The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

UG Course Syllabus

Fall 2024

<mark>**Appreciation of Western Art**</mark>

<mark>**HUMA 1650**</mark>

3 Credits

Name of Instructor: Anna KWONG

Email: hmakwong@ust.hk

Office Hours: Mondays 4:30-5:30 pm, Room 218 (Shaw Auditorium)

Name of TA: Jeremy CHUI

Email: ytchuiac@connect.ust.hk

Consultation: by appointment

Course Description

The course is an introduction to the appreciation of art through selected works of painting and sculpture from the West, from ancient periods to the present. Students will learn to use different approaches to understand the language of art and the complexity of artistic creation in Western culture.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

ILO1. describe the scope, diversity of themes and subject matter, central issues, major forms and styles of Western art at a fundamental level;

ILO2. demonstrate an understanding of the language of art and through it a wide range of artworks and art practices;

ILO3. apply the methodology of art appreciation to describe, discuss and analyze artworks in both oral and written formats.

Class Schedule and Topics

Venue for Mid-term Quiz: to be announced

SEPTEMBER

Monday		Wednesday		Week
2	Introduction	4	Language of Art 1	1
9	Language of Art 2	11	Materials and Techniques 1	2
16	Materials and Techniques 2	**18**	**NO CLASS**	3
23	Art Genres 1	25	Art Genres 2	4
30	Art Genres 3			5

OCTOBER

Monday		Wednesday		Week
		2	Methodology of Art Appreciation Art Style 1: Classical Art 1 **Formation of Presentation Groups**	5
7	Art Style 1: Classical Art 2	**9**	**Mid-Term Quiz**	6
14	Art Style 2: Renaissance Art	16	Art Style 3: Baroque Art	7
21	Art Style 4: Neoclassicism and Romanticism	23	Art Style 5: Impressionism	8
28	Art Style 6: Modern Art **Presentation topic due**	30	Special Topic 1: The Human Body	9

NOVEMBER

Monday		Wednesday		Week
4	Special Topic 2: Artist and Patronage	6	Special Topic 3: Social and Historical Contexts	10
11	Special Topic 4: Gender and Ethnicity	13	Special Topic 5: Rethinking Art	11
18	Group Presentations 1-4	20	Group Presentations 5-8	12
25	Group Presentations 9-12	**27**	Group Presentations 13-15 **Review and Conclusion**	13

Study break: 2-7 Dec 2024
Final exam period: 9-20 Dec 2024

Assessment and Grading

This course will be assessed using criterion-referencing and grades will not be assigned using a curve. Detailed rubrics for each assignment are provided below, outlining the criteria used for evaluation.

Assessments:

Assessment Task	Contribution to Overall Course grade (%)	Due date
Mid-Term Quiz	25%	09/10/2024*
Group Project & Presentation	25%	18/11/2024-27/11/2024
Final Examination	35%	to be announced
Attendance & Comments on Presentations	15%	Comment forms have to be submitted at the end of each class

* Assessment marks for individual assessed tasks will be released within two weeks of the due date.

Mapping of Course ILOs to Assessment Tasks

Assessed Task	Mapped ILOs	Explanation
Mid-Term Quiz	ILO1, ILO2	This task assesses students' understanding of the language of art (ILO2), materials and techniques, and art genres in Western art (ILO1, ILO2).
Group Project & Presentation	ILO2, ILO3	This task assesses students' ability to apply the methodology of the appreciation of art to a topic selected by themselves (ILO2, ILO3). It will also check their ability to work in a group to research and generate presentation material on the chosen topic and to present their work in class (ILO3).
Final Examination	ILO1, ILO2, ILO3	This task assesses students' understanding of art styles and the special topics taught in the course (ILO1, ILO2). The essay question will check their ability to discuss art critically and analytically (ILO3).
Attendance & Comments on Presentations	ILO1, ILO2, ILO3	Attendance is checked to ensure students' in-class participation in which open discussion will be conducted from time to time (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3).

Grading Rubrics

Marking Scheme for Group Project and Presentation:

Assessment criteria	Elaboration of the criteria	Weighting (in points)
Preparation and PPT visuals	participation in consultation meetings; quality of presentation file, effort put into the design, polishing and editing	20
Research and contents	sufficiency, relevance and accuracy of contents; ability to make use of materials taught in class; no redundancy	30
Theoretical and stylistic issues	academic quality of theoretical framework; originality of interpretation and analysis	30
Coordination between partners	evidence of positive interaction between partners in the preparatory work and during presentation	10
Presentation skills and time management	ability to arouse interest, level of verbal skills; fair division of time and workload among members	10
Total	contributes to 25% of overall grading	100 points

Descriptors of Range of Scores for Group Project and Presentation:

Scores	Short Description	Elaboration on the description
23-25	Excellent Performance	Research is comprehensive and insightful. Demonstrates a high degree of originality and critical thinking. Presentation is well-organized, engaging and delivered with confidence. Visual aids are clear and well-designed.
20-22	Good Performance	Research is quite good. Shows a certain degree of originality and critical thinking. Presentation is effective. Visual aids are of good quality.
16-19	Satisfactory Performance	Demonstrates sufficient work and fair preparation. Presentation is banal and delivered satisfactorily to meet basic learning goals. Visual aids are basic.
11-15	Poor Performance	Insufficient work in all aspects. Presentation is not effective. Visual aids are sloppy and may contain some mistakes.
0-10	Extremely Poor Performance	Extremely poor research and preparation. Frequently absent from consultations. Unable to improve and/or take in advice for improvement. Presentation is a total failure.

