

ARH 6394

Renaissance Art Seminar: The Art and Culture of Prints

Dr. Elizabeth Ross

Spring 2018

**University of Florida, College of Fine Arts
School of Art and Art History**

Course Meeting Time: Tuesday 3-6pm

Classroom: FAC 116

Credit Hours: 3

Course fees: \$10

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Office Hours: Thursday, 2–4pm or by appointment

Office Location: Fine Arts C (FAC) 119a

Office Phone: (352) 273-3067

Outside class and office hours, the fastest way to reach me is through email.

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 will offer a selective survey of the art of the print in Europe. As a new medium that was reproducible and widely distributed, prints challenged concepts of authorship, originality, and intellectual property; transformed visual culture and the art market; and encouraged the nascent culture of collecting. Through readings and class discussion, we will investigate the origins of European printmaking, the variety of print techniques, and the role of prints in the history of the art. How did artists use the new medium to fashion their artistic identity and express what it means to be an artist? How does the rise of printmaking change the nature of the work of art itself? We will also consider the impact of print technology more broadly. The introduction of reproductive technologies for both texts and images is considered one of the most significant revolutions in the history of Western culture. How did print shape society and culture? And what role did printed images play in this development? The topics, artists, and time periods covered will be adjusted, in part, based on the interests of the students taking the class.

Course Objectives

Introduce the significant techniques, artists, works, and themes of the history of printmaking, with an emphasis on the early modern era, circa 1400-1700.

Introduce students to important literature on printmaking so that they better understand the state of the field, its historiography, its most interesting themes and issues, and the qualities that distinguish the best scholarship.

Introduce students to the methodological approaches current in the scholarship of prints.

Increase fluency with reading the scholarly literature of art history and familiarize students with different genres of academic writing.

Heighten visual acuity and increase facility with discussing visual images.

Strengthen students' research skills and their ability to write about art clearly and creatively with historical rigor, methodological savvy, and proper academic form.

Course Policies:

Attendance and due dates. Please look at your calendar at the beginning of the semester to see if you have any commitments (for example, religious holidays) that conflict with classes, due dates, or exams. If you do have a conflict, contact Dr. Ross in advance. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policy that can be found at:

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

Final Exam. The time and date of the final exam is fixed by the UF Registrar, not Dr. Ross. Do not schedule vacation or family travel or another activity to conflict with the Final Exam. There will be no early exams offered.

Classroom demeanor. No talking on cell phones, ringing or beeping, texting, Facebooking, tweeting, emailing, noisy or smelly eating, etc., during class. Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Inappropriate behavior shall result, minimally, in a request to leave class.

Email. Please check your UF email account regularly for course announcements or replies to any emails you send. The instructors will email you through your UF email account. If your email box is full, her emails will be bounced back, and she will have no way to contact you. Please make sure to clean out your box to prevent this.

Accommodation. Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to Dr. Ross 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 (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/students/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 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, and phones must be turned off. For a discussion of how to avoid plagiarism, consult *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	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
% Equivalent	93+	90-92	87-89	83-86	80-82	77-79	73-76	70-72	67-69	63-66	60-62	59-

See the following web page for UF policies for assigning grade points:
<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

Please note: A grade of C- (or below) will not count toward major requirements.

Course Requirements:

Response Papers 15%

Print Revolution Analysis 15%

Final Paper 35%

Class Participation 35%

You are expected to complete the **assigned readings** and come to class ready to discuss them.

For **Weeks 3, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, and 15** you will write a one-page **response paper** to the readings. For some weeks, you will be given a question to guide your response. In the absence of a special prompt, for each reading you should summarize the major thesis in 1-2 sentences, summarize the minor theses (if any) in 2-4 sentences, and give a brief synopsis of the argument with your own critical comments. These papers are intended to (1) prompt more intensive and critical engagement with the scholarly literature; (2) provoke analysis of the structure and methods of the author's argument; (3) encourage clear and concise writing; (4) make clear what you do and do not understand; (5) motivate preparation for class discussion. The weeks without response papers focus on close-looking at works of art.

The readings for **Week 8, February 27** consider whether there was a print "revolution." For that week, you will compose an extended **3- to 4-page analysis** of the issue—an extended response paper focused on the question, "Was there a print revolution?"

For your **final paper**, about 15 pages in length, due **Tuesday, May 1**, you may write on any topic relevant to the course, chosen in consultation with Dr. Ross. Alternatively, you may design a print exhibition. For the exhibition, you should generate a concept that will make an original contribution to the field, choose 5 to 10 objects that visually develop your concept, write an essay introducing your exhibition, and then support that with a brief catalogue of the objects. The catalog entries should include all the elements you find in entries for major museum exhibitions. See for example, Week 2, *Origins of European Printmaking*.

Readings:

Most of the readings for the course will be books on reserve at the Architecture and Fine Arts Library or articles linked on the course web site in eLearning.

****These topics are subject to change on the first day of class, after consulting students about their particular research interests. Topics may be adapted to better match their interests. As the topics are adjusted, the response paper schedule may also be adjusted. ****

Week 1

January 9—Introduction and Print Techniques

Week 2

January 16—Origins and Woodcuts (no response paper)

Week 3

January 23—Viewers and Early Woodcuts

Week 4

January 30—Blockbooks (no response paper)

Week 5

February 6—Albrecht Dürer (no response paper)

Week 6

February 13— Prints and Politics: Maximilian I

Week 7
February 20— Prints and the Wood/Nagel Project

Week 8
February 27— The Printing Revolution (?)

Week 9
March 6—No Class (Spring Break)

Week 10
March 13— Peasants and the Origin of Genre

Week 11
March 20— Prints, Painting, and Sculpture

Week 12
March 27—Hendrick Goltzius

Week 13
April 3— Rembrandt (no response paper)

Week 14
April 10—Post-1945 Printmaking in the United States: Rauschenberg and Warhol

Week 15
April 17—Modern and Contemporary Prints in the Museum

Week 16
April 24—Student Presentations

****Final Paper due Tuesday, May 1****

Academic Resources:

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learningsupport@ufl.edu.

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>