

2015

ARTS 274-01 Women, Art and Society

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ARTS 274-01 Women, Art and Society

Monday evenings: 6:00-8:30 p.m.

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Office Hours Tues. 10:00am-1:00pm and by appointment

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TEXT: Chadwick, Whitney, *Women, Art, and Society*, Fifth edition, 2012.**INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES:**

This course is an historical survey of women artists from antiquity to the twentieth century. We will explore the evolution of women's participation in the visual arts through lecture, film, field trip(s) and individual presentations. Some classes will emphasize social, political and economic issues that directly affected female participation in the arts while others may focus upon artistic influences and diverse modes of expression, i.e. needlework, ceramics, sculpture, painting etc. The readings provide historical background and comparative material that is not always covered in lecture. The textbook does not duplicate the lectures: please refer to class notes and review materials for test preparation.

Students will gain a familiarity with the lives and works of women artists in the context of their particular era, as well as an understanding of the roles and achievements of women in the history of art. Working from the premise that technique, style and talent are not gender specific, we will examine how inspiration, influence and motivation and opportunity can be *gender-defined* by social, economic, political and religious limitations. Students should develop an understanding of how the traditional study of art history has omitted, diminished and in some instances even obliterated many of the contributions of women artists.

This course fulfills Creative Perspectives (Fine Arts) 3 hr. requirement and GDST/DCR* of the CORE CURRICULUM

promoting such learning outcomes for students as to: *be effective communicators in writing and orally; be critical thinkers who analyze and interpret images, objects, and artifacts; discuss fundamental questions that arise from the human condition; be creators of new knowledge and expression utilizing your imagination and creativity; understand and appreciate the arts, be encouraged to use human experience and religious traditions as resources to address contemporary issues; and act as global citizens who recognize the societal, ethical and moral dimensions of art-making.* **SLOs: Students in ARTS 274 Women, Art and Society:**

- will gain further insight into their visual past as it relates to their visual present and the ways in which this study can be applied to their own creative work through the examination of artworks both in class and at museum/artist visits.
- will describe and examine the multifaceted character of society and how the inclusion of different perspectives can influence one's worldview through direct observation of artworks and demonstrate competency in original, critical interpretation in the form of a written visual analysis and two assigned research projects.*
- will demonstrate competency in oral communication through class discussions and the presentation component of the research projects.
- will demonstrate knowledge of course material, i.e., artists, artworks, stylistic periods and concepts, through successful completion of exams.
- will understand and be sensitive to issues of diversity as expressed in visual art and will demonstrate this knowledge through class discussion, a visual analysis and research presentations.*
- will demonstrate an understanding of and provide examples of how complex social locations shape the life chances of women artists across generations and the globe by conducting research projects for presentation to the class.*

STUDENT ACTIVITIES:

Primarily, this is a lecture course that involves the viewing of artworks in slide reproductions. Discussion is generated through the process of viewing the images themselves, and in light of the artists--their ideas, styles, subjects, etc. and the historical context from which they arose. Field visits to the Cincinnati Art Museum and the Contemporary Arts Center will supplement the lecture format; films are also incorporated to give students more in-depth views of certain artists or movements in art, etc. Students take four examinations during the course and will be responsible for knowing the monuments illustrated in Chadwick's **Women, Art, and Society** and where otherwise specified. **Writing requirements:** Students will be asked to write **one 3-page** visual analysis on a work of art viewed while at the CAC visit which will be turned in the following week for credit. Students are required to carry out **two short research projects** on artists from the time period we're studying with emphasis on **GDST/DCR*** focus (they will be drawn from a selected pool in the first half and second half of the semester). Each student presents her/his subjects in a short 12-min. digital (PowerPoint) presentation that gives **general historical background and biographical information on their subject** and must include plates/color reproductions of the artists and art works discussed, relevant accompanying textual information, and summary bibliography. *A (small) creative work will be produced to accompany research that was inspired by your subject.*

EVALUATION OF STUDENTS:

2 Quizzes=	50 points (25 each)	Grades: A	400-375	C+	315-307
Mid-Term=	100 points	A-	374-360	C	306-293
Final=	100 points	B+	359-347	C-	292-280
2 Research Projects=	100 points (50 each)	B	346-336	D+	279-267
1 Visual Analysis=	50 points	B-	335-316	D	266-240
				F	Below 240

ATTENDANCE POLICY: We will be looking at and discussing images during the course of each class and learning important skills for speaking and writing about art. Because these class sessions are essential to your learning, attendance is **mandatory**. **There will be a grade deduction for unexcused absences** (one excused absence is allowed); **for every unexcused absence, your final grade will be lowered one (1) full letter grade**; two (2) “tardies” equals one (1) absence. Arriving late and/or leaving early may result in an absence. NOTE: Excused absences are those *documented* for a court date, a funeral or an illness.

