

ARH 4331

Renaissance Art in Northern Europe

Fall 2016

University of Florida, College of the Arts, School of Art + Art History

Tuesday, 1:55-3:50pm and Thursday, 1:55-2:45pm, FAC 201

Credit Hours: 3

Course fees: \$10

Course Web Site: <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/>

Dr. Elizabeth Ross

Email: eross@arts.ufl.edu

Office Hours: Tuesday, 4-6pm or by appointment

Office Location: Fine Arts C (FAC) 119a

Office Phone:

Outside class and office hours, the fastest way to reach me is through email or the web site's Conversations app, which sends the message to my email. I have included my office telephone number, *but* I am very often away from that phone and that voicemail. Please try email instead.

U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or (352) 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu> or (352) 392-157

University Police Department: (352) 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies

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

Course Description:

This course offers an introduction to the art of Northern Europe during the two centuries of transition from the Middle Ages to the early modern era. We will focus on painting and the graphic arts in the Low Countries and Germany with particular attention to the work of Jan van Eyck, Rogier van der Weyden, Hieronymus Bosch, Albrecht Dürer, and Pieter Bruegel. The course will consider the different social and religious contexts in which artists worked (courtly, urban, scholarly, popular, monastic) as well the profound impact of the Reformation on artistic practice and on the role of images in Western culture. We will examine Italian patronage of Northern art as well as the influence of Italian Classicism on Northern artists.

Northern art of this era maintained strong continuities with the Middle Ages while also laying the groundwork for many of the institutions, conventions, and preoccupations of the modern Western tradition. Two important shifts in the history of media set the stage for modern developments. The framed painting—the format par excellence of Western art—began its ascendancy over sculpture, as the medium of oil-on-panel inspired a new, luminous painted realism. And the invention of printing spawned a communications revolution by enabling the mechanical reproduction and wide distribution of images (and texts). Two new genres arose in this period—the portrait likeness and the independent landscape—as well as some of the first princely and scholarly collections of art and artifacts. Powerful pictorial statements of the artist as creator declare the changing status of artists, while the growth of a marketplace for the circulation of works of art as commodities outside court and church also brought about change in the economic and social conditions of art-making.

Course Objectives:

Provide a comprehensive overview of the works, personalities, and themes central to the history of the art of Northern Europe between 1375 and 1600.

Inform students about the variety of social and cultural contexts in which Northern Renaissance art was produced and about the ways in which these contexts affected the form and function of art objects.

Increase fluency with reading and assessing of primary sources and the scholarly literature of Renaissance art.

Heighten visual acuity and increase facility with identifying, describing, and interpreting visual images.

Course Policies:

Attendance and due dates. Prompt attendance is required at all lectures. Repeated unexcused absences or habitual tardiness will result in a lowering of your attendance and class participation grade. 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 lectures and due dates. If you do have a conflict, please see me well in advance to clear your absence, schedule an extension, or discuss the possibility of a make-up exam. 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 catalog at:

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

Email. Please check your UF email account regularly for course announcements or replies to any emails you send me. I will email you through your UF email account. If your email box is full, my emails will bounce back to me, and I will have no way to contact you. Please make sure to clean out your box to prevent this.

Classroom demeanor. No talking on cell phones, ringing or beeping, text messaging, Facebooking, tweeting, emailing, IMing, noisy or smelly eating, etc. during class. Class sessions may not be recorded

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 (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-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 that cheating and plagiarism will be penalized, and a report will be filed with the Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution office. During exams, personal items must be cleared from desks and chairs and placed in a bag on the floor. For information on what constitutes plagiarism, consult the UF Plagiarism Guide at <http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/msl/07b/studentplagiarism.html> and “Misuse of Sources” on the course web site. *If you have any questions, please ask me.* An online plagiarism checker service may be used to screen papers.

Grading Scale:

Letter Grade	% Equivalency	GPA Equivalency
A	93 and above	4.00
A-	90 to 92	3.67
B+	87 to 89	3.33
B	83 to 86	3.00
B-	80 to 82	2.67
C+	77 to 79	2.33
C	73 to 76	2.00
C-	70 to 72	1.67
D+	67 to 69	1.33
D	63 to 66	1.00
D-	60 to 62	.67
E, I, NG, WF	59 and below	0.00

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>.

Course Requirements:

Guided Reading Response—5% [of final grade]

Midterm Exam—24%

Reacting to the Past Quiz—3%

Reacting to the Past Essay—15%

Reacting to the Past In-class Participation—24%

Final Exam—24%

Attendance and Participation—5%

In preparation for the written assignments, you will read a brief text on the “Misuse of Sources” in academic writing and take an online quiz.¹ You can find the link to the text on the desktop of the course web site, and you can access the quiz via the <Quizzes> link to the left. You should **complete the quiz before class on Tuesday, August 30**. You may take the quiz as many times as you need until you get all the questions right, but you must get all the questions right to pass the quiz. You must pass the quiz to pass the course.

