Course Description
This course is designed to acquaint graduate students in George Mason University’s Master’s program in Art History with the broad range of Art History taught in the department. It will introduce students to the professors offering graduate seminars, expose them to fields outside their primary area of interest, and help them prepare for the required slide exam in Art History. The purpose of the slide exam is to ensure that students have a broad knowledge of art historical periods and geographies and an understanding of how works of art represent their specific cultural and historical contexts. In addition to its focus on the slide exam, this course is also meant to prepare students to enter the field as an art history professional. Several assignments, such as the preparation of course syllabi or museum reviews, will relate to this objective. The knowledge gained in this course will provide the foundation for art history teaching at the high school and college survey level. It will also prepare students to assess works they encounter in professional settings, such as museums, auction houses, galleries, and private and corporate collections.

This is a team-taught course. A different Art History faculty member will lead each module and present a broad overview of his/her areas of expertise.

Course Objectives
In this course, students will:
• Review the major periods, objects, and producers of art in the global context;
• Become familiar with the formal/stylistic characteristics of different cultures and historical periods;
• Learn to situate objects and producers in their historical contexts;
• Prepare for graduate seminars in each of the major fields offered in the department;
• Prepare for the slide exam required for the MA in Art History;
• Begin preparing for the required literature review exam for the MA in Art History;
• Prepare to enter the field as an Art History professional.

Textbooks
1. Marilyn Stokstad and Michael Cothren, Art History (Pearson, 2008). This syllabus is based on the Stokstad 5th edition. Use the edition you have, but be sure to double-check the chapter numbers so we are all reading the same thing the same week.
Course Requirements
Students must complete all graded assignments and other requirements listed on the syllabus. Even if your overall average without one of these elements is sufficient for a passing grade, you cannot pass the class without specific, prior permission of the instructor.

Attendance and participation: 20%
Reading response papers: 20%
Museum review OR sample syllabus: 20%
Annotated bibliography: 20%
Slide exam: 20%

Grading standards
A+  98-100  C+  77-79.5
A   93-97.5  C   73-76.5
A-  90-92.5  C-  70-72.5
B+  87-89.5  D   60-69.5
B   83-86.5  F   < 60
B-  80-82.5

A = exceptional work; meticulously researched, well written, imaginative, and goes beyond the basic requirements of the assignment.
B = good effort, substantially better than average.
C = fulfills basic requirements of the assignment; shows basic knowledge of the material; competent writing
D and F = unacceptable.

Attendance and participation
Attendance and informed participation in class discussions are required of all students. Your starting attendance/participation grade (i.e., you attend all class meetings but do not participate in discussions, or do not give any indication that you have done the readings) will be a C+. You build on that grade with informed contributions to class discussions.

If you cannot attend class due to medical reasons or other emergencies, please submit proper documentation to me in a timely fashion. Otherwise, after one missed class, each subsequent unexplained absence will lead to a deduction of 10% of your participation grade.

It is important to maintain a positive learning environment and observe rules of classroom etiquette in class sessions. Constructive comments and criticism are welcome, but please be mindful of and respect one another’s views.

Reading response papers
Four 2-page response papers are required over the course of the semester. Please note the exact due date for each paper. You are welcome to turn in your paper before the deadline, but, in the interest of fairness, papers must be submitted by that date to receive full credit. Students will incur a 3% grade penalty per day for late papers. In cases of medical or other serious problems, please document them and let me know as soon as possible.
Museum review or sample syllabus
Your choice will depend on your career goals. If you plan to teach, I would encourage you to write a sample syllabus. If you intend to do museum or gallery work, the museum review would be appropriate. Please consult with me in advance about your choice.

Annotated bibliography
Develop an annotated bibliography in one area of specialization. This serves as preparation for the literature review portion of your comprehensive exams, which you will take in your final year. You will also become familiar with the literature in your area of interest, which will help you with your work in other graduate seminars. For a list of fields, see: https://historyarthistory.gmu.edu/graduate/ma-art-history/comprehensive-exam (scroll down to the bottom of the page).

Slide exam
This is a requirement for the MA degree in Art History. Should you fail the final slide exam, the grade will be figured as 20% of this course grade. You will, however, have to retake the slide exam and pass it at some point to receive the MA degree. This would have to be arranged individually with the MA advisor.

Add-drop deadlines
Please note the following add-drop deadlines:
- January 29, 2019 Last day to add a class
- February 5 Last day to drop a class with no tuition penalty
- February 12 Last day to drop a class [tuition penalty TBD]
- February 13-25 Student self-withdrawal period (100% tuition penalty)

It is your responsibility to observe the add-drop deadlines to ensure that you are properly registered for specific courses.

