

ARTH 601 Colloquium in Art History

Monday 4:30-7:10

Research Hall 201

Professor: Michele Greet

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Office: Horizon Hall 3141

Office Hours: Wednesday 1:00-2:00 or by appointment

Course description: This class is designed as a survey of global art history for graduate students in the MA Program in Art History. This team-taught course is led by an instructor of record, with input from the full Art History faculty. It will acquaint students with the range of art historical specializations taught in the department. It will expose students to fields outside their primary area of interest and help them prepare for the required comprehensive image exam. The purpose of the exam is to ensure that students have a broad knowledge of art historical periods and geographies and an understanding of how works of art respond to and shape their specific historical and cultural contexts. The knowledge gained in this course will provide a foundation for further study and professional development in the field of art history. May not be repeated for credit.

Course Format: This course is team-taught in a combined asynchronous/synchronous format. The bulk of the course materials will be delivered via asynchronous video lectures (available on Blackboard). Each instructor will hold one to two synchronous discussion/Q&A sessions on Mondays at 4:30 pm. These sessions provide opportunities to seek clarification on the module's materials, and each should last between one to two hours. This is not a drop-in/drop-out experience like office hours; rather, you should expect to stay for the full duration of the meeting whether online or in the classroom. Profs. Gearhart, Ho, and DeCaroli will be holding these sessions on zoom. Profs. Berger and Greet will do so in person. Please see the schedule below for details.

Objectives:

- recognize and identify formal or stylistic characteristics of major cultures, historical periods, or artistic movements
- categorize objects and producers according to accurate historical contexts
- develop skills of written academic communication
- locate and analyze scholarly texts or theoretical works in a defined field of study
- prepare for the image exam required for the MA in Art History

Technology Requirements

- recent version of Chrome, Edge, Safari, or Firefox
- Blackboard for video lectures

- Microsoft Office free download from GMU; See this page for instructions <https://its.gmu.edu/service/microsoft365apps/>
- Adobe Reader or Preview
- webcam for video participation in online synchronous sessions
- Zoom app (if you plan to attend Zoom meetings using a mobile device)
- To ensure access to class meetings, always use the GMU Zoom portal <https://gmu.zoom.us/joinin>. If you have difficulty logging in or joining a meeting, check that you are signed out of any personal Zoom accounts.

Course Requirements:

- **Watch All Course Videos:** (5% of your grade) Students are expected to watch all course videos in full. Make sure that you watch the videos as scheduled so that you can participate fully in the synchronous discussion sessions and not fall behind.
- **Course Study Wiki Entries:** (30% of your grade) To prepare for the slide exam, students will work collaboratively to create a wiki study guide. Each week you should select three items from the ArtStor image group and add a description of them to the class wiki. Your descriptions of about 200 words (for each item) should cover what you consider the most important points about the objects. If someone has already written a wiki, please choose another object, but you can feel free to edit others' contributions. Wikis must be posted no later than **each Sunday night at 11:59 PM.**
- **Practical assignment:** (20% of your grade) This serves as preparation for the practicum component of your comprehensive exams, which you will take in your final year. Your choice will depend on your career goals. Options include a sample syllabus, exhibition proposal, grant application essay, video, docent tour script, or sample assignment handout with rubric. Please consult with me to determine the best fit for you. Due **Sunday Apr. 2.**
- **Annotated Bibliography:** (20% of your grade) Students will develop an annotated bibliography of 12-15 sources in one area of specialization. This serves as preparation for the research essay of your comprehensive exams, which you will take in your final year. For a list of fields, see: <https://historyarthistory.gmu.edu/graduate/ma-art-history/comprehensive-exam> (scroll down to the bottom of the page). Due **Sunday Apr. 23.**
- **Image Exam:** (25% of your grade) A 25-question exam covering material from throughout the semester. For each image, students must provide relevant identifying information and write an essay that explains the historical context and significance of the work. Should you fail the exam, your score will be figured as 25% of the course grade, and it may still be possible to pass the class. However, you will have to arrange with the graduate director to retake the exam. **Exam is held in-person at Research 201 on Monday, May 15 from 4:30 to 7:10.** You cannot receive the MA in Art History unless

you have passed the Image Exam. <https://historyarthistory.gmu.edu/graduate/ma-art-history/comprehensive-exam>