There will be a **Midterm Exam on Tuesday, October 4** in class and a **Final Exam on Friday, December 16** from 12:30-2:30pm in our regular classroom. The exams will require (1) identification and discussion of images shown in lecture and (2) essay responses to questions about themes developed in lecture and in the readings. You can find sample exam instructions through the <Exam Study Materials> link on the course web site. The images you need to know for exams will be available through the <Images> link at the bottom of the web page for each course section.

There are ten scholarly readings that make more complex arguments than do textbooks and similar explanatory texts. You will prepare a written and oral response to one of these, following the **Guided Reading Response Worksheet**. **Consult the web site to see due dates** for each reading, sign up for a reading, and access the worksheet. The worksheet will be due the period *before* the reading is discussed in class. After you turn in your worksheet, you may collaborate with other students to prepare an oral summary of the worksheet for class discussion.

The most intense period of written and oral work for the class will take place from **October 25 to November 10**, when you will ‘play’ a game based on a teaching concept called [Reacting to the Past](#). Each of you will be assigned a historically based role in a classroom recreation of a situation at the beginning of the Reformation in Wittenberg, Germany. In January 1522 the town council was caught between reformers who wanted to eliminate religious images and political forces that resisted upending traditional religion. You will read secondary sources and a game book that outline the historical situation, issues, and rules of the game. There will be a quiz on the secondary sources and game book in class on **Tuesday, October 25**. You will also read primary sources and respond in a **5-6 page (1500- to 1800-word) essay** argued from your character’s point of view due **Thursday, October 27**. In class on **October 27, November 1, 8, and 10** you will apply this knowledge to advance your character’s goals through **oral debate and strategic action**. Everyone will be required to espouse their character’s views orally in class on those days without reading a prepared speech. More detailed instructions will be distributed in October.

¹ Gordon Harvey, “Misuse of Sources,” Chapter 3 of *Writing with Sources* (Indianapolis: Hackett, 1998), 22-29.

Readings:

Most readings are available online through the course website or the UF Libraries' ARES course reserves system at <https://ares.uflib.ufl.edu/> . The books are also on reserve at the Architecture and Fine Arts Libraries, if you would rather read them there.

Two books are required for this course:

1. Smith, Jeffrey Chipps. *The Northern Renaissance*. London: Phaidon, 2004. ISBN 9780714838670 (Hereafter "TEXT")
2. Smith, Jeffrey Chipps. *Dürer*. London: Phaidon, 2012. ISBN 9780714845609

Week 1

August 23—Introduction

August 25—The Valois Courts in France and Prague

Week 2

August 30— Claus Sluter and the Chartreuse de Champmol

September 1—The King of Painters: Jan van Eyck

Week 3

September 6—van Eyck, cont.

September 8—Master of Flémalle/Robert Campin and Rogier van der Weyden

Week 4

September 13—Campin and van der Weyden, cont.

September 15—Bankers and Pirates: Hans Memling, Hugo van der Goes, and Italian patrons in the North

Week 5

September 20—Memling, Hugo, and Italian patrons, cont.

September 22— Fantasy, Satire, and Admonition: Hieronymus Bosch

Week 6

September 27—Bosch, cont.

September 29— MIDTERM REVIEW

Week 7

October 4— MIDTERM EXAM

October 6— Matthias Grünewald and the Isenheim Altarpiece

Week 8

OCTOBER 11 and 13— The Birth of Printing

Week 9

October 18 and 20— The Artist as Italophile, Christ, and Entrepreneur: Albrecht Dürer

Week 10

October 25— The Reformation Crisis of the Image

October 25—Quiz on Game Book****

October 27— **Reacting to the Past: Wittenberg 1522**

October 27—Essay Due****

Week 11

November 1— **Reacting to the Past: Wittenberg 1522**

November 2—HESCAH lecture by Jeffrey Chipps Smith, 6pm, Harn Museum Auditorium

November 3—No Class (replaced by HESCAH lecture)

No Reading

Week 12

November 8 and 10— **Reacting to the Past: Wittenberg 1522**

No Reading

Week 13

November 15 and 17— When Setting Overtakes Subject

Week 14

November 22— The Rise of Antwerp and the Seduction of Shopping

November 24—No Class (Thanksgiving)

Week 15

November 29 and December 1— Pieter Bruegel the Elder

Week 16

December 6— The Sixteenth-Century Court

****FINAL EXAM****

Friday, December 16

12:30-2:30pm

FAC 201

Academic Resources:

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learningsupport@ufl.edu.
<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling.
<http://www.crc.ufl.edu/>

Library Support, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.
<http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu>

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.
<http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>

Student Complaints Campus: https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf

On-Line Students Complaints: <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaintprocess>