

University of Florida – Fall 2024  
Tues. Per. 4 (10:40-11:30)  
Thurs. Per. 3-4 (9:35-11:30)  
FAC 201

ARH 3871/ARH 6917

***WOMEN AND THE VISUAL ARTS ca 1500-1850***  
***(Gender, Representation and the Visual Arts)***

Prof. Melissa Hyde  
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Office hours: Find my availability on Calendly  
<https://calendly.com/mhyde-4>

**Course Description**

This course focuses on European women artists from the Renaissance to the early nineteenth century. We will be considering their work, their place in their societies, their self-representations, and the ways they created careers as artists even in times not welcoming to women in the art world. We will also address issues of gender in relation to "woman" as subject matter for the visual arts and we will explore if and how women artists created images different from those made by their male colleagues.

Themes addressed in the course include: women's self-representations, work and leisure as they relate to notions of the public and private in art, the ways in which women negotiated the structures of art institutions, their relationship to patronage and the art market. We will be exploring how women as artists and beholders have produced or assumed a range of different positions in relation to representing, looking and being represented. In this context, issues having to do with the sexual politics of looking (particularly looking at the nude) are of special interest. Where it is relevant, we will consider the work of contemporary women — especially in the US— who have taken up issues that historical women artists had to grapple with.

Readings will focus on the work of specific artists, but will also involve some theoretical inquiry into larger categories of gender, sexuality, "otherness" and race. The course will thus include materials from the fields of history, literary and film theory, gender and cultural studies. Some familiarity with the history of art and/or women's history /gender studies is helpful, but not essential.

Pre-req: ARH 2051 or permission of instructor.


**Expected Learning Outcomes:**

- be able to recognize and explain significant themes, stylistic features, and genre conventions associated with art by women in Europe in the early modern periods.
- understand and explain how works of art operate as historical artifacts that reveal current ideas on politics, and society.
- demonstrate knowledge of women's roles in early modern European and societies.
- develop and use art historical skills of visual and textual analysis
- develop a critical understanding of the development of scholarship on women artists
- know how to use academic sources for humanities research
- learn how to participate in the public production of knowledge via Wikipedia

**General Education Learning Outcomes:**

ARH 3871 (passed with a grade of C or better) satisfies the university's General Education Requirement for Humanities (H) and Diversity (D).

If you wish to read further about General Education classifications see this [link to Gen Ed Student Learning Outcomes](#)

 Note about WR E2 Writing Credit: This course is **not** being offered this year to fulfill any University Writing Requirement.

**Required Readings and other things on CANVAS (E-LEARNING)**Readings


Most required weekly readings will be available through the [Canvas](#) site for this class, under the **Files** menu.

IF YOU HAVE PROBLEMS ACCESSING THE READINGS LET ME KNOW ASAP.

Power-points for lecture, slide test study, and other course materials will also be found in Canvas, under **Files**

**Architecture and Fine Arts Library (AFA) Reserves** (Electronic and otherwise)  
Electronic Reserves (ARES)

In some cases assigned readings are to be found on-line via electronic reserve (ARES)  
<https://ares.uflib.ufl.edu/>.

 NOTE: You must be logged on through remote log on, VPN or from campus to access this site. Let me know if you need instructions for remote log on.

Books on Reserve

Any weekly readings listed below under "Further Readings" that are not available digital form will be placed on reserve in hard copy.

Hard copy books listed in Canvas "Suggested Sources" (to be posted later in the semester) for Wikipedia projects will be put on reserve in the Architecture and Fine Arts Library.

Recommended Texts

§ Whitney Chadwick, *Women, Art and Society* (6<sup>th</sup> ed., 2020)

Chadwick is available through on-line vendors, as well as the UF Bookstore. Though we will not be devoting discussion to it, this material is an important supplement to lectures and discussion. For our purposes earlier (and cheaper) editions (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> ed.) are fine.

