

## **HUMA 1660 Introduction to Chinese Arts**

**Spring 2020 Fri 15:00-17:50 pm**

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Office Hours: Mon and Wed 10:30-12:00

### **Course Description and Aims**

This course is an introduction to Chinese visual arts from the pre-dynastic periods to the present day. Through lectures, gallery tours, guest talks, written essays and group projects, we examine how art objects are produced and used in ancient China as well as in Hong Kong today. Emphasis will be placed on the appreciation of art objects in their cultural contexts, and the ability to talk, and think about art.

Through lectures, in-class discussions, and students' presentations, this course aims to develop students' ability to read and analyze the visual languages found in different forms of Chinese art, and their ability to react critically to artworks and to make reasoned evaluations based on their understanding and appreciation of different artistic traditions in China.

### **Intended learning Outcomes**

Upon the completion of this course, students should be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate a verbal and analytical familiarity with the formal and technical properties of different forms of Chinese art across time.
- 2 Discuss the formal and stylistic features of particular art works and making reasoned evaluations in relations to the development of different artistic traditions.
3. Articulate the relationship between key works of art and pertinent historical, social-political, philosophical or cultural contexts.
- 4 Review and report on an exhibition of art works in an informed manner, develop communication and presentation skills in both oral and written reports.

## Assessment

- 1 Two Visual Quizzes 50%  
Open book essay question in the form of visual analysis and comparisons. You will be asked to identify images not shown in class by comparing them to artworks introduced in lectures in terms of their forms, contents, contexts as well as other aspects you consider relevant and significant.
- 2 Group Project 35%  
Oral presentation with PPT 30%  
Written paper 5%
- 3 Attendance 10%  
1 point deducted for each unexcused absence from lectures, and 2 points deducted for each absence from guest talks and group project presentations. You need to turn on your web cam to count as attendance. Being late to class or leaving early three 3 times is equal to 1 absence.
- 4 Class participation 5%  
You are encouraged to join discussion and ask questions during lectures, guest talks, and group presentations. One remark/question in class or on Canvas will earn 1 point, up to 5 points.

## Group Project Presentation

For the group project, you will form teams of 4-5 people (the actual number of group mates will depend on the number of confirmed enrollment).

After consulting with the instructor, each team will present an artwork/a group of art works that interests you. You could talk about its/their form (aesthetic quality), production (techniques/materials, artists/artisans), functions, circulation, as well as historical, social and cultural meanings.

The works selected could belong to a genre of traditional Chinese art not covered in class, the continuation/transformation of a course-introduced art genre in contemporary society, or even non-Chinese art influenced by ancient Chinese art. You could conduct your research through museum websites, books, and various sources.

The results of group projects are to be presented orally in class with PPT. Written reports could be handed in a week. Guidelines for assessment schemes and schedules for project consultations will be provided later.

## Course Outline

<b>W1</b>	Feb 5	Introduction/Organization Early Pottery in Late Neolithic Villages
<b>W2</b>	Feb 12	<b><i>Lunar New Year's Day</i></b>
<b>W3</b>	Feb 19	Jade for the Ruling Class
<b>W4</b>	Feb 26	Bronze: Ritual Objects and Political Legitimacy <b><i>Group list due</i></b>
<b>W5</b>	Mar 5	Arts for the Afterlife: Sculpture in Tombs
<b>W6</b>	Mar 12	<b><i>Visual Quiz I</i></b> <i>Guest talk: Ancient Chinese Gold</i>
<b>W7</b>	Mar 19	Art for the Dharma: Buddhist Wall Painting and Sculpture
<b>W8</b>	Mar 26	Ceramics for Domestic Markets and Export
<b>W9</b>	April 2	<b><i>Good Friday</i></b>
<b>W9</b>	April 9	Chinese Calligraphy: Arts of the Cultural Elite
<b>W10</b>	April 16	Chinese Architecture and Garden
<b>W11</b>	April 23	<b><i>Visual Quiz II</i></b> <i>Guest talk: The Sanctuary Space of Chinese Buddhist Temples</i>
<b>W 12</b>	April 30	<i>Group Project Presentation I</i>
<b>W 13</b>	May 7	<i>Group Project Presentation II</i>

## Field Trips

Condition permits, we will arrange one or more field trips over the weekends. Attendance will be optional. Possible sites to visit include:

“Amazing Clay: The Ceramic Collection of the Art Museum 窯火天工：香港中文大學文物館藏歷代陶瓷展”, Art Museum, CUHK 香港中文大學文物館

Tsz Shan Monastery Buddhist Art Museum 慈山寺佛教藝術博物館  
Sotheby's Hong Kong Auction Exhibition Spring 2021

## Reading Assignments

Texts and Images: canvas

### Weekly Reading Assignment

The reading assignments are available at: Course website

You can also find books and catalogues in reserve in the library.

