

ARH 6292 Medieval Art Seminar: The Supernatural Imaginary
University of Florida, School of Art + Art History, Spring 2023

Professor: Dr. Ashley Jones

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Office Hours and Location: FAC 115, Weds 3-5pm

Class Meetings Mondays 3-6 pm (periods 8-10), FAC 116a

Credit Hours: 3

Course fees: \$12.50

Course Description

This course will examine the ways in which pre-modern societies sought to visualize, interact with, and control the supernatural. It breaks down traditional divisions between religion and magic, between high and low culture, between faith and superstition, by asking how the invisible was visualized, and to what purposes. We will explore magical objects, Christian icons, and sacred spaces of different religions among other subjects.

Course Goals

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Examine and assess primary sources and scholarly literature of art history
2. Formulate oral and written analyses of historical and scholarly sources and works of art in their historical and cultural contexts
3. Prepare and lead seminar discussions

Textbooks

Readings will be made available electronically

Requirements:

- Attendance and active participation in discussion 15%
- Preparation, presentation, and discussion-leading of three topics on the syllabus 5% each = 15%
- Object Description Paper 5%
- 3 Reaction Papers, 5% each = 15%
- Peer Review Participation 5%
- Selection, preparation, presentation, and discussion-leading of an article pertinent to the student's research project 10%
- Presentation of final research paper 10%
- Research paper 25%

SAAH Values

We believe in community and transformation. We aspire to be courageous, generous, and engaged.

- Community: We foster a diverse and inclusive community through mutual respect and acceptance.
- Transformation: We pursue positive transformation and impact through education, research, and creative works.
- Courage: We ask challenging questions, take risks, and strive for excellence.
- Generosity: We assume the best in others and enable a culture where everyone can flourish.
- Engagement: We believe the diverse contributions of art, design, and scholarship are critical to our community and beyond.

Health and Safety Information

Covid-19

In response to COVID-19, the following practices are in place to maintain your learning environment, to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions, and to further the health and safety of ourselves, our neighbors, and our loved ones.

- If you are not vaccinated, get vaccinated. Vaccines are readily available at no cost and have been demonstrated to be safe and effective against the COVID-19 virus.
- You are welcome to wear face coverings at all times during class and within buildings even if you are vaccinated. Surgical masks supplied by UF are available in every classroom and the SAAH office. Please continue to follow healthy habits, including best practices like frequent hand washing. Following these practices is our responsibility as Gators.
 - Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your desks prior to sitting down and at the end of the class.
 - Hand sanitizing stations will be located in every classroom.
- If you are sick, stay home and self-quarantine.
 - Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work.
- Continue to regularly visit coronavirus.UFHealth.org and coronavirus.ufl.edu for up-to-date information about COVID-19 and vaccination.

Campus Health and Safety Resources

U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit umatter.ufl.edu/ to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

Counseling and Wellness Center: Visit counseling.ufl.edu/ or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit shcc.ufl.edu/.

UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 911. Reach the emergency room at 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center.

University Police Department: Visit police.ufl.edu/ or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS): Student Health Care Center, 352-392-1161

Course Policies:

Attendance: You are expected to attend class in person. We reserve the right to mark you absent if you arrive late or leave early. If you are ill or otherwise unable to attend please notify Dr. Jones via email as soon as possible for an excused absence. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalogue at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work. Zoom links and/or recordings may be provided on a case-by-case basis, only when arranged in advance.

Due dates: Please take a look at your calendar at the beginning of the semester to see if you have any commitments (for example, religious holidays, family obligations, or extracurricular activities) that conflict with class meetings, quizzes, exams, and due dates. If you do have a conflict, please contact both Dr. Jones and your GA via email, well in advance to clear your absence or discuss the possibility of an extension. Please request any extension in advance of the due date. Each day late for any assignment will result in a lowered 1/3 letter grade for that assignment (A to A- for example).

Email policy: You are requested to use your UFL email as your primary email. Important

information, including readings, assignments, etc., will be disseminated via Canvas announcements. Please make sure that you are signed up to receive notification of course announcements. Emails sent to the professor will usually be returned within 48 hours.

Accommodation: Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to me when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluations: Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on ten criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>.

Academic Honesty: UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please ask me.

UF’s policies regarding academic honesty, the honor code, and student conduct related to the honor code will be strictly enforced. This means a report will be filed with the Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution office. For information on what constitutes plagiarism, consult the UF Plagiarism Guide at <http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/msl/07b/studentplagiarism.html> and “Misuses of Sources” on the course website. If you have any questions, please ask me. An online plagiarism checker service may be used to screen papers.

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
% Equivalent	93% and above	90-92%	87-89%	83-86%	80-82%	77-79%	73-76%	70-72%	67-69%	63-66%	60-62%	59% and below

Please note: A grade of C- or below will not count toward major requirements. See the following web page for information on UF policies for assigning grade points: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support: Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.

Career Connections Center: 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services career.ufl.edu/.

Library Support: cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center: to make an appointment 352- 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. teachingcenter.ufl.edu/

Writing Studio: 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/

On-Line Students Complaints: [distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process/ /](http://distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process/)

Important Dates

January 9: First Day of Class

January 13: Drop/Add Deadline

January 16: No Class, Martin Luther King Jr. Day

February 9: Harn Eminent Scholar Chair in Art History Lecture, Mary Coffey: *At the Edge of Whiteness*, 5:30 pm, Chandler Auditorium (Harn Museum)

March 13-17: Spring Break

March 30: Harn Eminent Scholar Chair in Art History Lecture, Deborah Willis: *Posing Questions on Posing Beauty*, 6pm Chandler Auditorium (Harn Museum)

April 19: Harn Eminent Scholar Chair in Art History Lecture, Anne Lafont: *Out of Africa*, 6pm, Chandler Auditorium (Harn Museum)

April 26: Last Day of Class, Research Paper Due

Provisional Course Outline

See modules on course website for links to readings.

Week 1: Monday, January 9

Introduction – What are the Middle Ages? Dr. Jones

Week 2: Monday, January 23

Magical Spells and Objects in Late Antiquity

Week 3: Monday, January 30

Spirits and Apparitions

Friday, February 1:

Object Description Paper Due

Week 4: Monday, February 6

Metaphysical Realms

Friday, February 10:

Peer-Review of Object Description Paper Due

Week 5: Monday, February 13

Images of Miracles

Friday, February 17:

Response Paper 1 due

Week 6: Monday, February 20

Miracle-Working Images

Friday, February 24:

Peer Review of Response Paper 1 due

Week 7: Monday, February 27

The Sacraments and Material Culture

Friday, March 3:

Response Paper 2 due

Week 8: Monday, March 6

Mythology in the Middle Ages

Friday, March 10:

Peer Review of Response Paper 2 due

Week 9: Monday, March 20

Extraordinary Animals

Friday, March 24:

Week 10: Monday, March 27
Diagraming of Metaphysical Agency
Friday, March 31:
Response Paper 3 due

Week 11: Monday, April 3
Student-Selected Topics
Friday, April 7:
Peer-Review of Response Paper 3 due

Week 12: Monday, April 10
Student-Selected Topics

Week 13: Monday, April 17
Final Presentations

Week 14: Monday, April 24
Final Presentations

Wednesday, April 26
Research Paper Due