§ *Guerilla Girls Bedside Companion to the History of Western Art* (1998)

**Course Format**

This course will combine lectures and discussion of readings and visual evidence. It is therefore essential that you attend all class meetings; b) actively participate in class discussion; c) do the readings (not necessarily in that

order). Discussion of readings is an integral part of course work, and depends upon your keeping abreast of the assigned texts and completing them before class. In most cases readings are assigned for Thursdays and discussions will take place on accordingly.

We will all get the most out of this class if everyone turns up for class (see **Attendance Policy** below) and is prepared to engage. To that end each member of the class is expected to read all the assigned essays for a given day. Close, informed discussion of the texts and images is a necessity for the success of the course; as is engaging one another in ideas and debate. Not completing the reading and/or failing to participate places a greater burden on others. I understand that other commitments can sometimes keep you from being able to read everything that is assigned. If this occurs, I recommend skimming or reading selections from each of the assigned materials so that you can participate at least minimally in class.

*I strongly recommend taking notes on the readings to prepare for class discussion. Please bring the reading in some form (digital or otherwise) with you to class.*

### Grading and Assignments

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

94–100 A	90–93 A-	87–89 B+	84–86 B	80–83 B-
77–79 C+	74–76 C	70–73 C-	67–69 D+	64–66 D
60–63 D-	59 and below F			

If you have questions about how grade points are assigned by the University, go to: [catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/](http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/)

### Summary of Requirements

- Attendance at all class meetings (including a HESCAH Lecture on Sept. 19m at 6pm, and visit to the Harn Museum on Oct. 31)
- Completion of weekly readings and participation in discussions
- Participate in one group led discussion of class readings (10 points)
- Five short reading response papers – **at least two of these** to be completed before spring break (10 points)
- Two Slide Tests (30 points)
- One in class essay exam (25 points)
- Group research project for upload on Wikipedia Project (includes in-class assignment, annotated bibliographies, Wiki article or additions) (25 points)
- You must complete all course requirements in order to pass the course.

### Attendance

Our time together is precious and limited, therefore attendance at every class session is both extremely important and expected. You may miss three class periods without influencing your grade. (Thursdays count as two.) I do not need to be informed of why you are not in class, but if you must go beyond the limit, please do contact me. Except in extenuating circumstances, more than three unexcused absences will affect your final course grade. After two, I may opt to drop your final grade a half-step for every additional unexcused absence (B to B-, B- to C etc.). Excused absences require documentation (note from a doctor, etc.) In order to be counted as present you must arrive on time and stay until class concludes.

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies. [Click here to read the university attendance policies.](#)

### Group- Led Discussion (10 points)

In addition to the responsibility of all students for each week's assigned readings, at various points throughout the semester small groups (panels) of 3 or so will be responsible for leading discussion readings assigned for a given day. (Sometimes the readings are organized as pairs of conflicting interpretations of the same visual material or the issues. It is up to your panel to decide how best to present this material to the class.) Usually discussions will take place on Thursdays. The group is responsible for 30 minutes of class time. One grade is assigned to the panel as a group. Further details on the panel presentation will be posted to [e-learning/Canvas](#) – under **Course Assignments**.

**IMPORTANT: Your group should meet outside of class to prepare for the class discussion. Then, no later than a week before you present, your group must make an appointment to meet with me. By that time the group should have done the readings and met once already to prepare for our meeting.**

#### Short Responses to Readings (10 points)

Weekly readings for discussion are available on ARES. There are about 10 groups of readings on the syllabus. You are required to write a short 1-2 page response to **5** readings. Your response should be submitted as a **.doc** or **.docx** file on **e-learning/Canvas**, under **“Assignments”** **no later than 11pm the day before the reading is being discussed**. Guidelines for writing response papers will be posted on Canvas. You will receive one final collective grade for the responses papers.

See this [link from the Duke University Writing Studio](#) for guidelines on writing a good response paper.

