Contact information and Office Hours:

Email: jwilli98@gmu.edu Please use your GMU email address for school business.

Virtual office hours on Zoom: by appointment
- Office hours are times set aside by faculty to focus on students
  For your convenience and health, I offer virtual office hours.
  Email me for a time and day that works for you, and I will set up the link!

Please note professors are to be addressed by the professional title as given by the university and their peers: in this case “Professor” and/or “Doctor” (not “Mr.” “Ms.” “Miss” “Mrs.” These titles indicate marital status and/or gender identity and are not professional titles in Universities.)

Email policy:

I will not reply to emails on the weekends. If you have a serious last-minute problem on a weekend, I will not be able to help you until Monday. Be sure to plan.

Please do not email me from a non-GMU email account. According to GMU privacy policy, I can only correspond with you via your GMU account.

Course Description:

This course will introduce students to the art and architecture of ancient Egypt. Through slide lectures, reading, assigned exercises, and discussions we will examine key monuments and objects of art. We will explore the role of painting, sculpture, and architecture in the formation and communication of cultural identity and the role of religion and worldview on artistic production. This course has no prerequisites and presumes no prior knowledge of Art History.

COURSE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES.

In this course, students will:
- Learn to analyze and discuss art and architecture.
- Learn the standard major periods of ancient Egyptian art.
- Learn to recognize major monuments from each period.
- Study the relationship between the history and visual culture of each period.
• Apply archeology and primary texts to art history.
• Become familiar with some of the area's museums.

• COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
• Class attendance (this is monitored through a series of in-class exercises)
• Assigned readings, including websites and documents on the Internet/Blackboard.
• Two (2) critical thinking papers
• a midterm and a final exam.

• TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS:
• GMU email accounts—only GMU accounts will get announcements and grading access.
• Internet access
• Ability to find on-line documents from the Internet and Blackboard.
• Computerized word-processing with spell-checkers

University Add/Drop Dates:
Monday August 29 Last day to add classes
Tuesday September 6th Last Day to Drop with 100% tuition refund
Tuesday September 13th Final Drop Deadline with 50% tuition refund
Tuesday September 14th – 27th Withdrawal period with 100% tuition liability
Wednesday September 28th- Oct 24th: Selective Withdrawal period with 100% tuition liability

Dates to remember:
10/3: first round of critical thinking papers due
10/12: Midterm test
11/16: second round of critical thinking papers due
TBA: Final Exam

Required TEXTBOOKS:


Additional on-line readings may be required as well. URLs will be announced in class and linked to the course Blackboard site. This syllabus may be modified as the semester progresses, although students will be notified of any changes, they are ultimately responsible for keeping themselves informed and up to date.
Class and Reading schedule
(Students will be notified of any changes in advance)

Assigned reading should be done before the start of each class/week


**Week 1: Introduction and Understanding Egyptian Art**

**Reading:** Robins, Chapter 1, pg. 12-29, Brewer/Teeter, Chapter 11 pg. 189-207; Shaw, Chapter 1, pg. 1-17

- **8/22** Introduction
- **8/24** Understanding Egyptian Art

**Week 2: Early Dynastic Period**

**Reading:** Robins, Chapter 2, 30-39; Brewer/Teeter, Chapter 4 pg. 60-78; Shaw, Chapters 3 and 4 pg. 44-88

- **8/29** Early Dynastic Art
- **8/31** Dynasty Three and the First Pyramid

**Week 3: The Old Kingdom part I**

**Reading:** Robins, 40-57; Brewer/Teeter, Chapter 5 pg. 79-97, Shaw, Chapter 5, pg. 89-117

- **9/5** No class
- **9/7** Dynasty 4 and the Giza Plateau

**Week 4: The Old Kingdom part II**

**Reading:** Robins, 58-79, Brewer/Teeter, Chapter 6 pg. 98-109, Shaw, Chapter 5, pg. 89-117

- **9/12** Dynasty 5: Zenith
- **9/14** Dynasty 6: Collapse

**Week 5: More on Pyramids/First Intermediate Period**

**Reading:** Robins, pg. 80-89, Brewer/Teeter, Chapter 7 pg. 110-126; Shaw, Chapter 6, pg. 118-147

- **9/19:** Pyramid recap
- **9/21** Provincial art and Pre-reunification style, Dynasty 11
Week 6: Middle Kingdom I
Reading: Robins 90-109, Brewer/Teeter, Chapter 8 pg. 127-141; Shaw, Chapter 7 pg. 148-184

