

ART 100: Art Appreciation

GENERAL NOTES ABOUT THE COURSE:

This is a half-term, abbreviated course. Students earn three credit hours in eight weeks for a course that covers content typically taught over 16 weeks. It is a rigorous and demanding course with lots of reading, writing and dialogue between classmates.

You should plan on spending at least 9 or more hours per week on average reading, watching videos, writing and taking quizzes.

It is essential to be comfortable with whatever technology you're using for the course and confident that it's sufficient to handle streaming video. A high-speed internet connection is essential. Based on past experience, your instructor does not recommend taking this course if you don't have a high-speed, reliable Internet connection at home. In previous semesters, the amount of online activity has proved difficult for students whose main Internet connection is at work or school.

Be prepared to work with McKendree's IT department if you encounter any technical issues. Your instructor may not be able to provide technical support but will work with you on deadlines, etc. if technical issues keep you from doing your work.

The class takes place entirely online and is asynchronous, meaning you do not have to login at any specific time, but we will not "break" for any holiday. It is vital to do the work and not fall behind—even one week away from our activities will be difficult to recover from.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Gateways to Art: 3rd Edition (Thames & Hudson, 2018).

Multiple required reading documents (PDF files, web links and other notes) and videos throughout the semester (posted in each learning module).

Your weekly writing assignments and quizzes are graded on how well you understand concepts from all of these sources.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

In ART 100, you'll gain an understanding of:

- The origins, themes and purposes of visual culture and art.
- The visual elements and principles of art and design (the language of art).
- The forms of visual art (two-and-three dimensional, timebased/interactive.)
- Form (how an artwork looks) and content (what an artwork is about), how the two relate to each other, and how to talk about that relationship.

- What visual culture is and what it does (why visual culture is more than just 'fine art').
- The roles of the artist, observer, and society in visual culture.
- The diverse history of visual culture, and how visual culture reflects cultural diversity.
- The role of visual culture in general education (how visual culture relates to other fields of study).

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION and LEARNING OUTCOMES

You'll work through a new learning module each week, which contains:

- Outline: an overview of the major concepts in the module
- Read: your reading assignments from the textbook and other sources
- Look/Explore: slideshows, interactive websites and more
- Watch: videos (including documentaries, interviews, lectures and other educational content)
- Review/Reflect: flashcards to help you practice your knowledge of vocabulary
- Dialogue: weekly essay assignments posted on the Discussion Board, along with comments/responses to classmates and the instructor.
- Assess: to measure your comprehension and progress

At the end of the course, a final exam... and extra credit (during selected weeks) or optional resources and activities

Additional methods of instruction:

- The instructor's posts, which include this syllabus, instructions for your online assignments, announcements and comments on your assignments (some of which may be posted privately or sent via email).

ASSIGNMENTS/DISCUSSION BOARDS

You will look at works of art, learn to describe them in some detail, learn to compare them to one another, and learn to explain in significant detail what meaning you find in them, and why.

Each week, work through the module content methodically:

- 1) Read the required text(s)
- 2) Watch the required videos and take notes
- 3) Read the instructions for the weekly assignment. These are often extensive and contain more videos to watch or links to resources that will help you. Prepare to spend time working through the instructions themselves.

4) Write your assignment offline, posting it to the discussion board only after you've saved it outside Blackboard.

5) Within a week, respond to TWO classmates. This is a third of your grade each week. Your comments should be substantial and dialogue driven. They should NOT simply praise a colleague, and they definitely should not criticize their effort, grammar, etc. See "grading policies" below.