Grading Scale

A+ (97-100)	A (93-96.5)	A- (90-92.5)	Excellent performance
B+ (87-89.5)	B (83-86.5)	B- (80-82.5)	Satisfactory to very good
C+ (77-79.5)	C (73-76.5)	C- (70-72.5)	Unsatisfactory for graduate level
D (60-69.5)		Unsatisfactory for graduate level	
F (<60)		Unacceptable	

Policies:

- Students are responsible for all material covered in class (announcements, lectures, discussions) whether you are present or not.
- All written work should be submitted to Blackboard. It is the student's responsibility to make sure submissions are uploaded (you will receive a confirmation). I will not accept work that is emailed or sent as a link. I will not accept work in formats other than .doc, .docx, or .pdf. Late work will be penalized 3 points for each 24 hours past the due date. After 10 days (including weekends), late work is considered missing and becomes a zero. Grades will be posted on Blackboard My Grades.
- If you are having difficulty completing an assignment please see me well before the assignment is due. If I am aware of your circumstances I am more than willing to work with you.
- Make-up exams will be granted only in the case of documented emergencies.
- GMU operates with an **Honor Code**. It is clearly defined in the catalogue (<http://oai.gmu.edu/the-mason-honor-code-2/>) **Plagiarism** (presenting someone else's ideas or words as your own without proper acknowledgement) violates the Honor Code. I will notify the Honor Committee concerning possible infractions.
- All communications with the professor and fellow students should follow the core rules of Netiquette <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html> . When in doubt be polite and courteous.
- GMU requires you to activate your GMU e-mail account to receive official campus communications. If you prefer to use another address, you must activate the e-mail forwarder. I will use GMU addresses exclusively.
- Accommodations will be made for students with documented disabilities, in accordance with law and university policies. Students requiring accommodations must register with the University's Disability Resource Center and produce documentation

<http://ds.gmu.edu/documentation/> . Please do this well **before** the first test or presentation in case alternate arrangements need to be made.

- If English is your second language, I encourage you to turn in a rough draft of your paper at least one week before it is due. If needed I will recommend that you work with the Writing Center. **All final papers must be in good standard English.**
- Do not share your login information or course meeting links with people who are not enrolled in the course.
- Do not download (except for personal use), distribute, or repost any course material posted by the instructors or students in this course.

Other important resources:

<https://historyarthistory.gmu.edu/graduate/mason-resources-for-graduate-students>

Important dates:

Jan. 30	Last day to add classes
Feb. 6	Last day to drop classes (full tuition refund)
Mar. 13	No class (Spring break)
Apr. 2	Practical assignment due
Apr. 23	Annotated bibliography due
May 15	Slide Exam

Required Readings:

1. Marilyn Stokstad and Michael W. Cothren, *Art History*, 6th ed. (Pearson, 2018). Either print or e-book would be fine. You may purchase an earlier edition, but double-check chapter numbering before reading.
2. Diana L. Eck, *Darsan: Seeing the Divine Image in India*, 3rd ed. (Columbia, 1998).
3. Additional readings are available as PDFs on Blackboard.

Schedule of weekly topics and required reading assignments:

*You can work through the asynchronous course material at your own pace throughout the week. Hard deadlines are in bold.

