

**ARH 3115: Egyptian and Near Eastern Art**  
**Syllabus**  
**University of Florida, School of Art + Art History**

**Lecture:** Monday, Period 8 (3:00-3:50 PM); Wednesday, Periods 8-9 (3:00-4:55 PM)

**Website:** elearning.ufl.edu

**Instructor:** Dr. Mark Hodge

**Email:** mch22@ufl.edu

**Office:** FAD 229

**Office hours:** Monday and Wednesdays, Period 7 (1:55-2:45) and by appointment

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**Course Description**

This class will examine the art and architecture of Egypt and the Near East from the beginning of civilization through the Umayyad Caliphate. We will also explore the archaeological and art historical methodologies and discourses that have shaped the reception of Ancient Near Eastern and Egyptian cultural production since the eighteenth century.

**Course Objectives**

- To gain familiarity with key monuments of Egyptian and Ancient Near Eastern art from the Prehistory to 750 CE.
- To identify and describe familiar monuments and artworks with reference to their stylistic attributes and historical context.
- To compare and contrast familiar and/or unfamiliar monuments and artworks using the tools of formal analysis, iconographic interpretation, and in reference to relevant historical, political, religious, or sociological contexts.
- To describe and tentatively identify and contextualize unfamiliar artworks with reference to known artworks.
- To become familiar with the standard analytical tools of art historical inquiry, including formal, iconographic, and contextual analysis.

**Required Textbooks:**

Bahrani, Zainab. *Art of Mesopotamia*. London: Thames & Hudson, 2016.

ISBN 9780500292754

Robins, Gay. *The Art of Ancient Egypt: Revised Edition*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2008.

ISBN 0674030656.

**Graduate Student Readings and Requirements**

Additional readings and graduate student assignment specifications will be added through canvas.

**Requirements:**

This course has information available through UF's eLearning website, commonly known as "Canvas." The syllabus, handouts, assignments, and images for exams will be available on Canvas. A passing grade requires completion all of the requirements of the course listed below. The scheduled lectures and reading assignments are subject to change upon the discretion of

the instructor. It is the students' responsibility to check their UF email, their Canvas email, and listen to announcements in class pertaining to those potential changes to ensure they are up to date on assignments. The final grade is comprised of the following elements:

Attendance and Participation	15%
Quizzes	5% each = 20%
Paper	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	25%

### **Attendance (5%)**

Attendance is required. You will be asked to sign in at each session. ONE unexcused absence will be allowed before it will negatively affect your grade. Tardiness (10+ minutes) and early departures will be considered absences. Excused absences include religious holidays, illness with appropriate documentation, etc. In these cases, please see the instructor (in advance when possible) to clear your absence, schedule an extension, and/or discuss the possibility of a make-up quiz or exam. Last minute extensions and make-up exams will be granted only for extreme, unforeseeable circumstances such as hospitalization or a death in the family. It is the student's responsibility to track down any missed notes, testable images, or other information from a fellow student.

UF Attendance Policy: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>.

### **Participation (10%)**

Students are expected to have read the assigned material before coming to class and to remain engaged. Being "engaged" means active participation through questions, comments, and daily reflection exercises in lecture and passive participation by taking notes and paying attention.

- *Electronic devices:* Computers and tablets are permitted ONLY for note taking. All other electronic devices—*especially cell phones*—should be turned off and packed away for the duration of class. Inappropriate usage of devices will result in a deduction of the participation grade. Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom setting that is conducive to learning. Be aware that you are not the only person who can see your screen. Respect your classmates and the learning environment by not offering a distraction.

### **Quizzes (5% each)**

The quizzes are in-class assignments. They are timed at 15 minutes and comprised of two parts: 10 image identifications and 5 terms. The instructor will provide a list of terms and study images from which the quiz questions will be drawn.

### **Paper (20%)**

For the paper you should choose a single work of art, or a small group of related art works. The paper must include: a formal description and analysis of the work of art; an analysis of its iconography; and a description of the provenance of the art work (from its creation to the present), including what is known or what you would, based on your foregoing analysis, argue are the circumstances of its creation. The paper must make explicit, critical reference to at least one scholarly source.

### **Midterm and Final Examinations (20% and 25%)**

The midterm and the final will both be take-home assignments consisting of a short essay section comparing two images (two comparisons on the midterm and two on the final exam), and a longer essay question (three pages typed and double-spaced). Exam content will be drawn from readings, terms, and examples discussed in class. A list of study images will be provided.

### **Deadlines and Making-Up Missed Materials**

Make-up or early exams can only be offered in exceptional circumstances, including those required by the DRC or Registrar's office. Please make note of the midterm and final exam dates and times and plan to be in attendance. Extensions to deadlines will not be given except under exceptional circumstances. 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 supplementary readings, assignments, etc., will be disseminated via the section list-serves. You are subscribed to the list-serve with your UFL email. Emails sent to the professor or to the graduate assistants will usually be returned within 24 hours.