DISCUSSION BOARDS: Grading, Guidelines and Protocol

- You receive up to 30 points on each Post your essays in the body of a post on the discussion board – don't attach them.
- Correct punctuation and spelling are important. Errors in spelling, punctuation, and grammar can be very distracting, and they do not enhance the credibility of the writer.
- Furthermore, there is no excuse for misspelling the name of an artist, era or concept. Use the index of your textbook and the course glossary (left-hand menu in Blackboard).
- It is customary to refer to artists, writers and other professionals by their last names or by their first and last names. The best method is to refer to the person by their first and last name upon first mention, and thereafter by their last name. There are a few exceptions — most notably in the Renaissance era (Michelangelo, Raphael, Donatello).
- Please format your essays with a 12-point Arial, Times or Times New Roman font and double-space them.
- It is preferable to write your initial posts (the assignments themselves) in third-person voice. (Using third-person is required on your term paper. You're encouraged to get used to it straightaway).
- Instead of saying "I think Frieda Kahlo depicts..." just say "Frieda Kahlo depicts..." You're writing it; by default, we assume what you write represents what you think. However...
- Responding to the work of your classmates: Responding to the work of your colleagues is part of each assignment. You can earn up to 5 points for participation, based on the number and quality of your responses. (Please note that I expect substantive participation.
- Comments that don't go much further than "I agree," "You go, girl," "I loved your essay," or "Great job," while clearly supportive, are not in and of themselves enough to get you even one [1] point.) Your comments should focus on an idea or an observation your colleague has presented. It should be at least a paragraph long in order to give you time to develop your own ideas.
- You could pursue your colleague's point further, ask a question about what your colleague has said, perhaps suggest ways that what your colleague has said might apply to other films, or relate a personal experience that clarifies or strengthens what your colleague has said. You will have one week after the deadline for an assignment to post your responses, and they should be at least 50 words apiece as a rule of thumb.

- The instructor will participate in the discussions that take place on the Discussion Board, though much of their feedback will likely be through announcements that comment on everyone’s work.
- You should attribute any quotes, or any ideas at all, that are not your own to the proper source. We watch a number of documentaries, for example, and you’ll often see “talking heads” – art critics and historians, etc., commenting on art. In the course of your discussions, you should name the relevant person and what they said. Be as specific and descriptive as possible about attributing ideas that aren’t your own.
- Likewise, if you choose to include information you gathered from your own research, you must conform to standards of academic honesty and use a standard method of academic citation. See section on research and citation below.
- There are many online resources to help you with your writing. McKendree has a Writing Resource Center. Another excellent resource is the Purdue Online Writing Lab. If you consistently have difficulty with a specific writing problem, the instructor will require you to seek help.

PEER GROUPS

To keep the discussion robust and varied, you’ll be assigned to groups based on the first letter of your last name. If you’re in Group One, you’ll discuss Question #1, and so on. Every student is required to post an essay, according to the instructions, each week. Every week, you’re also required to post two responses to classmates. Your responses must be to students in two different groups.

For example, if you’re in Group Two, you should post an essay in response to Question #2, and you could respond to classmates’ essays who are in Group One, and Three (or Four and Five, or whatever, as long as they’re two different groups and not your own). Group assignments are posted in Modules 1 and 2.

PARTICIPATION

Participation is measured in the following ways:

- Completing every activity
- Comments or questions on the discussion boards beyond the required posts (can be directed to classmates and/or the instructor)
- Adding images, links or other media to discussion boards
- Participation on optional discussion boards
- Communication with the instructor (via virtual office hours, phone, email, etc.)
- Participation in optional weekly Microsoft Teams meetings
- Quality of journal entries (see below)
- Electing to complete extra credit

JOURNAL

Over the term, you'll keep a journal of reflections on the artwork you're studying. Each week/module you'll respond to a specific prompt. Journals are informal and not shared with classmates – just the instructor. ART REVIEW (Term Paper)

Your final writing assignment is a review of an exhibition (if possible, in person at a museum or gallery; if not, you can study the exhibition through a catalog, book or website). This assignment has two phases: 1) a proposal and outline, due Week __ and 2) the paper itself, due the last week of class. Details are posted in the Term Paper tab. QUIZZES

Each week you'll complete a short quiz. The quizzes are REQUIRED and must be completed by the deadline each week. The lowest grade of the eight quizzes is dropped.