CLASSROOM CONDUCT AND LATE WORK POLICY: You are expected to come to class prepared. Assignments are due at the beginning of the class period. **With each class session an assignment is late, it will be dropped one full letter grade.** You are also expected to stay *awake and alert* the entire class period! ***Please throw away (oops!), I mean turn off cell phones before class begins!*** Laptop computers are not permitted in this course for taking notes. Treating each other with respect, cordiality and conviviality is ideal! Please be OPEN-MINDED...this is a liberal arts course, so feel liber(al)ated! Occasionally you may be exposed to images or discussion that reference human nudity, sexuality, violence or cultural/religious views different from ones familiar to you. After reading, viewing or discussing the materials you may conclude that moral or personal beliefs or personal preferences prevent you from studying the material objectively. If this should occur, please discuss the situation with me, okay? Okay! And finally, ***be sure to consult your syllabus before EVERY class! THANKS!***

GRADING POLICY:

Grade F will be given for:

- failure to meet course requirements

Grade D will be given for:

- overall poor quality of work, unsatisfactory effort, motivation and improvement during semester
- incomplete or late projects
- absence from class, inadequate participation
- lack of ability to receive advice, criticism and to exercise critical judgment in relation to works in progress
- repeated absences from class (**see policy**)

Grade C will be given for:

- a) overall average (satisfactory) quality of work, satisfactory motivation, effort and improvement demonstrated during the semester
- b) completion of all projects by the due date
- c) participation in discussions, critiques and classroom exercises
- d) ability to receive advice and criticism, and to exercise critical judgment in relation to work in progress
- e) attendance (**see policy**)
- f) minimum 5 hours per week spent on readings and assignments

Grade B will be given for:

- a) consistently high quality of work, motivation, effort, and improvement during the entire semester, and demonstrated attempts to go beyond the required standards of the course.
- (b-f) same as for grade C

Grade A will be given for:

- consistently exceptional quality of work, motivation, effort and improvement during the entire semester, with results going far beyond the required standards and framework of the course.
- b-f) same as for grade C

CLASS SCHEDULE: The chapters listed on each class date need to be READ prior to that class, please & thank you!

- AUG. 24: Introduction (*Why are we here?*); Art History and the Woman Artist (p. 7-42); overview of Women in Prehistory, the Ancient World, and the Middle Ages (Chap. 1 p. 43-65)
- AUG. 31: The Renaissance Ideal & the Other Renaissance (Chaps. 2 & 3 p. 43-117)
Select your first RESEARCH subject to be presented on Mon. Sept. 28, go over instructions/rubric!
- SEPT. 7: **HAPPY** (non) **LABOR DAY!**
- SEPT. 14: Guest Artist: **Cindy Sturdevant**; The Other Renaissance (cont.); Domestic Genres & Women Painters in N. Europe (Chap. 4 p. 114-139)
- *Sunday SEPT. 20: VISIT to the Cincinnati Art Museum (1:30-4:00ish pm) in lieu of CLASS on Mon. OCT 12. Visual Analysis assignment; VA turn-in will be via email on OCT. 12*!**
- SEPT. 21: QUIZ 1; Women Painters in N. Europe (cont.); Amateurs and Academics...(Chap. 5 p. 139-175)
- SEPT. 28: **Student (ppt) presentations of first Research subject**; *Mid-term study guide & review* [Amateurs and Academics...(cont.)]
- OCT. 5: MID-TERM EXAM**; Sex, Class, and Power in Victorian England (Chap. 6 p. 175-205)
- *OCT. 12: CAM Visual Analysis DUE to chouteau@xavier.edu/NO CLASS (in lieu of SEPT. 20TH museum visit!)**
- OCT. 19: **FILM** (*Women in the History of Art* or *Out of the Shadows*)
- OCT. 26: ...American Art in the 19th Century (Chap. 7 p. 205-228); ... Women's Sphere and the New Art (Chap. 8)
Select second RESEARCH subject to be presented on Mon. Nov. 23!
- NOV. 2: Modernism, Abstraction, and the New Woman (Chap. 9); Modernist Representation: The Female Body (Chap. 10)
- NOV. 9: QUIZ 2; Female Body (cont.); Gender, Race, and Modernism after WWII (Chap. 11)
- NOV. 16: Feminist Art in North America and Great Britain (Chap. 12); New Directions overview (Chap. 13);
- NOV. 23: **Student (ppt) presentations of second Research subject**; [New Directions overview (cont.)]
- NOV. 30: Worlds Together, Worlds Apart (Chap. 14) & A Place to Grow (Chap. 15) [the late 20th C. and early 21st C. international art scene & women]
- DEC. 7: VISIT Artist: **Terri Kern** / A Place to Grow (cont.) and The Enduring Legacy of Feminism (Chap. 16)
Final Exam study guide review

DEC. 14 (6-8:30pm): FINAL EXAM & epilogue!

NOTE: The right to add to or delete from this syllabus is reserved by Prof. Chouteau.