

RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE
ARTH 110- Art from Prehistory to the Gothic Period

I. Basic Course Information

A. Course Number and Title: ARTH-110 – Art from Prehistory to the Gothic Period

B. New or Modified Course: Modified

C. Date of Proposal: Semester: Spring Year: 2019

D. Effective Term: Summer/Fall 2019

E. Sponsoring Department: Arts and Design

F. Semester Credit Hours: 3

G. Weekly Contact Hours: Lecture: 3
 Laboratory: None
 Out of class student work per week: 6

H. Prerequisites/Corequisites: None

I. Laboratory Fees: No

J. Name and Telephone Number or E-Mail Address of Department Chairs and Divisional Dean at time of approval: John Sichel ext. 8813. John.Sichel@raritanval.edu; Vandana Nadkarni ext. 8937 Vandana.Nadkarni@raritanval.edu
Divisional Dean: Dr. Patrice Marks ext.8802 Patrice.Marks@raritanval.edu

II. Catalog Description

There is no prerequisite for this course.

This course is a basic interdisciplinary survey of western and Islamic art and architecture with strong emphasis on the social, political and cultural contexts of western civilizations from Prehistory through the Gothic period. Students will acquire a visual vocabulary of historical art styles. Museum visits will be arranged during the semester. **Students will be required to write at least one term paper based on a museum visit.** The museum visits, readings and assignments are planned specifically to train the students' visual faculties in analyzing artworks and relating the artworks to their specific context and cultural period.

III. Statement of Course Need

A. This course meets the needs of students of humanities, art history, and studio arts. All four-year degree programs in New Jersey and nationally in Studio Arts and

Art History, **Interior Design and Graphic Design** require the taking of an introductory course in Art History. Students transferring into these programs would not be able to graduate within the two years since they would not have the necessary prerequisite for advanced coursework. This course also fulfills the core course requirements in other Humanities fields and the A.S degree in Interior Architecture and Design

B. This course does not have a lab component

C. Course Transferability:

1. This course generally transfers as a Humanities/Appreciation of the Arts
2. This course transfers as a course in the humanities, art history, visual arts, graphic and interactive design, and interior architecture and design programs.
3. This course transfers to most 4-year programs as a core requirement for art and art history, humanities and as a Free elective for all programs.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

A. Free Elective

B. This course fulfills a General Education course requirement in Humanities/**Appreciation of the Arts**

C. This course meets a core program requirement for AFA Visual Arts, AFA Graphic and Interactive Design as well as the AS degree in Interior Architecture and Design. All four-year degree programs in New Jersey and nationally in Studio Arts, Interior Design, Graphic Design and Art History require the taking of at least one introductory course in Art History.

D. To see course transferability: a) for New Jersey schools, go to the NJ Transfer website, www.njtransfer.org; b) for all other colleges and universities, go to the individual websites.

V. Outline of Course Content

The course is arranged chronologically concentrating upon ten cultural centers of western civilization: Prehistory, Ancient Near East, Ancient Egypt, Aegean and Greek, Etruscan and **Roman**, Early Christian and Byzantine, Islamic, Early Medieval, Romanesque and Gothic.

A. Prehistoric Period:

1. Stone Age Art of the Paleolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic Periods:
Cave painting, sculpture and architecture as seen in Lascaux, Altamira, and Stonehenge.

B. Ancient Near East:

1. The beginning of civilization including Sumerian invention of writing, art, and architecture; other early cultural centers such as Akkad, Babylon, Assyria, and Persia.

C. Ancient Egypt:

1. Old, Middle and New Kingdoms: The influence of politics and

religion on art and architecture the function of art in the Afterlife as seen in tombs, sculpture, paintings and decorative arts.

- D. Aegean and Greek:
 - 1. Prehistoric cultures such as Cycladic, Minoan and Mycenaean.
 - 2. The development of Greek art and architecture through the stylistic periods of Geometric, Archaic, Classical, Hellenistic.
- E. Etruscan and Roman:
 - 1. Etruscans in Northern Italy
 - a. Etruscan architecture: tombs and temples including the sculpture and frescoes
 - 2. The Ancient Romans:
 - a. Engineering and construction innovations as seen in the use of concrete, arches, domes and vaults.
 - b. Roman sculpture, painting and architecture and its influences
- F. Early Christian and Byzantine:
 - 1. Early Christian funerary art and architecture
 - 2. Byzantine churches and mosaics.
- G. Early, Middle and Late Islamic:
 - 1. Rise of Islam and the early development of architecture & the arts in the Near East, Iran, India and Spain
- H. Early Medieval:
 - 1. Monastic culture: manuscripts, decorative arts,
 - 2. Architecture: Celtic, Carolingian and Ottonian periods.
- I. Romanesque Period:
 - 1. The development of monastic art along the pilgrimage roads in France and its influence throughout Europe.
- J. Gothic Period:
 - 1. Early and High Gothic origins in France;
 - a. Innovations in church architecture and its embellishment.
 - b. Gothic stylistic trends in the rest of Europe