9/26 Pre-Middle Kingdom Unification style, Dynasty 11
9/28 Changes to kingship: Dynasty 12-13

Week 7: Middle Kingdom II
Reading: Robins 110-121, Brewer/Teeter, Chapter 9 pg. 142-165; Shaw, Chapter 7 pg. 148-184

10/3 Rock Cut elite tombs, tomb models and first critical thinking papers are due
10/05 Middle Kingdom offering formulas (learn some Ancient Egyptian!)

Week 8: test
10/11 review for test
10/12 test 1

Week 9: Second Intermediate Period and the Start of the New Kingdom
Reading: Robins 122-147, Shaw, Chapters 8 and 9 184-271

10/17 Dynasty 17 and the war with the Hyksos
10/19 Dynasty 18 Amunhotep III

Week 10: The New Kingdom: wealth and empire
Reading: Robins 166-193, Brewer/Teeter, Chapter 2 pg. 17-29, Shaw, Chapter 11 pg. 314-329

10/24 Royal and State Temples, Royal burial
10/26 Non-royal tombs and art

Week 11: New Kingdom II: Heresy, Iconoclasm, and Tradition
Reading: Robins 149-165, Brewer/Teeter, Chapter 10 pg. 166 -188; Shaw, Chapter 10 pg. 272-313

10/31 The start of the Amarna Period
11/2 The end of the Amarna Period

Week 12: Third Intermediate Period collapse and innovation, and The Late Period I
Reading: Robins 195-229; Shaw, Chapter 12 and 13 pg. 330-394

11/7 Foreign rule, foreign influence
11/9 Dynasty 25 Nubian rule
Week 13: Late Period
11/14 Dynasty 26 Saite Rule, a return to traditions
11/16 Cleopatra and Greco-Roman Egypt Critical thinking papers due

Week 14: Thanksgiving break- no material this week

Week 15: The Big Picture
Robins, 231-251, Brewer/Teeter, Chapter 12 pg. 208-211; Shaw, Chapter 14 pg. 395-421
11/28 Big Picture Context
11/30 Review for final exam

Dates to remember:

10/3: first round of critical thinking papers due
10/12: Midterm test
11/16: second round of critical thinking papers due
TBA: Final Exam

CLASS POLICIES

Attendance (in this case: on-line attendance) is necessary; much of the material will only be covered in our lectures. You are responsible for getting notes, and for all consequences of missed classes. Class participation will affect your grade. Attendance is checked by a series of in-class exercises, not a traditional rollcall.

Discussion board and class atmosphere. Courtesy and common sense, please. Talking during lectures, wandering in and out, cell phones, and eating food are all badly distracting to everyone else. Disruptive individuals can be asked to leave, according to GMU policy.

Late work will be graded down five points per weekday and ten points over a weekend. Plan--last-minute hard-disk and printer failures do not constitute legitimate excuses. By the final exam, all missing work becomes F work. Make-up tests and elaborate medical excuses will require verification with a physician's or associate dean's excuse. There will be no make-up final exams.

English as a Second Language: If English is not your first language, I will be happy to help you do your best in the writing assignments. The result must be written in good standard English. Please work with The Writing Center in Robinson I, Room A116. http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/resources/ and http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/ Call them at (703) 993-1200, or see their web page for English language help, at http://writingcenter.gmu.edu. You may also want to work with GMU’s English Language Institute (ELI). Call them at (703) 993-3664, or visit their website at http://eli.gmu.edu
Learning disabilities. If you are a student with disabilities, and you need academic accommodations, please see me, and contact the Office of Disabilities Resources (ODS) or 703-993-2474. Website: http://ds.gmu.edu/ All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.

