

ARH 6141 Ornament

University of Florida, School of Art + Art History, Spring Semester 2019

Professor Ashley Jones, ajones@arts.ufl.edu

Office Hours, Tuesdays, 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. and by appointment, FAC 115

Seminar, Tuesdays 8th -10th periods, 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., FAC 116

Course Description:

The discourse of ornament from Vitruvius to Loos is freighted with philosophical, even moral, implications. This seminar will examine the problem of ornament in the western tradition from a broad, diachronic perspective, considering it as adornment, as surface, as artifice, as craft. We will move from the rhythmically rising and falling fortunes of architectural ornament, to the role of ornament in constructing and deconstructing the minor arts. In addition to investigating material remains of all kinds, we will closely read primary and secondary sources from antiquity to the present.

Course Objectives:

-To gain familiarity with the philosophical, architectural, and art historical discourse surrounding ornament in the western tradition.

-To gain familiarity with key media, motifs, and techniques related to ornament

-To apply, orally and in writing, art historical and philosophical frameworks of analysis to the content of the course

General Requirements: (assignments are described in detail at the end of the syllabus)

- Attendance and Participation **15%**
- 2 Presentations of Readings/Leading Discussion **5% each = 10%**
- Object Description Paper **5%**
- 4 Reaction Papers **5% each = 20%**
- Peer Review Participation **10%**
- Presentation of Final paper **15%**
- Final Paper **25%**

Books:

*Isabelle Frank (ed.), *The Theory of Decorative Art: An Anthology of European & American Writings, 1750-1940*, Yale: 2000

*Oleg Grabar: *The Mediation of Ornament*, The A. W. Mellon Lectures in the Fine Arts, 1989, Bollingen Series XXXV 38, Princeton: 1992.

Ernst Gombrich, *The Sense of Order: A Study in the Psychology of Decorative Art*, Phaidon, 2nd Edition: 1984 [Reprinted in paperback 2012, first published 1979]

Owen Jones, *The Grammar of Ornament*, DK Books: 2001 [First Edition 1856, London]

*Gülru Necipoğlu and Alina Payne (eds), *Histories of Ornament: From Global to Local*, Princeton: 2016

*Alois Riegl, *Problems of Style: Foundations for a History of Ornament*, Princeton: 1992 [First German Edition 1893]

John Ruskin, *The Seven Lamps of Architecture*, 2nd Edition [1880], reprinted by Dover: 1989

*Gottfried Semper, *Style in the Technical and Tectonic Arts; or, Practical Aesthetics*, Getty: 2004 [First Editions 1860-1863]

*James Trilling, *Ornament: A Modern Perspective*, U. of Washington Press: 2003.

***book purchase not required**

Other readings will be disseminated to students electronically.

Important Dates

- January 8: First Day of Class**
- January 11: Drop/Add Deadline**
- January 14: Object Description Paper Due**
- January 29: Response Paper 1 Due**
- February 19: Response Paper 2 Due**
- Mar 4-8: Spring Break**
- March 19: Response Paper 3 Due**
- April 9: Response Paper 4 Due**
- April 12-13: HESCAH Symposium**
- April 23: Last Day of Class**
- April 24: Final Papers Due**

Email Policy

You are requested to use your UFL email as your primary email. Important information, including readings, assignments, etc., will be disseminated via the E-learning site and the class list-serve. You are subscribed to the list-serve with your UFL email. Emails sent to the professor will usually be returned within 48 hours.

Class Attendance/Demeanor Policy

Your attendance is mandatory. Repeated unexcused absences will result in a reduction in your attendance and participation grade. Your active participation in the class is expected and constitutes part of your grade.

Please also see the UF attendance policy:

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

Deadlines and Making-Up Missed Materials

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). If you anticipate difficulty handing in an assignment on time, please contact Dr. Jones **before** the deadline.

Grading Scale

Grades are tabulated on a 100-point scale and a letter grade is assigned as follows:

93–100 A, 90–92 A-, 87–89 B+, 83–86 B, 80–82 B-, 77-79 C+, 73–76 C, 70–72 C- , 67–69 D+, 63–66 D, 59 and below F

If you have questions about how grade points are assigned by the University, go to:

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

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: <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/students.html#honesty>

Honor Code: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php> Student Conduct: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/conductcode.php>

Students with Disabilities

Every effort will be made to accommodate students with disabilities. Anyone requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide you with the necessary documentation, which you must then provide to me when requesting accommodation. Please make your request at least one week before the needed accommodation.

University Counseling & Wellness Center

3190 Radio Road P.O. Box 112662, University of Florida Gainesville, FL 32611-4100 Phone: 352-392-1575

Web: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/>

Provisional Course Outline:

Week 1: Tuesday January 8
Introduction: What is Ornament?

Week 2: Tuesday January 15
Ordering: Manuals and Grammars

Week 3: Tuesday January 22
Ordering: Histories

Week 4: Tuesday January 29
Making: Architecture

Week 5: Tuesday February 5
Making: Architecture and Craft

Week 6: Tuesday February 12
Making: Architecture, Craft, and Industry

Week 7: Tuesday February 19
Fashioning: The Body

Week 8: Tuesday February 26
Fashioning: Ornament and Illusion

February 29-March 4: SPRING BREAK

Week 9: Tuesday March 12
Fashioning: Ornament and Abstraction

Week 10: Tuesday March 19
Framing: The Field

Week 11: Tuesday March 26
Framing: The Limits

Week 12: Tuesday April 2
How Ornament Works

Week 13: Tuesday April 9
The Ethics of Ornament?

Week 14: Tuesday, April 16
Paper Presentations

Week 15: Tuesday, April 23
Paper Presentations