

World Art I
ARTH 1300
Fall 2009
MW 11-11:50, MATH 100

NB: In addition to lectures, you must also attend a recitation section.

Professor Kirk Ambrose
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Office hours: MW 3:30-4:30 & by appointment
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Course Purposes and Objectives

This course provides an introduction to the interpretation of the visual arts from a wide variety of cultures from across the globe. Chronologically it begins with the Stone Age and continues to circa 1400 CE. The intention of this course is not to provide anything approaching a comprehensive overview of the vast array of extant material—impossible in a one-semester class. Rather, through careful examination of a few key monuments, this course highlights some of the research methods that have been brought to bear on historical works of art. You will leave this class with a familiarity with the art from a wide range of cultures, as well as an understanding of the basic practices of art historians. For majors, this course additionally serves as a foundation for future courses you will take in studio art and art history.

In addition to the MW lectures, you will attend a weekly section led by a Teaching Assistant. The purpose of these sections will be to discuss the monuments and ideas introduced in lectures, as well as to discuss assigned short essays. Sections do not rehash lectures, but are a vital and integral component of this course.

If you attend lectures and sections, as well as keep up with readings, this course should be extremely manageable. If, however, you choose to skip lectures and “cram” for exams a day or two before they are administered, you will find this course to be extremely difficult.

Course Requirements

Readings: There is one required textbook for this course, available for purchase in the CU Bookstore:

Marilyn Stokstad, *Art History*, 3rd edition, portable edition (Pearson Prentice Hall: Upper Saddle River, NJ, 2009)

Please purchase this edition only. Other editions of Stokstad are available, but these will not correspond to the assignments for this course.

You should come to lectures having read the assignment for that day. Readings in the textbook will offer you background for the monuments covered in lecture. Readings and lectures complement—not repeat—one another. You will be responsible for material in lectures *and* readings.

In addition to the textbook, short essays are posted electronically under e-reserve on the Chinook website. These are listed by either course or by last name of instructor (i.e., “Ambrose”). Please read these essays prior to attending section each week.

Attendance: Attendance of lectures and sections is mandatory. In many cases lectures will supplement your readings and offer divergent viewpoints. In exams you will be responsible for material in lectures and sections. If you miss a class meeting, you are responsible for obtaining notes from another class member and NOT your TA or the instructor.

Notes: As you take notes in lectures, try to stay focused on the “big picture.” You will of course be responsible for the title, date, place, and artist (if known) of individual works—all of which is covered in Stokstad—but try to record in your notes the various ways in which lectures position these works within a broader cultural context. The latter is the primary concern of art historians and will be the focus of exams.

Many students find that it is helpful to make cursory sketches of works discussed in class. Even if you are terrible at drawing (I count myself among the “graphically challenged”), this can be a terrific way to come to a deeper understanding of works of art.

Required Assignments: There will be three (3) non-cumulative exams, each worth 25% of your grade (see dates below). A 5-page, double-spaced paper is worth 15% of your grade and will be due on the final section meeting. The paper assignment will be handed out in October. Attendance and participation in sections—including possible pop quizzes--is worth the final 10% of your grade. Readings, lectures, and sections complement--not repeat--one another. In order to do well in this course, regular attendance at lectures and sections is thus necessary. In order to pass this class all assignments must be completed.

Personal excuses (e.g., weddings, plane tickets, family vacations, etc.) are NOT valid to miss or reschedule any assignments. These will not be accepted. Medical excuses require a note from a physician.

Exams will consist of two parts: a multiple-choice section and an essay. For the first two exams, the multiple-choice section will be administered during the lecture period and the essay during your section. For the final exam these two parts will be administered in a single, 2-hour session.

Further details on the format of exams will be discussed in sections. The week before tests, TAs will hand out a list of images for which you will be responsible. Those not illustrated in your text will be available for your review on ArtStor (available to all CU students via Chinook website). Your TA will explain how to register for ArtStor, as well as access study files in class.

Disability Accommodations: If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, and <http://www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices>

If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see guidelines at <http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/go.cgi?select=temporary.html>

Disability Services' letters for students with disabilities indicate legally mandated reasonable accommodations. The syllabus statements and answers to Frequently Asked Questions can be found at <http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices>

Religious observances: Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, {{insert your procedures here}} See full details at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html. Please inform your TA as soon as possible if you foresee any potential conflicts.

Classroom behavior: Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, gender variance, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. The TAs and I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise us of this preference early in the semester so that we may make appropriate changes to our records. See policies at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html> and at http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code.

Because this is a large class, the use of laptops, cell phones, and other electronic devices is distracting and their use is prohibited in lecture. You are kindly asked to keep these devices turned off during class.