If you have technical issues during a quiz, email the instructor immediately to reset the quiz. You may have to wait up to 12 hours, especially if you're taking the test late at night.

FINAL EXAM

The final will be cumulative (covering the entire term). It will be based heavily on vocabulary, eras and your ability to synthesize knowledge. It will also feature two essay questions and an additional one for extra credit.

RESEARCH AND CITATION

- The Purdue OWL (left-hand menu) is an excellent resource for writing as well as information about citing your work. Check with it before you check with the instructor.
- If you quote any dialogue or refer to any research online (or anywhere—even the textbook or required reading/videos/websites), you must properly attribute it.
- Direct quotations go in quotation marks and get cited (refer to the OWL for more on that if you haven't cited before).
- If you're merely borrowing a concept or idea (or using it to explain your own), paraphrase it and cite that too.
- As you might guess, copying a direct sentence—even just one—from anywhere (online, on paper, from a speech) is a one-way ticket to "F"-town. When citing, follow the guidelines of:
 - An academic style manual. It doesn't matter whether you use MLA, APA, AMA, Turabian or Chicago, as long as it's consistent and correct within the style guide.
 - Sources: they're not all created equal. First, the most important thing to know is that WIKIPEDIA IS NOT AN ACCEPTABLE ACADEMIC SOURCE. It's a user-generated encyclopedia and it isn't fact-checked. It can be a great starting point for research. The footnotes in Wikipedia entries can point you to more acceptable sources.

- Examples of trustworthy sources are ones produced by nonprofit institutions (like PBS), museums, libraries, archives, educational institutions, and official websites of artists, their estates, galleries, etc. You're also encouraged to utilize McKendree's online library resources, which include access to academic journals, as well as (gasp!) actual books from the physical library building. If you have doubts about using a source, email the instructor.

ACADEMIC HONESTY/PLAGIARISM POLICIES

Presenting what someone else has written as your own work constitutes plagiarism, and the consequences for plagiarism are severe. According to McKendree academic policies, as spelled out in the 2009-2010 Catalog (pp. 48-49), if you are guilty of plagiarism, here are the instructor's choices:

a) The faculty member may allow the student to resubmit the assignment, or re-take the exam, test, or quiz for full credit. b) The faculty member may reduce the grade earned by the student for the specific assignment by whatever factor the faculty member deems appropriate. c) The faculty member may fail the student on the particular assignment. d) The faculty member may reduce the grade earned by the student for the course itself. e) The faculty member may fail the student for the course itself.

The consequence depends on the severity of the plagiarism, but the instructor will NOT hesitate to utilize options C and E (for repeated offenses).

This course includes a guide to avoiding plagiarism, which is posted in Module 1.

If you have any questions, please feel free to send the instructor an email or to post your questions in the Faculty Office forum on the discussion board.

From time to time, the instructor will randomly submit essays you post on the discussion board to SafeAssign, which will identify any similarities between what you have written and text that the program finds online.

At the end of the course, you will submit your final projects using SafeAssign.

DEADLINES

After Assignment #1, all of your assignments and quizzes, except for your term paper, will be due on Sundays. You're expected to post your assignments on or before the date that they are due (anytime technically on the due date, by 11:59pm).

Your responses are due on Sundays as well, a week later.

LATE WORK

- Communication is key. If you know that you are going to have to post an assignment late, or if, for reasons beyond your control, you were not able to post an assignment on time, you're expected to contact the instructor before the assignment is due.
- When you do, you can work out a new deadline with the instructor, and there will be no penalty. If you have ongoing problems keeping up with work, you will be asked for documentation of any illness, death in the family, or other issue.

- Acceptable forms of documentation are usually letters (on letterhead) from a doctor, counselor, chaplain, commanding officer or academic advisor.
- If you do not communicate with the instructor, they will assess the following penalties:
 - o Insert point deductions here.
 - o Late quizzes are accepted within a week of the original due date but will be manually penalized by __ points per day.

