2015

ARTS 112-01 The Aesthetic Experience

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SPRING SEMESTER 2015  
ARTS 112-01  THE AESTHETIC EXPERIENCE  
Tuesdays: 4:00-6:30 p.m., Cohen 168c  

DEPARTMENT OF ART  
XAVIER UNIVERSITY  

Prof. SUZANNE CHOUTEAU  
Office Hours: Tues. 10:00 am-2:00 pm and by appointment.  
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REQUIRED TEXT: Frank, Patrick, Prebles’ ArtForms: eleventh edition

INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES:
The course will focus upon artistic expression primarily in visual and performance art through slide lectures, demonstrations/experience of various techniques, exposure to art/artists through films and art exhibitions in order to familiarize students with the identification and understanding of the basic elements of visual aesthetics. An important aspect towards students’ understanding of the role that art/artists have played throughout history is in their inquiry and dialogue during class.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:
• Students will gain an overall view of what constitutes art and the various definitions applied to the idea of art and the role it plays in society.
• Students will gain further insight into their visual past as it is relative to their visual present, and the ways in which this study can be applied to their own studies.
• Students will learn the terminology used to define and discuss art and understand the contextual relevance of art objects and their purposes or lack of, i.e. religious, political, social.
• Students will gain hands-on experience with various modes of making art including collage, drawing, printmaking, and modelling/assemblage.
• Students will demonstrate competency in original written analysis and interpretation of art through examination of facture and representation to discern/ascertain meaning. Biographical research gives further theoretical and historical substance to student’s knowledge of artist and art. (Visual analysis and a creative/research project.)
• Students will demonstrate competency in oral communication of their ability to analyze, interpret and research an artist through a classroom presentation.
• Students will demonstrate knowledge of course material, i.e.: terminology, artists/artworks, stylistic periods and concepts through successful completion of exams.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES:
VISUAL ANALYSIS: Students will be asked to write one 2-3 page visual analysis on a work of art viewed at the Cincinnati Art Museum visit which will be turned in the following week for credit.

CREATIVE/RESEARCH PROJECT: Students will research a selected artist, present the subject in a short 10-12 min. (PowerPoint) presentation that gives general historical background and biographical information on the artist (including plates/color reproductions of the artists and art works discussed, relevant accompanying textual information, and summary bibliography) and create/perform an artifact or visual experience in media of choice inspired by the subject.

EVALUATION OF STUDENTS:
| In/outside-class activities=50 points | 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 |
| 1 Creative/Research Project=100 points | 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 understanding, making, 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: more than ONE absence will result in your final grade being lowered one (1) full letter grade, and the same for every absence thereafter. 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. With each class session an assignment is late, it will be dropped one full letter grade. Laptop computers/cellphones are not permitted in this course for taking notes. 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 references 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
ARTS 112: Aesthetic Experience  TUESDAYS 4:00-6:30pm  Cohen 168c
CLASS SCHEDULE:  The chapters listed on each class date should be READ prior to that class, thank you!

Jan. 13  Introductions and Lecture: Chapters 1-2: *The Nature of Art… and the Functions of Art*

Jan. 20  Chapters 3-5: *The Visual Elements; Principles of Design; Evaluating Art; Creative activity: “Cultural Coolage”* (10 pts.); be prepared to discuss your design and conceptual choices next class!

Jan. 27  **Share work;** Chapters 6-7: *Drawing & Painting;* in/outside-class **Creative activity** (10 pts.): “Journey in Graphite”…

Feb. 3  **Share work;** Chapters 8-9: *Printmaking & Photography;* in/outside-class **Creative activity** (10 pts.): “Hand-pulled prints”…

Feb. 10  **Share work;** Chapters 10-11: *Moving Images: Film… and Design;* in/outside-class **Creative activity** (10 pts.): “Making your mark”…

Feb. 17  **Share work;** Chapters 12-14: *Sculpture; Craft Media; and Arch.;* in/outside-class creative activity (10 pts.): “Sculpey Fetish”… (*Midterm study guide*)

Feb. 24  **MIDTERM EXAM; Share work; Film: Maya Lin**

March 2-6: Happy Spring Break!

Mar. 10  Chapter 15-16: *Earliest Art to the Bronze Age; The Classical and Medieval West*

Mar. 17  Chapter 17: *Renaissance and Baroque Europe*

Mar. 24  **Meet at the Cincinnati Art Museum (Visual Analysis due Mar. 31);** Chapter 20: *Africa, Oceania & the Americas*

Mar. 31  **Visual Analysis DUE;**  Chapter 21: *Late 18th & 19th Centuries*

(*happy Easter Break: thurs April 2, friday April 3 & monday April 6 no classes*)

Apr. 7  Chapters 22-23: *Early Twentieth Century & Between World Wars; select artist for your Creative/Research Project; Presentations with projects DUE April 28!*

Apr. 14  Film: *Frida Kahlo*

Apr. 21  Chapters 24-25: *Postwar Modern Movements & Postmodernity*

Apr. 28  **PRESENTATIONS! (Final Exam study guide)**

MAY. 5  **FINAL EXAM**

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