### Reference textbook:

Michael Sullivan, *The Arts of China* (Berkeley: University of California Press, c1984. **N7340.S92 1984 (2 copies)**)

《中國藝術史》(台北：南天書局, 1985) **N7340.S9212 1985 (2 copies)**

### Week 1

Reading Assignment:

鄧白, 〈源遠流長豐富多彩的中國陶瓷〉, 《中國美術全集.工藝美術.陶瓷上》, pp. 5-15,

Reference images:

《中國美術全集.工藝美術.陶瓷》 **N7342.Z46 1984 v.30 pt.1, 2, 3.**

### Week 3

Reading Assignment:

楊伯達, 〈中國古代玉器發展歷程〉, 《中國美術全集.工藝美術.玉器》 pp. 1-6。

Reference images:

《中國美術全集.工藝美術.玉器》 **N7342.Z46 1984 v.34**

### Week 4

Reading Assignment:

李學勤, 〈中國青銅器的起源與發展〉, 《中國美術全集.工藝美術.青銅器》, pp. 1-17。

Reference images:

《中國美術全集.工藝美術.青銅器》 **N7342.Z46 1984 v.31 pt.1&2**

### Week 5

Reading Assignment:

〈雕塑藝術〉《中國文化導讀》, 頁 410-429. **DS721 Y388 1999**

Reference images:

《中國美術全集.工藝美術／秦漢雕塑》 **N7342.Z46 1984 v.18**

《中國美術全集／魏晉南北朝雕塑》 **N7342.Z46 1984 v.19**

《中國美術全集／隋唐雕塑》 **N7342.Z46 1984 v.20**

### Week 6

Reference Readings:

Emma Bunker, "Gold in the Ancient Chinese World: A Cultural Puzzle," *Artibus Asiae* (1993, Vol.53): 27–50.

童宇,〈從四種基礎工藝看中國古代金工的發展〉, 載蘇州博物館編,《黃金為尚: 歷史·交流·工藝》展覽圖錄(2021年待刊)。

### Week 7

#### Reading Assignment:

〈雕塑藝術〉《中國文化導讀》, 頁 410-429.

劉玉權,〈敦煌彩塑的特點與風格〉,《中國美術全集·敦煌彩塑》, pp. 19-31。

#### Reference images:

《中國美術全集／敦煌彩塑》N7342.Z46 1984 v.23

《中國美術全集／麥積山石窟雕塑》N7342.Z46 1984 v.24

《中國美術全集／雲岡石窟雕刻》N7342.Z46 1984 v.26

《中國美術全集／龍門石窟雕刻》N7342.Z46 1984 v.27

### Week 8

#### Reading Assignment:

〈海上絲綢之路〉《中國文化導讀》, **DS721 Y388 1999 (2 copies)**, 頁 368-383.

〈隋、唐、宋時期的中國陶瓷〉,《陶瓷／中國美術全集》, pt. 2, pp. 1-30.

〈中國元明清陶瓷美術〉,《陶瓷／中國美術全集》, pt.3, pp. 1-25.

#### Reference images:

《中國美術全集·工藝美術·陶瓷》N7342.Z46 1984 v.30 pt.1, 2, 3.

#### References:

“Ceramics for Use,” *British Museum Book of Chinese Art*, N7342.B75 1993, pp. 212-255.

李知宴《中國陶瓷文化史》, NK4165 L517 1996

劉良佑《陶瓷》, NK4165 L553 1987

### Week 9

#### Reading Assignment:

〈書法藝術〉《中國文化導讀》, 頁 430-457.

#### Reference images:

《中國美術全集—書法》N7342.Z46 1984 v.45-49

### Week 10

#### Reading Assignment:

〈中國建築之特徵〉, 梁思成《中國建築史》, .頁 11-25, NA1540 L537 1998

〈園林建築藝術〉《中國文化導讀》, 頁 602-615.

#### Reference images:

《宮殿建/築／中國美術全集》N7342.Z46 1984 v. 38

《園林建築／中國美術全集》N7342.Z46 1984 v. 40