INSTRUCTOR: Martina Meyer, PhD
TIME: Tuesday and Thursday, 2:30 pm-3:50 pm
LOCATION: Rozanski Hall 103
OFFICE: TBA
EMAIL: meyerm@uoguelph.ca
OFFICE HOURS: Thursday, 4pm-5pm, or by appointment

Teaching Assistants: TBA (will be posted to Courselink)

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:
This course considers the visual arts in the Western tradition from prehistory through the Middle Ages. Emphasis will be placed on historical and critical analysis of key monuments and on the prerequisite technologies, as well as on various ways of looking at the visual past and present.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
The course examines the visual arts in the Western tradition from prehistory to circa 1400. This introduction to visual culture and the built environment is intended to foster knowledge, understanding, and an appreciation of the development of what we understand as the Western visual tradition. Historical and geographical contexts will be considered, along with the dominant political, religious, and social concerns of each period. Students will be introduced to the discipline of art history and its methodologies through an emphasis on representative monuments and key approaches to interpretation. Beginning with the prehistoric world the course will go on to explore the ancient near east, Islamic visual culture, the art and architecture of Egypt, the Aegean, ancient Greece, the role of Hellenism, the monuments of ancient Rome and the transition to the medieval European world. The objective of the course is to provide students both with an opportunity to study and learn about ancient cultures as well as the aesthetics and technologies most influential in the development of the Western visual tradition.
LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Students will acquire an introductory background of historical data as well as a basic set of interpretive tools in order to critically locate and understand the production, reception and diffusion of visual codes, styles and techniques belonging to the field of art, from the prehistoric cave paintings of Southern France to the Early Modern world. Cultivating Visual Literacy is a primary goal. Students will:

- Discriminate Art Historical Periods, Prehistory to Early Modern.
- Identify individual art works, architectural monuments by title, medium, location of origin, and period of production.
- Identify the artist’s name or school of art, if known.
- Be conversant with the correct terminology, specific to the arts.
- Comprehend the advancements of technology as it impacts art.
- Understand public vs. private art.
- Conduct an objective, descriptive analysis of a work of art.
- Appreciate the impact of religion and politics in the shaping of visual art.
- Sharpen analytical and critical thinking skills in examining visual media.
- Improve writing and speaking skills through tests and tutorials.
- Be introduced to library databases and other research resources.

REQUIRED TEXT:

Art History, Volume 1, Stokstad, M & M. W. Cothren.
- The Co-op Bookstore has both the 5th and the 6th editions. You may purchase either. They also have the e-text and the unbound text version of the 6th edition. If you want to purchase an earlier edition of the text, you may do that, but there will be some differences in page numbers and content (the earlier the edition, the bigger the differences). The study guide provides both the figure number as per the 6th edition and the object name so that you can still use the earlier texts. Also, Powerpoints will be posted, so images shown in class will always be available.

METHOD OF EVALUATION:

Study Questions x 10 .................................................. 10%
Mid-term exam 1 (October 3rd) ......................................................................................................................... 25%
Mid-term exam 2 (November 2nd) ......................................................................................................................... 25%
Final exam (Dec. 5th, 8:30-10:30, room TBA)**................................................................. 40%

** SCRIBE HERO, online game (completion bonus of 5% will be added to your final exam grade)
- Study questions (no more than 250 words) identifications of a term and its significance. There will be 10 posted to Courselink. They are a great way to study for the midterms and the final.
- Midterm 1 is multiple-choice test (40 questions) based on chapters 1,2,3,4,5 and four brief identifications.
- Midterm 2 is multiple-choice (40 questions), two short identifications, and one unknown object, based on chapters 6,7,8,9,10,11.
- Final Exam is multiple-choice (50 questions) and an essay*. The multiple-choice section will be based on chapters 12, 15,16,17,18. The essay will cover the whole course.
- Further details and examples will be discussed prior to the tests.

* The essay questions will be distributed in the last class of the term. You will have a choice of three questions. ONLY TWO will appear on the final exam. You are required to write ONE essay.

** Study Guides will be posted to Courselink. The guide/s include an image list as well as essential terms, names and definitions. The course is divided into three sections. These guides are intended to help you ‘focus’ your reading of the required chapters in preparation for the midterm.

- Additional materials may be added to Courselink. You will receive email notification of such posts.

For those who miss a mid-term test for documented medical or compassionate reasons, the grade will be redistributed to the other exams. **There will be NO make-up tests.**

**ELECTRONIC RECORDING OF LECTURES:**

Electronic recording of lectures is expressly forbidden without prior consent of the instructor. When recordings are permitted, they are solely for the use of the authorized student, and may not be reproduced, or transmitted to others, without the express written consent of the instructor.

**CSD**

Students must advise the instructor that they are working with the CSD office no later than the first 2 weeks of the term.

**ACCESSIBILITY**

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the
dignity of the individual and the University community’s shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact the Centre for Students with Disabilities (soon to be renamed Student Accessibility Services) as soon as possible. For more information, contact CSD at 519-824-4120 ext. 56208 or email csd@uoguelph.ca or refer to the CSD website. The standard statements are available on the AVPA website (undergraduate courses) or from the Office of Graduate Studies (Graduate Courses).

LIBRARY AND LEARNING COMMONS Services

- Data Resource Centre
- IT Help
- Writing Services
- Learning Services
- Library Accessibility Services
- Research & Information Literacy
- Supported Learning Groups Program

http://www.learningcommons.uoguelph.ca