VI. General Education and Course Learning Outcomes

A. General Education Learning Outcomes

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Gain greater understanding of different Western cultures and historical periods. (GE- NJ 1, 6,7 *)
2. Demonstrate, both orally and in writing, the contributions and interactions of the different ancient cultures in the Western world. (GE-NJ 1, 6, 7 *, IL)
3. Develop and apply critical and analytical skills to works of art while analyzing and synthesizing available information (GE –NJ 1, 6,7 *, IL)

(* embedded critical thinking)

B. Course Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. to identify and describe specialized categories of architecture, sculpture, and the pictorial arts.
2. to apply and assess the aesthetic categories throughout the different historical periods covered.
3. to examine and assess the evaluation of art works using objective and subjective criteria.
4. to examine the creative process and the inherent problem of representation in producing art forms.

C. Assessment Instruments

Given the outcomes described above the following assessment methods may be used:

1. research papers (required)
2. essays (required)
3. class presentations
4. quizzes (required)
5. tests/exams (required)

VII. Grade Determinants

The following may be used to determine the final grade:

- A. Oral Presentations
- B. Active Class Participation
- C. Quizzes (required)
- D. Final term Paper (required)
- E. Two tests and an exam will be used to assess the general education goals. The essay(s) on the exam will assess the students' ability to:
 1. organize, synthesize and analyze information
 2. write clearly and fluently
 3. identify major artworks (painting, sculpture, architecture) from stylistic periods covered

Given the goals and outcomes described above, the primary formats, modes, and methods for teaching and learning that may be used in the course include:

- A. lecture/discussion
- B. small-group work
- C. computer-assisted instruction
- D. guest speakers
- E. student oral presentations
- F. student collaboration
- G. independent study

VIII. Texts and Materials

The following types of course materials will be used.

- A. suggested textbooks – such as: Adams, Laurie Schneider, *Art Across Time*, Volume 1, McGraw-Hill, latest edition;
Kleiner, *Gardner's Art Through the Ages: Western Perspective, Volume 1* Thomson, Wadsworth, latest edition;
Janson, *History of Art*, Pearson, Prentice Hall, latest edition.
Stokstad, Marilyn, *Art History, Volume 1*, Pearson Prentice Hall, latest edition
Or similar introductory Art History textbooks or OER resources
- B. museum and/or gallery visits
- C. reviews – from journals/magazines/newspapers
- D. film and video sources
- E. audio and web sources
- F. other computer-based sources- CD ROMs - DVDs
- G. other – Powerpoint Slides

(Please Note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.)

IX. Resources

This course requires adequate physical space to accommodate students and visual projection and room darkening capabilities. Flexible space is preferable.

Required Equipment: The classroom will need to be equipped with a projector and screen that will be used at all class meetings.

Additional resources:

- A. Access to the Internet and to the College's Learning Management System
- B. Overhead Projector
- C. **CD and DVD Player**
- D. College Library (including access to an Art Database) & Media Library
- E. College Art Gallery

X. Study Abroad Option:

A. **Catalog Description**

This is a hybrid course (online most of the semester and two weeks in the chosen country) that will provide an immersive and in-situ experience in studying the art, architecture and culture of the chosen region of interest. Students will travel with the class to the selected country or region and will participate in lectures and guided tours of relevant sites. The students will be given writing assignments that will require them to integrate their readings with the different sites and museum visit/s in the country visited. Students will be required to write at least one term paper based on a museum or site visit. There will be additional costs besides the tuition fees for travel, meals, excursions and lodging.

B. Statement of Course Need:

This course will provide a significant expansion of existing RVCC course offerings by enabling important academic experiences for students through travel and immersive studies abroad. The increasingly global nature of our 21st century world makes it imperative for our students to be offered opportunities to interact with and learn about global cultures through study abroad. Through a combination of preparatory classes at RVCC and direct personal travel experiences and study in the country, students will be able to expand and enhance the breadth and depth of their knowledge

C. Outline of Course Content

The course is arranged chronologically concentrating upon ten cultural centers of western civilization: Prehistory, Ancient Near East, Ancient Egypt, Aegean and Greek, Etruscan and Roman, Early Christian and Byzantine, Islamic, Early Medieval, Romanesque and Gothic.