### **Additional information**

1) *Academic Honesty*: The University's policies regarding academic honesty, the honor code, and student conduct related to the honor code will be strictly enforced. Full information regarding these policies is available at the following links:

Academic Honesty and Honor Code:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/advising/info/student-honor-code.aspx>

Cheating and plagiarism will be penalized and a report will be filed with the Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution office. For a more detailed discussion of what constitutes plagiarism, consult the UF Plagiarism Guide available at

[http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/msl/subjects/images/plagiarism\\_26\\_guidelines.pdf](http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/msl/subjects/images/plagiarism_26_guidelines.pdf)

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact instructor. An online plagiarism checker service may be used to screen papers.

2) *Disability Services*: Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center. Click here to get started with the Disability Resource Center: <https://disability.ufl.edu/get-started/>. It

is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

3) *Counseling*: If you find yourself experiencing a high degree of stress or struggling with personal issues, please be aware that counseling services are available on campus:

University Counseling Services/ Counseling Center  
301 Peabody Hall  
P.O. Box 114100, University of Florida  
Gainesville, FL 32611-4100  
Phone: 352-392-1575  
Web: <http://www.counsel.ufl.edu>

4) *Evaluations*: Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

#### **Grading Scale**

A 100-93	B 86-83	C 76-73	D 66-60
A- 92-90	B- 82-80	C- 72-70	F 59-0
B+ 89-87	C+ 79-77	D+ 69-67	

UF Grading Policy: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>.

#### **Important Dates:**

**Drop/Add: January 8-12**

**January 15: No Class (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)**

**Quiz 1: January 24**

**Quiz 2: February 14**

**March 11-15: Spring Break**

**Midterm Exam: February 28**

**Essay Due: March 20**

**Quiz 3: March 27**

**Quiz 4: April 17**

**Final Exam: May 2**

#### **Course Schedule\***

##### **Week 1**

**January 8: Introductions, What is Civilization?**

Reading: The Course Syllabus on eLearning

**January 10:** Prehistory in Egypt and the Near East

Reading: AoM, 28-37; AoAE, 30-39

### **Week 2**

**January 15:** NO CLASS (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)

**January 17:** Uruk

Reading: AoM, 38-61

### **Week 3**

**January 22:** Early Dynastic Sumer, pt. 1

Reading: AoM, 62-83

**January 24:** Early Dynastic Sumer, pt. 2

Reading: AoM, 84-109

### **Quiz 1**

### **Week 4**

**January 29:** The Old Kingdom, pt. 1

Reading: AoAE, 40-57

**January 31:** The Old Kingdom, pt. 2

Reading: AoAE, 58-79

### **Week 5**

**February 5:** Art of the Akkadian Dynasty

Reading: AoM, 110-133

**February 7:** Gudea: Legacy in Portraiture

Reading: AoM, 134-153

### **Week 6**

**February 12:** The First Intermediate Period and The Middle Kingdom, pt. 1

Reading: AoAE, 80-109

**February 14:** The Middle Kingdom, pt. 2

Reading: AoAE, 110-121

### **Quiz 2**

### **Week 7**

**February 19:** The Third Dynasty of Ur

Reading: AoM, 154-173

**February 21:** Early Archaeology in Egypt and the Near East

Reading: AoM, 18-27

### **Week 8**

**February 26:** Midterm Review

**February 28:** Midterm Exam

### **Week 9**

**March 4:** The Age of Hammurabi

Reading: AoM, 174-199

**March 6:** The New Kingdom, pt. 1

Reading: AoAE, 122-148

### **Week 10**

**NO CLASS (SPRING BREAK)**

### **Week 11**

**March 18:** The New Kingdom, pt. 2

Reading: AoAE, 149-165

**March 20:** The New Kingdom, pt. 3

Reading: AoAE, 166-194

**Paper Due**

### **Week 12**

**March 25:** Kassite Babylonia, Assyria, and Egypt at the End of the Bronze Age

Reading: AoM, 200-221

**March 27:** Assyrian Art: Narrative and Empire

Reading: AoM, 222-249

**Quiz 3**

### **Week 13**

**April 1:** Babylonian Art

Reading: AoM, 270-289

**April 3:** Achaemenid Persian Art

Reading: AoM, 290-321

### **Week 14**

**April 8:** The Late Period

Reading: AoAE, 210-230

**April 10:** The Ptolemaic Period

Reading: AoAE, 231-251

### **Week 15**

**April 15:** Hellenism in Mesopotamia

Reading: AoM, 322-353

**April 17:** The Arrival of Islam in Egypt and the Near East, pt. 1

Reading:

**Quiz 4**

### **Week 16**

**April 22:** The Arrival of Islam in Egypt and the Near East, pt. 2  
Reading:

**April 24:** Final Exam Review

**FINAL EXAM Due: 5/2, 11:59 PM**

**\*This is a tentative schedule subject to change**