Descriptors of Range of Scores for Mid-term Quiz:

Scores	Short Description	Elaboration on the description
23-25	Excellent Performance	Demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of the material covered in the quiz. Shows a maximum degree of accuracy. Answers are complete, insightful and well-articulated.
19-22	Good Performance	Exhibits a strong understanding of the quiz content. Answers are accurate in general. The student has a solid grasp of the knowledge acquired.
15-18	Satisfactory Performance	Displays a satisfactory understanding of the quiz material. Answers are basic and lack detail. The student shows a general familiarity with the subject.
9-14	Poor Performance	Demonstrates limited understanding of the quiz content. Answers are incomplete or contain significant errors. The student exhibits a poor grasp of the subject.
0-8	Extremely Poor Performance	Exhibits a poor understanding of the quiz material. Answers are missing or entirely inaccurate. The student shows extremely poor comprehension of the essential content.

Final Grade Descriptors:

Grades	Short Description	Elaboration on subject grading description
A	Excellent Performance	Demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of the diversity of themes, forms and styles of Western art. Exhibits exceptional critical thinking in the application of the methodology of art appreciation in explaining and analyzing artworks. Exhibits a high capacity for scholarship and collaboration, going beyond core requirements to achieve learning goals.
B	Good Performance	Shows good knowledge and understanding of Western art. Demonstrates good critical thinking in explaining and analyzing artworks. Displays high motivation to learn and the ability to work effectively with others.
C	Satisfactory Performance	Possesses adequate knowledge of Western art and the methodology of art appreciation. Shows persistence and effort to achieve broadly defined learning goals.
D	Marginal Pass	Has basic knowledge of Western art and the methodology of art appreciation. Shows limited effectiveness in learning and self-monitored course work.
F	Fail	Demonstrates insufficient understanding of Western art and the methodology of art appreciation. Exhibits minimal effort towards achieving learning goals. Does not meet the threshold requirements for further development in the discipline.

Communication and Feedback

Assessment marks for individual assessed tasks will be communicated via Canvas within two weeks of submission. Students who have questions about the feedback including marks should consult the instructor within five working days after the feedback is received. Paper-checking sessions will be held within five working days after the release of the marks.

Resubmission Policy

No resubmission or reassessment is allowed. All works have to be completed within the deadlines. Marks will be deducted for late submissions.

Make-up Policy

Make-up quiz/exam will only be offered to those who cannot attend owing to unpredictable reasons and with mark reduction.

Course AI Policy

The use of Generative AI is optional and permitted to assist students with brainstorming, drafting, and generating their presentation material. The use of Generative AI or any other forms of on-site aids is strictly prohibited in the mid-term quiz and final exam.

Required Texts and Materials

1.   Basic Literature

Barnet, Sylvan. *A Short Guide to Writing about Art.* Pearson, 2015.

Huntsman, Penny. *Thinking about Art: A Thematic Guide to Art History.* Wiley-Blackwell, 2015.

Strickland, Carol. *The Annotated Mona Lisa: a Crash Course in Art History from Prehistoric to Post-Modern.* Andrews McMeel Publishing, 1992.

2.   Further Readings

Kleiner, Fred S. *Gardner's Art through the Ages: A Global History.* Australia: Wadsworth, Cengage Learning, c2011.

Beyeler Foundation, ed. *What is Art? 27 Questions 27 Answers*. Hatje Cantz, 2012.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yMiK7dj33S8&t=21s

Weekly Reading List (additional items will be added to some topics):

Week 1-2   Barnet, pp. 36-41; Huntsman, pp. 1-2, 6-14

Week 2-3   Huntsman, pp.74-98

Week 4-5   Huntsman, pp. 20-68

Week 5-13   Barnet, pp. 69-106 (research and project presentation)

Week 5-6   Huntsman, pp. 114-121

Week 7   Huntsman, pp. 122-128; Strickland, pp. 32-38, 46-48

Week 8   Huntsman, pp. 128-137; Strickland, pp. 68-78

Week 9   Huntsman, pp. 138-143, 62-67

Week 10   Huntsman, pp. 190-223, 156-185

Week 11   Huntsman, pp. 230-249, 266-269

Recommended Additional Resources

Louvre Museum, Paris. https://www.louvre.fr/en

Musée d'Orsay, Paris. https://www.musee-orsay.fr/fr

Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection

MoMA: Museum of Modern Art, New York. https://www.moma.org/

National Gallery, London. https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/

TATE, London. https://www.tate.org.uk/

Uffizi Gallery Museum, Florence. http://www.uffizi.org/

Vatican Museums, Vatican. http://mv.vatican.va/3_EN/pages/MV_Home.html

Edited 02/09/2024