ARTH 382: Arts of India

Prof. Robert DeCaroli

Monday and Wednesday 1:30-2:45   Music Theater Building 1007

Course Description/Objectives:

From its cultural origins in the ancient civilization along the Indus River to the present, the complex culture of South Asia has given rise to some of the world’s most remarkable artistic creations. This course will examine the various periods and styles of Indian art from the earliest archaeological evidence to the onset of colonialism. The lectures and discussions will examine the various artistic traditions and historical changes within the Indian subcontinent by tracing their changes over time. A goal of the course will be to understand the cultural, political and religious factors that gave rise to the creation of these works. Special emphasis will be given to the role of art in securing political and religious systems as well as on the role of trade in the exchange of ideas. The course will require a museum visit.

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 12:00-1:00 and by appointment in Horizon Hall 3139

Email: rdecarol@gmu.edu

See the course Blackboard site for Term Lists, Slide Reviews, and Course Readings

Course Requirements:

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<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Quizzes</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>30%</td>
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The class meetings will consist of lecture-discussions on specific topics with occasional discussions based on the weekly readings. These meetings will form the core of the course material so it is strongly advised that you attend class consistently.

The quizzes will be comprised of slide identification questions, short answer questions, and terms. The Midterm and Final will be longer versions of the quizzes and will also include Essay Questions.

The paper will be 5-7 pages in length and will be written in conjunction with a visit to the National Museum of Asian Art. I will be happy to look at rough drafts.

I will be providing you with handouts detailing the writing assignment later in the term.
Grading Policies:

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<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>100-99%</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>79-77%</td>
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<td>A</td>
<td>98-93%</td>
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<td>A-</td>
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<td>89-87%</td>
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<td>B</td>
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<td>B-</td>
<td>82-80%</td>
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Attendance is necessary; much of the material will only be presented in class lectures and discussions. You are responsible for keeping up with the material and for getting notes for missed classes.

A student’s class participation grade will be evaluated not according to the amount of talking that student does, but rather according to whether that student contributes thoughtfully and constructively, based on a careful consideration of the class readings. Obviously, students cannot contribute to class discussion if they are absent; consequently, repeated unexcused absences will be reflected in their participation grade.

Make-up tests and extensions will be given ONLY in cases of emergencies or illnesses with proper documentation (doctor’s note etc.) In all other cases (family obligations, religious holidays, disabilities etc.), extensions may be granted if I am informed well BEFORE the deadline.

Papers must be submitted to Blackboard before the beginning of class on the day specified in the schedule. Late papers will be marked down five points (half a grade) for every weekday and ten points (a full grade) for every weekend they are late.

Exams will be handed back once in class. If you are not present on the day papers are handed back it is your responsibility to ask me for the graded assignment.

Adherence to codes of academic honesty is expected on all assignments and in all testing situations. I take the Honor Code (as stipulated in the university undergraduate catalog) very seriously. This code is a simple expression of respect for the course, your classmates and yourself. Cheating and Plagiarism are forbidden (obviously).

For those who do not know what Plagiarism is it can be defined as: presenting as one’s own the words, work or opinions of someone else without giving them proper acknowledgment. Plagiarism can also refer to borrowing the sequence of ideas, arrangement of material, or pattern of thought of someone else without giving them proper credit. Plagiarism can be avoided by proper use of footnotes.

Museum Visit:

The class will be visiting the National Museum of Asian Art of the Smithsonian Institution. Information on the trip will be provided later in the term.
Texts:


3) Course Reader (on Blackboard)

Readings and Lectures: (This schedule is subject to change)
----Readings need to be completed BEFORE the days under which they are listed----
Usually this will mean having them read by the Wednesday class session

**Week 1:**
Aug 22nd  
Introduction

Aug 24th  
The Indus Valley Civilization
Read:  
Dehejia 25-40

**Week 2:**  
The Vedic Period and the Rise of the Mauryan Empire
Aug 29  
Read:  

Aug 31  
Early Buddhist Art

**Week 3:**  
Labor Day – No Class

Sept 7  
The Mauryan Empire
Read:  

Dehejia 41-48

**Week 4:**

Sep 12  
**The Shunga Period**  
**Paper Assigned**

Sep 14  
**Later Regional Art and Narrative**

Read:


Dehejia 51-68

**Week 5:** ---

Sep 19  
**The Kushan Empire (pt. 1)**  
**Quiz #1**

Sep 21  
**The Kushan Empire (pt. 2)**

Read:


Dehejia 79-96

**Week 6:** –

Sep 26  
**The Satavahana Empire**

Read:

Dehejia 69-76

Sep 28  
**The Gupta Dynasty (pt. 1)**

**Week 7:**

------- Possible Weekend Museum Visit -------

Oct 3  
**The Art of Hinduism**

Read:

Oct 5  Midterm Exam

**Week 8:**
Oct 10  Fall Break  No Class
Oct 11  (Tuesday) Class Meets ----The Gupta Dynasty (pt. 2)
Read:  
Dehejia 97-100

Oct 12  Post Gupta Developments  
        Research Question Proposal Due

**Week 9:**
Oct 17  The Vakataka Dynasty
Read:  
Dehejia 103-134

Oct 19  Medieval India – Khajuraho

**Week 10:**
Oct 24  Medieval India - Nalanda
Read:  
Dehejia 155-182

Oct 26  Southern Kingdoms – Pallava

**Week 11:**
Oct 31  Southern Kingdoms –Chola
Read:  
Dehejia 185-228

Nov 2  The Later Chola Empire  
        Quiz #2
Week 12:
Nov 7 The Rise of the Mughal Empire (Islam)
Read:
Dehejia 299-334

Nov 9 The Mughal Empire

Week 13
Nov 14 Mughal and Rajput Painting

Nov 16 Rajput Palaces
Research Papers Due
Read:
Dehejia 337-362

Week 14:
Nov 21 The Colonial Period (the Raj)
Read:
Dehejia 379-277

Nov 23 Thanksgiving Break – No Class

Week 15:
Nov 28 Colonialism to Nationalism

Nov 30 Review

Week 16:
Dec 7 Final Exam 1:30-4:15