The first class meeting will be an in-person trip logistics and orientation meeting in the week immediately following final exams in mid-May. Since it is a hybrid (online and in-person) class, all course information will be accessible to the students 24/7 online on the College's Learning Management System.

Besides this, it will follow the same chronological format as the regular ARTH 110 course as outlined above.

D. General Education and Course Learning Outcomes

A. General Education Learning Outcomes

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Gain greater understanding of different Western cultures and historical periods. (GE- NJ 1, 6,7 *)
2. Demonstrate, both orally and in writing, the contributions and interactions of the different ancient cultures in the Western world. (GE-NJ 1, 6, 7 *, IL)
3. Develop and apply critical and analytical skills to works of art while analyzing and synthesizing available information (GE –NJ 1, 6,7 *, IL)

(* *embedded critical thinking*)

B. Course Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. to identify and describe specialized categories of architecture, sculpture, and the pictorial arts.
2. to apply and assess the aesthetic categories throughout the different historical periods covered.
3. to examine and assess the evaluation of art works using objective and subjective criteria.

4. to examine the creative process and the inherent problem of representation in producing art forms

C. Assessment Instruments

Given the outcomes described above the following assessment methods may be used:

1. research papers (required)
2. essays (required)
3. class presentations
4. quizzes (required)
5. tests/exams (required)

E. Grade Determinants

The following may be used to determine the final grade:

- A. Oral Presentations (required)
- B. Travel journal
- C. Quizzes (required)
- D. Final term Paper (required)
- E. Two tests and an exam will be used to assess the general education goals. The essay(s) on the exam will assess the students' ability to:
 1. organize, synthesize and analyze information
 2. write clearly and fluently
 3. identify major artworks (painting, sculpture, architecture) from stylistic periods covered

Given the goals and outcomes described above, the primary formats, modes, and methods for teaching and learning that may be used in the course include:

- A. lecture/discussion
- B. small-group work
- C. computer-assisted instruction
- D. guest speakers
- E. student oral presentations
- F. student collaboration
- G. independent study

XI Honors Option:

A. Catalog Description

A survey of western art history (including early Islamic art) with strong emphasis on its relationship to civilization and its cultural context from Prehistory through the Gothic period. Students will acquire a visual vocabulary of historical art styles.

The students will be asked to do additional readings besides the course textbook, such as scholarly articles on related subjects. The students will be given in-class and take home written

assignments that will require them to integrate their readings with the museum visits or films they will be asked to watch. At least two required museum visits will be arranged during the semester.

B. Outline of Course Content

In addition to the Course Content outlined above, this Honor course will require a greater number of specific readings related to the culture being studied in each unit. Students will write a summary of the article and discuss it in groups in class and/or write papers requiring further research on selected topics.

C. General Education and Course Learning Outcomes

A. General Education Learning Outcomes

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Gain greater understanding of different Western cultures and historical periods. (GE- NJ 1, 6,7 *)
2. Demonstrate, both orally and in writing, the contributions and interactions of the different ancient cultures in the Western world. (GE-NJ 1, 6, 7 *, IL)
3. Develop and apply critical and analytical skills to works of art while analyzing and synthesizing available information (GE –NJ 1, 6,7 *, IL)

(* *embedded critical thinking*)

B. Course Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. to identify and describe specialized categories of architecture, sculpture, and the pictorial arts.
2. to apply and assess the aesthetic categories throughout the different historical periods covered.
3. to examine and assess the evaluation of art works using objective and subjective criteria.
4. to examine the creative process and the inherent problem of representation in producing art forms

C. Assessment Instruments

Given the outcomes described above the following assessment methods may be used:

1. research papers (required)
2. essays (required)
3. class presentations
4. quizzes (required)
5. tests/exams (required)

D. Grade Determinants

- A. Active participation in class discussions
- B. Students will write at least two term (analysis and research) papers in which they will demonstrate knowledge and application of the major aesthetic and historical categories covered in the course.
- C. Students will also be given quizzes and writing assignments (in-class or as take-home)
- D. Three exams including a final exam will be used to assess the general education goals. The essay(s) on the exam will assess the students' ability to:
 - 1. organize, synthesize and analyze information.
 - 2. write clearly and fluently.
 - 3. Identify major artworks (painting, sculpture, architecture) within the stylistic periods covered.

Given the goals and outcomes described above, the primary formats, modes, and methods for teaching and learning that may be used in the course include:

- A. lecture/discussion
- B. small-group work
- C. computer-assisted instruction
- D. guest speakers
- E. student oral presentations
- F. student collaboration
- G. independent study