

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

UG Course Syllabus

Understanding Western Painting

HUMA 2670

3 Credits

No pre-/co-requisites

Name of Instructor: Anna KWONG

Email: hmakwong@ust.hk

Office Hours: Mondays 4:30-5:30 pm, Room SA218 (Shaw Auditorium)

Course Description

This course gives students fundamental knowledge of the masterpieces of Western painting through an outline of chronology, painting genres, painting techniques and styles from ancient Greece to the 20th century.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)

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

- ILO1. have a general understanding of the basic terminology of Western painting;
- ILO2. know the chronology, painting genres, painting techniques, material components and the most representative works of Western painting from ancient Greece to the 20th century;
- ILO3. identify the stylistic characteristics of different epochs and examine them in relation to aesthetic theories, historical circumstances and socio-economic and cultural conditions of their emergence;
- ILO4. have personal contact with artworks through a visit to a local museum.

Field Trip/Museum Visit

A visit to the exhibition *"The Hong Kong Jockey Club Series: Cézanne and Renoir Looking at the World — Masterpieces from the Musée de l'Orangerie and the Musée d'Orsay"* in the Hong Kong Museum of Art will be arranged. Participation is compulsory. Details will be announced.

<https://hk.art.museum/en/web/ma/exhibitions-and-events/cezanne-and-renoir-looking-at-the-world.html>

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
Short Quiz 1	25%	to be confirmed*
Short Quiz 2	25%	to be confirmed*
Final Examination	40%	to be confirmed
Attendance	10%	not applicable

* 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
Short Quiz 1	ILO1, ILO2, ILO3	This task assesses students' ability to understand and use their knowledge of the terminology (ILO1), chronology, materials and techniques (ILO2) and characteristics of different styles of Western painting (ILO3).
Short Quiz 2	ILO1, ILO2, ILO3	This task assesses students' ability to understand and use their knowledge of the terminology (ILO1), chronology, materials and techniques (ILO2) and characteristics of different styles of Western painting (ILO3).
Final Exam	ILO1, ILO2, ILO3	This task assesses students' ability to understand and use their knowledge of the terminology (ILO1), chronology, materials and techniques (ILO2) and characteristics of different styles of Western painting (ILO3).
Attendance	ILO1, ILO2, ILO3	Attendance is checked to ensure students' active participation in class for efficient learning (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3).

Grading Rubrics

Descriptors of Range of Scores for the Quizzes:

Scores	Short Description	Elaboration on the description
23-25	Excellent Performance	Demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of the development of Western painting.

20-22	Good Performance	Shows good knowledge of the development of Western painting.
16-19	Satisfactory Performance	Demonstrates sufficient work and fair performance.
11-15	Poor Performance	Insufficient work and more effort is expected.
0-10	Extremely Poor Performance	Extremely poor work, needs much more effort to achieve a satisfactory result.

Final Grade Descriptors:

Grades	Short Description	Elaboration on subject grading description
A	Excellent Performance	Demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of the development of Western painting. Exhibits a high capacity for critical thinking and scholarship, going beyond core requirements to achieve learning goals.
B	Good Performance	Shows good knowledge and understanding of the development of Western painting. Demonstrates good critical thinking and displays high motivation to learn.
C	Satisfactory Performance	Possesses adequate knowledge of Western painting. Shows persistence and effort to achieve broadly defined learning goals.
D	Marginal Pass	Has basic knowledge of Western painting. Shows limited effectiveness in learning.
F	Fail	Demonstrates insufficient understanding of Western painting. Exhibits minimal effort towards achieving learning goals. Does not meet the threshold requirements for further development in the discipline.

Course AI Policy

The use of Generative AI or any other forms of on-site aids is strictly prohibited in the quizzes and final exam since all are in closed-book format.

Communication and Feedback

Assessment marks for individual assessed tasks will be communicated via Canvas within two weeks of submission. Paper-checking sessions will be arranged for each assessment unit.

Make-up Policy

Make-up arrangement for quizzes and final exam will only be offered to those who cannot attend owing to unpredictable reasons (e.g. medical) and with mark reduction.

Required Texts and Materials

Benton, Janetta Rebold. *Art of the Middle Ages*. London: Thames & Hudson, 2002.

Kemp, Martin (Ed.). *The Oxford History of Western Art*. OUP, 2000.

Kleiner, Fred S. *Gardner's Art Through the Ages: A Global History*. (Enhanced 13th edition). Australia: Wadsworth, Cengage Learning, c2011.

Woodford, Susan. *The Art of Greece and Rome*. (2nd Ed.) Cambridge University Press, 2004.

Internet Resources

Khan Academy, online arts and humanities course: Art History.

<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/art-history#approaches-to-art-history>

The Metropolitan Museum of Art Timeline of Art History www.metmuseum.org/toah

Louvre Museum, Paris. www.louvre.fr

Museum d'Orsay, Paris. www.musee-orsay.fr

National Gallery of Art, Washington DC. www.nga.gov

Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam. www.rijksmuseum.nl

Tate Galleries. www.tate.org.uk

Web Gallery of Art. www.wga.hu

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to adhere to the university's academic integrity policy. Students are expected to uphold HKUST's Academic Honor Code and to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. The University has zero tolerance of academic misconduct. Please refer to [Academic Integrity | HKUST – Academic Registry](#) for the University's definition of plagiarism and ways to avoid cheating and plagiarism.

Edited 14/01/2025