Tech requirements
I will ONLY use your GMU email addresses. If you prefer to use a commercial account, you must activate the email forwarder on your GMU account. Readings, course updates, and instructions for assignments and examinations will be available on Blackboard. Please also note that you will be expected to give a power point presentation of your research project.

Please be respectful of your peers and your instructor when using electronic devices.
- Do not use cell phones in class.
- Do not engage in activities that are unrelated to class. Such disruptions show a lack of professionalism and may affect your participation grade.

English as a second language
If English is not your first language, feel free to discuss with me any concerns you have about the writing assignments. Please, however, give me plenty of notice (at least a week) before the due dates. You may also consider consulting the Writing Center. Be sure to plan ahead, because the Writing Center is very busy near the end of the semester.
Students with disabilities
Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss your specific needs. Please note that requests for accommodation must be provided to me at least two weeks before the due date of the first assignment. For further information and documentation please contact the Office of Disability Services, Student Union Building I (SUB), Room 4205, Telephone: (703) 993-2474, TTY: (703) 993-2476.

Standards of Academic integrity
Strict adherence to the Honor Code as defined in the undergraduate catalogue is expected. Plagiarism, cheating on examinations, and all other instances of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Honor Committee, and may result in a failing grade for the course. Please consult the Office for Academic Integrity for a full description of the code and the honor committee process.

SCHEDULE

January 28  Introduction (Ho)
Ancient Near East and Egypt I (Williamson)
Readings:
- Stokstad, introduction, for terms of art-historical analysis
- Stokstad, Chapter 2: Art of the Ancient Near East
- Excerpts from The Epic of Gilgamesh, transl. N.K. Sandars.
- Stokstad, Chapter 3: Art of Ancient Egypt
- “The Maxims of Ptahhotep”

February 4  Egypt II; Ancient Greece I (Williamson)
Readings:
- Stokstad, Chapter 4: Art of the Ancient Aegean
- Stokstad, Chapter 5: Art of Ancient Greece
February 11  Ancient Greece II (Ho); Rome I (Ho)
Readings:
Review readings listed under the previous week for Classical and Hellenistic Art.
- **Stokstad, Chapter 6: Etruscan and Roman Art**

February 18  Rome II, Late Antiquity, and Byzantine Empire (Ho)
*First response paper due*
- **Stokstad, Chapter 7, Jewish and Early Christian Art**
- **Stokstad, Chapter 8: Byzantine Art**

February 25  Africa (Berger)
Readings TBD

March 4  Western Medieval (Ho); Islamic (Ho)
- **Stokstad, Chapter 15: Early Medieval Art in Europe**
- **Stokstad, Chapter 16: Romanesque Art**
- **Stokstad, Chapter 17: Gothic Art of the Twelfth and Thirteenth Centuries**
- **Stokstad, Chapter 9: Islamic Art**

March 11  Spring break

March 18  South and Southeast Asia (DeCaroli)
*Second response paper due*
Readings:
- **Stokstad, Chapters 10 and 24, on the Art of South and Southeast Asia.**
March 25      China and Japan (DeCaroli)

Museum or syllabus assignment due

- **Stokstad, Chapters 11 and 25, on Chinese art.**
- **Stokstad, Chapters 12 and 26 on Japanese art.**

April 1      15th-century Europe; High Renaissance in Italy (Ho)

Readings:

- **Stokstad, Chapter 18: Fourteenth Century Art in Europe**
- **Stokstad, Chapter 20: Renaissance Art in 15th Century Italy**
- **Stokstad, Chapter 21: Sixteenth Century Art in Italy**


April 8      Northern Renaissance and 17th-century Europe (Ho)

Third response paper due

Readings:

- **Stokstad, Chapter 19: Fifteenth-Century Art in Northern Europe**
- **Stokstad, Chapter 22: Sixteenth-Century Art in Northern Europe**
- **Stokstad, Chapter 23: Seventeenth-Century Art in Europe**
- Craig Harbison, *Art of the Northern Renaissance* (London: Laurence King, 2012), 7-23.

April 15   18th to 19th century US and Europe (Schulman)

Readings:

- **Stokstad, Chapter 30**

For further background (optional):

April 22  European Modernism, 1850-1950 (Greet)

Annotated bibliography due

Readings:

- **Stokstad, Chapters 31 and 32, on European art, 1850-1950.**

For further background (optional):
- *Oxford Art Online* (subject and artist entries for 19th and 20th century topics)

April 29  Latin American Art (Greet)

Readings:

- **Stokstad, Chapter 13: Art of the Americas before 1300**
- **Stokstad, Chapter 27: Art of the Americas after 1300**

For further background (optional):

May 6  Art since 1950 (Schulman)

Fourth response paper due

Required readings:

- **Stokstad Chap. 33**

For further background (optional):

Exam period

May 13  Slide exam at 4:30