware that you are only permitted a total of 6 drops without penalty in your undergraduate career. The 7th drop will be calculated as an F in your GPA.

- Arriving late, leaving class early, arriving unprepared or not actively participating in class work may be considered an absence.

- Students enrolling after the first day of class will be counted absent for the days missed prior to enrollment. (Students struggling with meeting the attendance policy are strongly encouraged to work with the Student Academic Success Center.)

You must sign in before the start of class to receive credit for your attendance.
Late Work Policy: Reading quizzes will close at the time and date due and cannot be made up. All projects and assignments are due at the beginning of class. Projects turned in late will lose a letter grade for each day they are not turned in. **Projects will not be accepted after the week in which they are due.**

Financial Aid and Verification of Attendance: According to the following federal regulation, 34 CFR 668.21: U.S. Department of Education (DoE) Title IV regulation, a student can only receive Title IV funds based on Title IV eligibility criteria which includes class attendance. If Title IV funds are disbursed to ineligible students (including students who fail to begin attendance), the institution must return these funds to the U.S. DoE within 30 days of becoming aware that the student will not or has not begun attendance. Faculty will provide the Office of Financial Aid with an electronic notification if a student has not attended the first week of class. Any student receiving Federal financial aid who does not attend the first week of class will have his/her aid terminated and returned to the DoE. Please note that any student who stops attending at any time during the semester may also need to return a portion of his/her federal aid.

Academic Dishonesty: Students are expected to do their own course work. Simple cases of first offense cheating or plagiarism by an individual student may be handled by the instructor after consultation with the department chair. The student is usually confronted with the evidence in private and advised of the penalty to be assessed. The evidence will be retained for at least one full year. For more serious cases, such as those involving repeated offenses, conspiracy with other students or the theft and selling of examination questions, a report should be made by the instructor via the department chair and college dean to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Academic dishonesty is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct; therefore, the instructor may report any form of academic dishonesty to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Please review the Student Handbook for a complete description of the process. The Student Handbook is available through the Student Rights and Responsibilities webpage: http://www.tamus.edu/studentengagementsuccess/studentrightsandresponsibilities/index.html

Penalties for academic dishonesty may range from a grade of F on the particular assignment, F in the class, or in the course to expulsion from the University.

Grading:

**Quizzes:** Each week you will be assigned reading in our textbook, Gateways to Art: 2nd Edition. You will then be quizzed on Blackboard over the material covered in the reading. Each quiz is worth 5 points and has the opportunity for a half point bonus. These quizzes will be due before for the first class of each week.
**Hands-on Exercises:** Each week you will be assigned a Hands-on Exercise that will give tactile experiences relating to the principles we’ve discussed in the lecture portion of the class. Each assignment will be outlined on an assignment sheet made available on Blackboard. Each of these exercises will be worth 15 points and due the following class.

**Museum Project:** Due at any point before the conclusion of Unit 1, each student will be required to make one self-guided, off campus visit to a local museum in order to complete a question-based museum project. Complete projects are worth 50 points.

**Exams:** At the conclusion of Unit 1 (week 11) we will take an exam that focuses on vocabulary. You will also be turning in your museum project as a part of your Unit 1 exam. Both the exam and the museum project will be submitted via Blackboard.

We will conclude the semester with a final. This exam is completely online and will be available throughout finals week. The flexibility of this exam will allow you to position the exam around your other finals. It will consist of 50 randomized questions, each worth 2 points (100 points total).