Discussion board posts and responses will not be accepted more than __weeks past their original due dates.

Note: if you take a quiz late, you will not see a grade immediately.

GRADING: 1000 Points

Dialogue (discussion board) assignments: 240 (24%)

Journal: 100 (10%)

Quizzes (lowest grade dropped): 240 (24%)

Term paper (art review): 150 (15%)

Final exam: 150 (15%)

Participation: 120 (12%)

EXTRA CREDIT

Extra credit assignments will be posted throughout the term. In total, extra credit cannot amount to more than 5 percent of a student's overall grade. Each extra credit assignment is worth 1 to 2.5 percent of your total grade, calculated at the end of the term.

Extra credit is NOT a substitute for submitting assignments. If you miss two or more assignments or quizzes, extra credit work is not accepted.

GRADING SCALE (PERCENTAGES)

A 93 – 100% A- 92 – 90 B+ 89 – 87 B 86 – 83 B- 82 – 80 C+ 79 – 77

C 76 – 73 C- 72 – 70 D+ 69 – 67 D 66 – 63 D- 62 – 60 F 59 – below

SCHEDULE

	Assessments	Dialogue Assignments	Comments Due	Paper	Extra Credit
Week 1 (Module 1)	Quiz #1a: Sunday Quiz #1b: Sunday	Assignment #1A: Friday Assignment #1B: Sunday	None	N/A	
Week 2 (Module 2)	Quiz #2: Sunday	Assignment #2: Sunday	None required on #1A; two required on #1B	N/A	
Week 3 (Module 3)	Quiz #3: Sunday	Assignment #3: Sunday	Two required on Assignment #2	N/A	TBA
Week 4 (Module 4)	Quiz #4: Sunday	Assignment #4: Sunday	Two required on Assignment #3	Art review (term paper) proposal due Sunday	
Week 5 (Module 5)	Quiz #5: Sunday	Assignment #5: Sunday	Two required on Assignment #4	N/A	
Week 6 (Module 6)	Quiz #6: Sunday	Assignment #6: Sunday	Two required on Assignment #5	Optional term paper draft due	
Week 7 (Module 7)	Quiz #7: Sunday	Assignment #7: Sunday	Two required on Assignment #6		TBA
Week 8 (Module 8)	Final Exam due LAST DAY of CLASS	N/A	Two required on Assignment #7	Final paper due LAST DAY of CLASS	TBA

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON DROPPING A COURSE AND REIMBURSEMENT OF FEES

Students enrolled in weekly or on-line only courses may withdraw from courses and receive refunds according to the following schedule:

1. Up to the end of the 5th business day from the start day of the class, students may withdraw from a class without any notation appearing on the permanent record.
2. Students may withdraw prior to the end of the 6th business day with a notation of "W" appearing on the permanent record.
3. After the seventh business day, a grade of WF will be assigned unless circumstances merit special consideration by the Dean of the University.

4. Prior to the end of the 5th business day, 100% of the tuition is refundable. After the 5th business day and prior to the end of the 6th business day a 50% refund is available. After the 6th business day, tuition is no longer refundable.

UNIVERSITY ADA POLICY A student requiring assistance with the technical portions of the course should contact the Instructor or the Academic Support Center. Services for Students with disabilities are provided through the McKendree Academic Support Center (MASC) in order to help the student integrate into the entire university experience. MASC provides coordination and implementation of special accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

UNIVERSITY EMAIL POLICY Every student is issued a McKendree email account, which is one of the major means of communication from departments such as the Office of Academic Records, Student Affairs and the Business Office. All students are responsible for checking their McKendree email accounts regularly, and are accountable for information disseminated to their email accounts. Failure to read university communications sent to McKendree email accounts does not absolve students from knowing and complying with the content of these communications.

SUBJECT TO CHANGE CLAUSE This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor to accommodate instructional and/or student needs.