#### Exams & Slide ID Test (25 + 30 points)

There is an essay exam (**Oct. 17**), which consist of short essays in which you will be asked to discuss/compare and contrast several sets of images. There will be two in-class Slide I.D. Tests (artist title and date) on **Sept. 17** and **Oct. 8** (15 slides). Two weeks before the tests, I will post study images on Canvas under **Files**.

#### Wikipedia Group Research Project (25 points)

There will be a group research project for this class that will culminate in a text to be uploaded to Wikipedia. You will be graded on both group and individual components of this project. In addition to the collectively authored Wikipedia text, these include an in-class assignment, an individual annotated bibliography, and short written accounting of the experience itself. Details about the assignments and my expectations for them will be forthcoming soon.

### **GRADUATE STUDENTS TAKING THIS COURSE AS COGNATE ARH 6917**

To fulfill requirements for graduate credit for this class, grads are expected to do all assigned coursework (including slide tests) with the following changes in requirements:

*Final Project — Create an Anthology or some other Creative Project:* You will be asked to assemble a collection of materials related to an important idea or theme being discussed in class. These materials can include scholarly essays that you find to be particularly useful or thought provoking; it can include material intended for a more general audience. If you are so inclined, your anthology can contain creative work such as short stories, poems, plays, or works of art or music. Further details will be forthcoming, but you should plan write an introduction (7-10 pages) in which you explain the central theme of your anthology and the rationale for including each item in it. Alternatively you can do an appropriate studio/research project to be decided in consultation with me, which will also have some writing component to it.

*Additional Meetings & Readings:* Grads will meet with me as a group once a week during the course of the semester -- we will need to schedule these meetings by the second week of classes. Additional readings (usually drawn from the “Further Readings”) will be assigned for these meetings.

### *Grading for Grads*

Group led discussion of class readings (10 points)  
Five short reading response papers (10 points)  
Two Slide Tests (30 points)  
One in class essay exam (25 points)  
Final Project (25 points)

You must complete all course requirements in order to pass the course.

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### ***Other necessary information***

#### Classroom Demeanor

Active discussion of the material is expected; lively commentary, personal opinion, creative thinking, insightful analysis are strongly encouraged. Any comparisons and contrasts to contemporary problems and issues enhance our discussion. Feel free to talk about the course material to one another, to pose questions to one another and to the instructor, to challenge, to contest, to argue your point. Be respectful of the opinions of other students; respect ideas that are different from your own. Do not hesitate to put your hand up during lecture to ask questions or to ask for clarification of something you do not understand.

Please abide by these rules of the road:

1. Arrive on time and do not walk in and out of class unless it is a necessity. Walking in and out while the class is in progress is disruptive to the other students and is impolite to the professor.
2. If you are going to use mobile phone, laptop, tablet etc. during class, please sit in the back of the room.
3. Any web surfing, email answering, Facebook tending, etc. will be treated as a violation of the attendance policy and the day of the violation will be counted as an unexcused absence.
4. Please do not come to class if you are ill with the flu or any other contagious illness. Illness constitutes an excused absence.

If needed, we will collectively determine additional community guidelines for class discussions.

#### Email and Phone Communications with me

- Do not hesitate to email me with any problems or question you may have. Please be aware that I receive a high volume of emails. And I do not check email as often on the weekends (often not at all on Saturdays). But I will answer your emails as promptly as I can. If you are having any difficulty with the course, please be sure to make an appointment to come to office hours so I can help you! I truly want everyone to do well in this class. ). If you need to reach me urgently, you may call or text me.
- I will expect for you to check your UF email once a day in the event that there is a schedule change or if I need to send you important information. Class alerts will be sent via the Canvas system.
- All course assignments, and changes to the syllabus will be posted to [e-learning/Canvas](#). I will post study guides, some readings, powerpoints from lectures, etc under [Files](#) .
- The acceptance of work without loss of credit. Late work will be marked down for every day it is late, unless a prior arrangement is made (for a worthy reason) with me.