Religious holidays. This syllabus is arranged according to the George Mason University calendar. If you observe a religious holiday that the University does not, please let me know and I will make necessary accommodations for you (but not for the whole class).

Honor Code and Academic honesty is expected in all tests and writing, according the GMU Honor Code. “Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related to academic work.” Please respect the Honor Code, our classroom standards, your fellow students, and yourself. Please report violations to the Honor Committee, using the procedures explained on the website.

GRADING POLICIES

TESTS must be taken on the scheduled date. If there has been an emergency, it must be documented by a note from the dean’s office or your doctor. In those cases, there will be one make-up test scheduled. Tests will be graded by percentage.

FINAL GRADES
Based on the average of your assignments, tests, and class participation grades:

Test 1: 20%
First round of critical thinking papers: 20%
Second round of critical thinking papers: 20%
Final exam: 25%
Participation: 15%

Final grades may be raised or lowered from strict average in the following circumstances:
Class participation improves/deteriorates
Reliability is stellar (always prepared, etc.) or poor (never prepared, etc.)
Significant improvement over the semester (Student begins semester poorly but then does better)

Grades will be calculated as follows:
A = 100% to 93%, or 4.00
A- = 92% to 90%, or 3.67
B+ = 89% to 87%, or 3.33
B = 86% to 83 %, or 3.00
B- = 82% to 80 %, or 2.67
C+ = 79% to 77 %, or 2.33
C = 76% to 73 %, or 2.00
C- = 72% to 70%, or 1.67
D = 60% to 66%, or 1.0
F = below 60% receives no credit

I may award a final A+ in rare instances: 4.0 average plus unusually good writing and class participation.

**WRITTEN WORK** may be graded by points, or by the following criteria, as appropriate:
A = Startlingly good, exceeding expectations, and well written. Must be imaginative; NOT given for simply following directions.
B = Good effort with a good result.
C = Perfunctory; or, tried but missed the point; or did something well but it wasn't the assignment. or good idea but careless or sloppy.
D = Warning: accepted under protest.
F = Unacceptable as college-level work.

**Paper grades will be lowered** for lateness, sloppiness, lack of proofreading, bad English, lack of necessary documentation/supporting evidence/footnoting, faulty logic, or failure to follow directions for the assignment. Please study the directions for writing assignments.

**Late written work:** Due on the day specified. After that, late papers will be lowered five points a day, or half a grade, during the work week (Mon-Fri) and lowered ten points over a weekend. Note that this makes even “A” work into “F” work after ten days. **If you need an extension, you must ask for it before the due date** if you want to avoid a penalty.

**Class participation grade:**
“**A**” Level: Great **class participation**—student demonstrates understanding of subject and the ability to think critically about it, makes connections with other students and encourages friendly and positive discussion, no “one-upping.”
“**B**” level: Normal **class participation**—student shows up on time, keeps up with classwork, participates in group activities, does not cause problems
“**C**” level: Student shows poor class attendance, does not pay attention, is not up to date with reading, is disruptive, etc.
“**D-F**” level: Student will get a D-F in class participation automatically if they use their personal technology devices in any way that is not connected to the classroom. IE no Facebook, Tinder, Snapchat, etc. etc. etc. You are allowed to monitor emergency campus alerts of course.

**TWO PIECES OF GRADED WORK MISSING WILL BE GROUNDS FOR FAILING THE COURSE REGARDLESS OF YOUR PRECISE AVERAGE.**

**IF YOU FLUNK THE FINAL EXAM, WITH AN F ON ANOTHER MAJOR**
(20%) PIECE OF WORK, YOU WILL RECEIVE A FAILING GRADE FOR THE WHOLE COURSE. To pass this course you must demonstrate mastery of the material from all parts of the course.

Outside of this classroom:

If you or anyone you know has been subjected to any form of harassment (due to race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, etc.), please consider a visit to GMU’s Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights. They will be supportive and discreet. GMU is proud of its diverse student body and committed to protecting the rights and the dignity of all students.

GMU Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights Website:
http://integrity.gmu.edu/compliance/titleIX.cfm