**Breakdown of Points Possible**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points Possible</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>65 points</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hands-on Exercises</td>
<td>210 points</td>
<td>44%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Museum Project</td>
<td>50 points</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>50 points</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finale Exam</td>
<td>100 points</td>
<td>21%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Points</strong></td>
<td><strong>475 Points</strong></td>
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**Grading Scale:**

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

**Extra Credit:** Students have the opportunity to earn 15 points of extra credit by volunteering with a local arts organization such as Luminaria, Artpace, Bluestar Contemporary, the McNay Museum of Art, Guadalupe cultural arts center etc. Students must volunteer and then write a 400-word reflection on their experience. An outline of the extra credit opportunity must be filled out and is available on Blackboard.
Accommodation & Resources:

**Accommodation Policy:** The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disability. If you believe you have a disability that may require accommodations, please contact Disability Support Services for the coordination of services. DSS is located on the second floor of the Central Academic Building in Suite 210. DSS can also be contact by phone: (210) 784-1335, email: dsupport@tamusa.edu, or through their website: http://www.tamusa.edu/studentengagementsuccess/dss/AccessingDSS/ index.html

**Library:** The University Library at Texas A&M University San Antonio is an integral part of the University’s mission to prepare and empower students through a solid foundation for success as the primary learning support service for students on campus. The library is actively engaged in the teaching, research, and public service activities of A&M-SA. The University Library provides research assistance and instruction, curriculum support, access to a wide variety of information resources, and facilities that foster independent study and collaborative engagement. More information can be found on the webpage: http://www.tamusa.edu/library/

**Writing Support:** The Jaguar Writing Center provides writing assistance to graduate and under-graduate students in all three colleges at Texas A&M University-San Antonio.

Writing tutors work with students to develop reading skills, prepare oral presentations, and plan, draft, and revise their written assignments. Students can make individual or group appointments with a writing tutor. The Writing Center has two locations: Central Academic Building, Suite 208 and Brooks City-Base, Room 104. Both locations can be reached by emailing tutoring@tamusa.edu or calling (210) 784-1332. Appointments can also be made through JaWire using Tutor Trac, which is found under the ‘Services’ tab.

*Students who use and obtain documentation that they worked with the writing center to complete midterm essays will receive 5 points extra credit on the exam.*

**Academic Success Center:** The Student Academic Success Center takes a developmental approach to help students complete their academic goals from orientation through graduation. The Center offers academic and skills workshops, one-on-one appointments, and online resources to help retention efforts at Texas A&M University-San Antonio. The goal of the Center is to help students discover, self-reflect, and become independent learners. Student Academic Success is located in the Madla Building, Suite 336. To contact the Center, please call 210-784-1352 or email at Student.Success@tamusa.edu.
Career Services: The Office of Career Services prepares students for real life objectives and expectations regarding careers and employment through the use of innovative research and learning techniques. Career Services provides quality counseling in the areas of choosing a major, job search strategies, pursuing employment and graduate school opportunities. Due to the high demand for services, they are available to currently enrolled A&M-SA undergraduate, and graduate students, and alumni who have graduated within the last year. The office can be contacted via their website http://www.tamusa.edu/careerservices/

Mental Health and Wellness support: The Office of Student Counseling & Wellness Services (SC&WS) provides short-term individual, couples, and group counseling services, consultation, and prevention services that facilitate students’ academic and life goals and enhance their personal growth and well-being. Our staff, of licensed mental health professionals, can work with you to identify more effective strategies both to cope with difficult situations and achieve goals set with your counselor. The office can be contacted via phone: (210) 784-1331, email: StuCounseling@tamusa.edu, or on their website: http://www.tamusa.edu/studentengagementsuccess/student-counseling/

Military Affairs: Texas A&M University-San Antonio assists Veterans with various educational benefits. In order to determine which veteran benefit you may use, please review these eligible education benefits and their requirements. The office of military affairs can be contacted by email: military@ tamusa.edu or through their website: http://www.tamusa.edu/militaryaffairs/LPBefore.html

General’s Store: General’s Store is an on-campus food pantry to serve members of the campus community who are in need. Located in Patriot’s Casa room 110, this service is available at set times and by appointment. For more information call 210-784-1447 or email experience@tamusa.edu.

Congrats, You’ve reached the end of the Syllabus and You’re now prepared with the basic information for Art Appreciation