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### ***Other necessary information***

- Evaluations: Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations 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/>

- **Classroom Accommodation:** Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the [Dean of Students Office](#) . The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to professor when requesting accommodation.

- **Academic Honesty:** As a University of Florida student, your performance is governed by the UF Honor Code, available in its full form in the [Undergraduate Catalog](#). The Honor Code requires Florida students to neither give nor receive unauthorized aid in completing all assignments. Violations include cheating, plagiarism, bribery, and misrepresentation, all defined in detail [here](#).

**Keep in mind that plagiarism is a serious violation of the student academic honor code** . University policy recommends that, as a minimum , instructors should impose a course grade penalty and report any incident of academic dishonesty to the Office of the Dean of Students.

It is plagiarism if you present the ideas or words of someone else as your own. You are responsible for understanding the University's definitions of plagiarism and academic dishonesty. See the [Student Honor Code](#) . Ask me if you have any questions!!

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### ***Important Dates***

Sept. 17	Slide Test #1
Sept. 19	Harn Eminent Scholar Lecture, 6pm
Oct. 4	FRIDAY Proposals for Wikipedia projects due
Oct. 17	Essay Exam
Oct. 29	Slide Test #2
Oct. 31	Harn Museum Visit
Nov. 8	FRIDAY, Annotated Bibliographies due for Wikipedia projects
Nov. 22	Upload Wikipedia entries

### ***Schedule of Lectures, Assignments and Key Dates*** ***(Schedule of Lectures Subject to Change – Other Dates Will Remain as Listed)***

#### **Week 1**

Aug. 22      [Introduction to course and requirements](#)

Watch video: *Why are there so few female artists?* – National Gallery of Scotland

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SKMtZAfaLi8>

## **Part I. Women and Art History**

#### **Week 2**

**Recommended Background Reading:** Chadwick, Preface & Introduction

Aug. 27      The Constructed Subject: Sex & Gender: Women, Nature and the Nature of Women

**Reading for Class Discussion:**

Aug. 29      Firing the Canon

**Reading for Class Discussion:**

### Week 3

**Discussion Leaders Group #1 meet with me this week**

Sept. 3      Feminism and Art History Since the 1970s

Sept. 5      "Women Artists" and "Greatness"

**Reading for Class Discussion:**

## Part II. The 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> Centuries

Week 4      **Recommended Background Reading:** Chadwick

**Discussion Leaders Group #2 meet with me this week**

Sept.10      Italy in the Renaissance: The Heritage of St Catherine of Bologna

*Artists:* Plautilla Nelli, Properzia de Rossi, Marietta Robusti, Diana Mantuana,

Sept. 12      Italy in the Renaissance

*Artists:* Sophonisba Anguissola

**Reading for Class Discussion:**

**Led by Discussion Group #1**

### Week 5

**Discussion Leaders Group #3 meet with me this week**

Sept. 17      Italy and the Seventeenth-Century: Portraiture and History Painting + **SLIDE TEST #1**


*Artists:* Elisabetta Sirani and Lavinia Fontana

Sept. 19      Women Artists and the Nude

*Artists:* Lavinia Fontana and Artemisia Gentileschi

**Reading for Class Discussion:**

**Led by Discussion Group #2**

 Sept. 19, 6pm, Harn Museum: **REQUIRED HESCAH LECTURE BY Dr Patricia Simons**,  
“Women artists, nudes and models: observation and imagination in early modern Italy”

**Week 6**      **Recommended Background Reading:** Chadwick  
**Discussion Leaders Group #4 meet with me this week**

Sept. 24      Italy and the Seventeenth-Century: Still Life and History Painting

*Artists:* Artemisia Gentileschi, Virginia da Vezzo, Fede Galizia and Giovanna Garzoni