Harassment: The University of Colorado at Boulder policy on Discrimination and Harassment, the University of Colorado policy on Sexual Harassment and the University of Colorado policy on Amorous Relationships apply to all students, staff and faculty. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of sexual harassment or discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH, the above referenced policies and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at <http://www.colorado.edu/odh>

Honor Code: All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-735-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but

not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Other information on the Honor Code can be found at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html> and at <http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/>

Schedule of Lectures and Assignments

Aug. 24 (Monday) Introduction

Section: Stokstad, Introduction

Aug. 26 (Wednesday) Pre-Historic Art

Reading: Stokstad, Chap. 1

Aug. 31 (M) Art of Ancient Near East

Reading: Stokstad, Chap. 2, Art of the Ancient Near East

Section: Michael Baxandall, *Patterns of Intention: On the Historical Explanation of Pictures* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1985), pp. 1-11

Sept. 2 (W) Egyptian Sculpture and Painting

Reading: Stokstad, Chap. 3

Sept. 7 (M) **No Class, Labor Day**

Section: George Kubler, *The Shape of Time: Remarks on the History of Things* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1962), pp. 1-16

Sept. 9 (W) Egyptian Architecture

Reading: Stokstad, Chap. 3

Sept. 14 (M) Aegean Art

Reading: Stokstad, Chap. 4

Section: John Berger, *Ways of Seeing* (London: Pelican, 1973), Chap. 3

Sept. 16 (W) Greek Sculpture and Painting

Reading: Stokstad, Chap. 5, Art of Ancient Greece

Sept. 21 (M) Acropolis in Athens

Reading: Stokstad, Chap. 5

Section: Richard Brilliant, "The Authority of the Likeness," in his *Portraiture* (London, 1991), pp. 23-44

Sept. 23 (W) Roman Sculpture

Reading: Stokstad, Chap. 6

Sept. 28 (M) Guest Lecture by Professor Diane Conlin

Sept. 30 (W) Art under Constantine

Stokstad, Chap. 6

Section: Alois Riegl, "Leading Characteristics of the Late Roman 'Kunstwollen'" rpt. in Donald Preziosi, ed., *The Art of Art History: A Critical Anthology*, 1st ed., (Oxford, 1998), pp. 169-76.

Oct. 5 (M) **Multiple Choice Test I (Essay Exam in section this week)**

Oct. 7 (W) Dura Europas

Reading: Stokstad, Chap. 7

Oct. 12 (M) Medieval Jerusalem

Reading: Stokstad, skim Chap. 8

Section: Anabel Wharton, *Selling Jerusalem: Relics, Replicas, Theme Parks* (Chicago, 2006), pp. 189-206, 228-32.

Oct. 14 (W) Art under Justinian

Reading: Stokstad, Chap. 7

Oct. 19 (M) Charlemagne's Aachen

Reading, Stokstad, Chap. 14

Section: Patrick Geary, *Furta Sacra: Thefts of Relics in the Central Middle Ages*, rev. ed. (Princeton, 1990), pp. 56-86

Oct. 21 (W) Ste-Foy, Conques

Reading: Stokstad, Chap. 15

Oct. 26 (M) Chartres Cathedral

Reading: Stokstad, Chap. 16

Section: Roland Recht, *Believing and Seeing: The Art of Gothic Cathedrals* (Chicago, 2008), pp. 225-39

Oct. 28 (W) Gothic Paris

Reading, Stokstad, Chap. 17

Nov. 2 (M) **Multiple Choice Test II (Essay exam in section this week)**

Nov. 4 (W) Early Islamic Art

Stokstad, Chap. 8
Section: Oleg Grabar, *Mediation of Ornament* (Princeton, 1992), 10-46.

Nov. 9 (M) South Asia I

Reading: Stokstad, Chap. 9
Section: TBA

Nov. 11 (W) South Asia II

Nov. 16 (M) Chinese Art before 1279

Reading: Stokstad, chap. 10
NB: No section meetings this week.

Nov. 18 (W) Guest Lecture on Chinese Art by Professor JP Park

Nov. 23 & 25 **No Class, Fall Break**

Nov. 30 (M) Japanese Art before 1392

Reading: Stokstad, Chap. 11
Section: TBA

Nov. 2 (W) Pre-Columbian Art

Reading: Stokstad, Chap. 12

Dec. 7 (M) Guest Lecture on Pre-Columbian Art by Professor James Cordova

Dec. 9 (W) Ancient African Art & Conclusion

Reading: Stokstad, Chap. 13
Section: TBA

Final Exam (Multiple Choice and Essay)— Saturday, December 12th, 4:30pm - 7:00pm