

Introduction to the Principals and History of Art II

(ARH2051)

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FAC 121
Office Hours: T/R 1130AM-1230PM

February 15, 2015, the website Buzzfeed posted a quiz titled, “How well do you know art?” It asked such questions as: “True or False: Van Gogh was an Impressionist painter?” And, “Who painted the Last Supper?” A quick Google search will reveal the answers to these questions and many other facts about visual art, such as the year a certain painting was made, the person who commissioned a given building, or whether a print is an etching or an engraving. But art history is about more than names and dates; it is a way of looking at images and objects of all kinds, deciphering what they say about their given subjects, and understanding why they say those things—what personal, political, religious, or cultural demands the images or objects met. This course will introduce you to the meaning and significance of major works of Western art from the Renaissance to the present and empower you with the skills to develop such interpretations yourself. Ultimately, you will be able to ace a Buzzfeed quiz, but also (and much more importantly) walk the halls of any museum or open any magazine or newspaper and begin to decipher the messages and values that the images you see there communicate.

Assignments

Quizzes / Section: 30%
Mid Term: 35%
Final: 35%

100-93 (A), 92-90 (A-), 89-87 (B+), 86-83 (B), 82-80 (B-), 79-77 (C+), 76-73 (C), 72-70 (C-), 69-67 (D+), 66-63 (D), 62-60 (D), 59 or less (E)

Readings

There is no required text book for this course. All readings will be made available electronically in .pdf form.

Critical Dates

Mid Term January 21, 2019

Final Exam April 29, 2019 at 530pm-730pm

Classroom Policy

We will be exploring a range of topics and ideas in this course. Come to the material with an open mind and be prepared for class each day. Some of the readings are easy, some are challenging — you may need to re-read a certain piece. The better prepared you are for class and the more you invest the more you will take away. Be kind and courteous to one another.

Cell phones should remain off and away during class. You will be asked to leave if this is not adhered to and counted absent.

Attendance

As an adult it is understood that life happens. As such you will be permitted **TWO** unexcused absences — upon the third unexcused absence your grade will be lowered one full letter grade per absence. Arriving late or leaving early will be regarded as an absence. **Attendance will be taken at random times in lecture and during each discussion period.**

Other Vital Course Information and Policies

First: Any change to the syllabus, assignments, or class itself will be delivered to you in writing via email.

Second: Failure to complete course assignments by their due dates will result in automatic failure of the course without exception.

Third: The university provides students with counseling services. This is truly an invaluable resource and they may be found at:

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>

Four: As a student it is asked of you to evaluate each course you take. These evaluation become available in the final weeks of the semester and may be found at: <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/>

Five: If you are in need of accommodation from a disability you will need to register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) and provide them with

corresponding documentation. Once registered the Disability Resource will provide you with a letter to give to your instructors.

Six: This course, your behavior, and performance are all bound by the UF Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>). Plagiarism is a very serious violation. Any student violating university policy on plagiarism will, **AT A MINIMUM**, lose one full letter grade to his or her final grade and be reported to the Dean of Students. If you are in doubt, or are unsure, please feel free to ask me.