Sept. 26      Seventeenth-Century Italy, cont'd

**Reading for Class Discussion:**  
**Led by Discussion Group #3:**

**Week 7**      **Recommended Background Reading:** Chadwick

**Discussion Leaders Group #5 meet with me this week**

Oct. 1      Gender and Genre in Northern Europe

*Artists:* Lavinia Teerlinc, Caterina von Hemessen, Judith Leyster, Gesina Ter Borch

Oct. 3      Art in Northern Europe: Seventeenth-Century

*Artists:* Clara Peeters, Maria von Oosterwick, Maria Sibylla Merian, Rachel Ruysch

**Reading for Class Discussion:**  
**Led by Discussion Group #4**

**Oct. 4      Wikipedia Research Topic Proposals Due/Grad Final Project Proposals Due**

**Week 8**

**Discussion Leaders Group #6 meet with me this week**

Oct. 8      France in the Seventeenth-Century

*Artists:* Louise Moillon, Claudine Bouzonnet, Sophie Chéron, Madeleine & Geneviève de Boulogne

Oct. 10      France in the Seventeenth-Century

**Reading for Class Discussion:**  
**Led by Discussion Group #5**

**Part III: The 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries**



## Week 9

- Oct. 15 Class time for Wikipedia Projects (with in class assignments)  
**Read before class:**  
Baker, Nicholson; "[The Charms of Wikipedia](#)", *The New York Review of Books*; 55: 4 (March 20, 2008).  
Complete the [Wikipedia Editing Tutorial for students](#)
- Oct. 17 [In Class Short Essay Exam +](#) (lecture 2<sup>nd</sup> period) Eighteenth-Century Italy  
*Artists:* Rosalba Carriera & Giulia Lama

## Week 10 **Recommended Background Reading:** Chadwick

[Discussion Leaders Group #7 meet with me this week](#)

- Oct. 22 In and Out of the Academy: Painters in Eighteenth-Century France  
*Artists:* Marianne Loir, Marie-Therese Reboul, Suzanne Giroust

- Oct. 24 The French Academy and Beyond  
*Artists:* Madeleine Basseporte, Anne Vallayer-Coster, Adelaide Labille-Guiard

**Reading for Class Discussion**  
**Led by Discussion Group #6:**

## Week 11

- Oct. 29 18<sup>th</sup>-Century France cont'd + **SLIDE TEST #2**
- Oct.31 **CLASS MEETS at the HARN**

- **Recommended Film:** *Portrait of a Lady on Fire* (2019) [Céline Sciamma](#)

## Week 12

[Discussion Leaders Group #8 meet with me this week](#)

- Nov. 5 International Artists at Mid Century and Beyond  
*Artists:* Elisabeth Vigée-Lebrun, Angelica Kauffman, Marie-Anne Collot, Dorothea Therbusch
- Nov. 7 Portraiture, History Painting and other Dangerous Occupations

**Reading for Class Discussion:**  
**Led by Discussion Group #7:**

**Nov. 8 FRIDAY: Individual annotated Bibliographies Due for Wikipedia Projects (at least 6 sources)**

**Week 13 Recommended Background Reading:** Chadwick

**Discussion Leaders Group #9 meet with me this week**

Nov. 12 France and England After the Revolution

*Artists:* Marguerite Gerard, Angeliqne Mongez, Constance Mayer

Nov.14 France and England After the Revolution

*Artists:* Maria Cosway

**Reading for Class Discussion:**  
**Led by Discussion Group #8:**

**Week 14**

Nov. 19 Questions of Race

Nov. 21 Questions of Race cont'd

**Reading for Class Discussion:**  
**Led by Discussion Group #9:**

***Recommended Film:* Belle (2013)**

**Nov. 22 Friday – UPLOAD Wikipedia entries**

**Week 15 Thanksgiving**

**Week 16**

Dec. 3 Artists in France to 1830

*Artists:* Henriette Lorimier, Hortense Haudebourt-Lescot

**Dec. 10 5pm Final Wikipedia entries due + narrative about experience**

**GRADS FINAL PROJECTS DUE**