January 23 – 29

ANCIENT NEAR EAST AND ANCIENT EGYPT

Mon. 1/23: IN-PERSON introduction to the course with Dr. Greet at 4:30

Read/watch all materials for the unit “Ancient Near East and Intro to Egypt” and “Ancient Egypt”

Sun. 1/29: Course wiki entries due by 11:59 PM

January 30 – February 5

ANCIENT GREECE AND ROME

Mon. 1/30: Synchronous Instructor Q&A at 4:30 (IN PERSON with Dr. Williamson)

Read/watch all materials for the unit “Greek and Roman”

Sun. 2/5: Course wiki entries due by 11:59 PM

February 6 – February 12

LATE ANTIQUITY, BYZANTINE AND ISLAMIC

Mon. 2/6: Synchronous Instructor Q&A at 4:30 (IN PERSON with Dr. Williamson)

Read/watch all materials for the unit “Late Antiquity, Byzantine, and Islamic”

Sun. 2/12: Course wiki entries due by 11:59 PM

February 13 – 19

WESTERN MEDIEVAL

Mon. 2/13: Synchronous Instructor Q&A at 4:30 (ONLINE with Dr. Gearhardt)

Read/watch all materials for the unit “Western Medieval”

Sun. 2/19: Course wiki entries due by 11:59 PM

February 20 – February 26

SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA

Mon. 2/20: Synchronous Instructor Q&A at 4:30 (ONLINE with Dr. Gearhart)

Read/watch materials for the unit “South and Southeast Asia”

Sun. 2/26: Course wiki entries due by 11:59 PM

February 27 – March 5

EAST ASIA

Mon. 2/27: Synchronous Instructor Q&A at 4:30 (ONLINE with Dr. DeCaroli)

Read/watch materials for the unit “East Asia”

Sun. 3/5: Course wiki entries due by 11:59 PM

March 6 – 12

ITALIAN RENAISSANCE; NORTHERN RENAISSANCE (15TH CENTURY)

Mon. 3/6: Synchronous Instructor Q&A at 4:30 (ONLINE with Dr. DeCaroli)

Read/watch all materials for the unit “Italian Renaissance” and “15th-Century Northern Europe”

Sun. 3/12: Course wiki entries due by 11:59 PM

March 13 - 19

Spring break

March 20 – March 26

AFRICA

Mon. 3/20: Synchronous Instructor Q&A at 4:30 (ONLINE with Dr. Ho)

Read/watch all materials for the unit “Africa”

Sun. 3/26: Course wiki entries due by 11:59 PM

March 27 – April 2

NORTHERN RENAISSANCE (16TH CENTURY); 17TH-CENTURY EUROPE

Mon. 3/27: Instructor Q&A at 4:30 (IN PERSON with Dr. Berger)

Read/watch all materials for the unit “Northern Renaissance and 17th Century Europe”

Sun. 4/2: Course wiki entries due by 11:59 PM

Sun. 4/2: Practicum due by 11:59 PM

April 3 – 9

LATIN AMERICAN ART

4/3 No meeting I’m out of town

Read/watch all materials for the unit “Latin American Art”

Sun. 4/17: Course wiki entries due by 11:59 PM

April 10 – 16

18TH- AND 19TH-CENTURY EUROPE AND THE UNITED STATES

Mon. 4/10: Instructor Q&A at 4:30 (IN PERSON with Dr. Greet)

Read/watch all materials for the unit “18th and 19th Century Europe and the U.S.”

Sun. 4/16: Course wiki entries due by 11:59 PM

April 17 – April 23

EUROPEAN MODERNISM, 1850 – 1950

Mon. 4/17: **No meeting** (combined Q&A next week)

Read/watch all materials for the unit “European Modernism, 1850-1950”

Sun. 4/23: Course wiki entries due by 11:59 PM

Sun. 4/23: Annotated bibliography due at 11:59 PM

April 24 – 30

INTERWAR UNITED STATES AND ART SINCE 1950

Mon. 4/24: Instructor Q&A at 4:30 (IN PERSON with Dr. Greet)

Read/watch all materials for the unit “Art since 1950”

Sun. 4/30: Course wiki entries due by 11:59 PM

May 1-7

Mon. 5/1: Instructor Q&A at 4:30 (IN PERSON with Dr. Greet)

Review and exam prep.

May 15

FINAL SLIDE EXAM

IN PERSON at on Monday, 4:30 to 7:10