

UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH
SCHOOL OF FINE ART AND MUSIC
Winter Semester 2015
ARTH*2600-01
EARLY MODERN ART



INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Christina Smylitopoulos
TIME: Tuesday and Thursday, 11:30pm – 12:50pm
LOCATION: MacK (MacKinnon) 114
OFFICE: 120 Johnston Hall
PHONE: 519-824-4120, Ext. 53783
EMAIL: csmylito@uoguelph.ca
OFFICE HOURS: Mondays 10:30-11:30am, or by appointment

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

A study of visual culture as it was transformed by the revolutions - industrial, political, and colonial - of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Prerequisite(s): 1 of ARTH*1220, ARTH*1510, ARTH*1520

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course examines the major figures, monuments, and movements in Western art and visual culture of the 'long eighteenth century' (1680s-1830s), a period of profound change that radically transformed European society. Central to our investigations will be how discourses of class, education, morality, national identity, taste, gender, and race were not merely reflected in, but constituted by the art of this period. Themes including the significance of scientific inquiry; the materialization of modern political ideologies; the creation of art academies; the appearance of art spectacles; the emergence of 'publics'; the impacts of industrialization; and, the intersections between urban, regional and colonial art production will be explored. Although the artistic developments of Britain and France will be privileged, this course will also observe the diplomatic, cultural and colonial interactions.

GOALS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES:

The goal of this class is to contextualize works of art within the histories of ideas as well as the histories of formal, stylistic, and material significance. In this class, students will learn how to evaluate the aesthetic, historical, social, and ethical significance of the visual realm; construct plausible methods of analysis in the field of art history and visual culture; and develop a broader and deeper understanding of how visual images inflect and change our understanding of historical events.

REQUIRED TEXT:

There is no specific text. Readings will be assigned on a weekly basis.

METHOD OF EVALUATION:

Mid-Term:	(February 25)	25%
Visual Analysis Assignment:	(March 8 Tour/Write-up Due March 15)	10%
Annotated Bibliography:	(Due: March 29)	20%
Final Exam:	(Scheduled within exam period)	30%
Participation:	(Weekly)	15%