

Art 170: Western Art History: Prehistory to c. 1750

Camosun College, Winter 2003

Instructor: Nancy Yakimoski, Visual Arts Dept.

Office: 101A Young

Office hrs: Mon & Wed, 7.30-8 pm, or by special arrangement

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Class: Mon & Wed, 6 - 7:20 pm in Young 300

1. Course description

Welcome to the *fascinating* world of art history!

This course explores both Western and non-Western art and architecture (emphasis on Western art), beginning with pre-history and moving chronologically to approximately 1750 CE. Because it is impossible to cover all historical periods, only a select few eras, artists, countries, etc., can be addressed. The artistic legacies we do investigate will be considered in specific cultural and historic context(s), and discussed according to their meaning and function in relation to the specific society and culture which produced the art/architecture. Art & architecture will also be examined according to styles, techniques, and developments.

Note: this is a university-transfer class (UT class). As such, this class is taught at a university level, and the course requirements (exams, research paper) are marked according to a 100 level UT.

Course requirements		
midterm	17 Feb 2003	30%
essay/art project	17 Mar 2003	30%
notebook	at midterm & final exam (2x5%)	10%
final exam	TBA	30%

2. Required text & writer's style manual

The required text is: *Art History* by Marilyn Stokstad et. al., **2nd edition, ONLY!** There are new copies available at Camosun Bookstore; the text is on reserve at the library (N5300 S923 2002). You will also need a writer's style manual. One of my favourites is Diana Hacker's *A Canadian Pocket Style Manual*; there are also copies of style manuals in the library & in the Learning Skills Centre.

3. Mandatory attendance at ONE art history conference, or artist talk, or public lecture on art

Part of the course requirement is to attend ONE art history conference from the list below, and listen to 2 or 3 papers; in 2 or 3 paragraphs in your “Notebooks” (assignment): (1) summarize the key arguments of ONE paper; (2) write your personal response to the arguments.

Note: the purpose of your attendance is twofold: to see art history “in action” and second, to give you an idea of what an art history paper can cover and the various ways that art history can be approached and discussed.

- ***Visual Impetus 6 Conference*** (History in Art graduate & undergraduate students); **Jan 24-25** in the Fine Arts Building, UVic campus, room 103. (Exact date & time to be confirmed). There is no registration; admission is free.

- ***The Love of Learning in the Middle Ages*** (Medieval Workshop at UVic: MacLaurin Bldg; room MAC A144—lecture hall; free parking on Saturdays); Saturday **Feb. 8** from 9-5. National and international speakers presenting papers on this topic. To register and pay, contact Continuing Studies, University of Victoria; tel: 472-4747; their office is located on the 2nd floor in the University Center. Student rate (not including lunch): \$6.42 (inc. tax). There are only a few seats reserved for students!

4. WebCT

There is a WebCT site developed for this class. It features the overheads from each class, assignments, style manuals, as well as an essay writing tutorial/guide to help students at varying levels of their academic writing. A separate sheet with instructions on how to access the site will be given out.

5. Reserve material -- Camosun Library

There is reserve material for this class at Camosun library, including the text book, reference books, and a really fabulous series of videos.

- **The essential reference for art history: *Grove Dictionary of Art***; Reference section.

This 30+ volume “dictionary” is THE art historical reference material *for our lifetime*! Use it like an encyclopedia by looking up specific artists, art techniques and methods, art periods, specific saints, etc. It provides very detailed background information as well as key bibliographic list of key sources on that subject. This should be your first place to look for info on your essay topic.

6. Course requirements: descriptions & expectations

a) mid term (30%) & final exam (30%)

Exams are based on a combination of lecture notes *and* material from the assigned readings. Just reading the text or attending the lectures will not be enough!

The format of the exams can include:

- definitions, diagrams, and/or short answer
- slide identifications with specific questions
- essay-length answers to specific questions

b) research essay with art project option (30%)

This is an **academic** exploration of an art historical topic or a specific piece of art. I encourage students to create their own essay topic based on their interests or on a piece of art or architecture that they have seen in their travels. If you cannot come up with a topic, consult the writing tutorial for some possible

topics or chat with me! With either option, the essay topics **must** fall within the cultures and time periods we cover in this course.

There are two options for the research essay/art project

With either option, select an essay research topic based on your own interests.

- the topic must fall within the time eras & cultures we study in this class (see list of lectures)
- all topics & art projects must be approved by me **prior to** beginning your research and art making

NOTE: you **MUST** begin your research at Camosun library and then go to UVic; our librarians are supposed to train you. However, there are also free UVic library orientations the first 2 weeks of term.

option # 1 (essay only):

- research & write an 8 - 10 page, double-spaced research essay (essay text only: 2000 - 2500 words)
- do not exceed 2750 words; I stop reading at the end of page 11.

option # 2 (shorter essay & art project):

- research and write an 8 page paper, double spaced (2000 words of essay text) **AND** make a substantial art piece
 - the art piece **must** highlight a key concept of your paper
 - the idea for the art must be approved by Nancy **before** you begin creating
 - the art project itself is not marked but it must be a well-considered project
- note:** there is a “show and tell” with art projects (in class) the day the essays are due

Essay expectations

- the following list is what I expect & look for when grading Art 170 essays
- for more specific information, see WebCT site for “grading criteria”

*** the essay must contextualize your topic in the society/culture of which it was a part**

Your essays must do more than provide information on an artist & describe what the art piece looks like or how it was made. This paper must describe **AND** analyze (that is, connect the description of the art to an analysis of a set of questions).

For example, if your essay argues that Napoleon commissioned portraits of himself for propagandic purposes, your essay would examine Napoleon’s reasons for needing propagandic portraits, and then examine a portrait or two that is considered propagandic. When analyzing these portraits, you would describe and discuss specific elements that constructed a certain idea of Napoleon (the propagandic aspects), and how the viewers were meant to interpret the painting.

*** the topic is well-researched & information comes from a variety of strong academic sources**

- info comes from a variety of books and journals; *some* web info is allowed (2 entries maximum)

note: in addition to using the Camosun library, you will need to use the main library at UVic

*** the topic is discussed & presented in a logical, coherent, and clear manner**

- the information must be organized and presented in a clear & logical manner
- there are very few (if any) spelling mistakes, grammar issues, awkwardly worded sentences, etc.

*** the essay must use proper format for a research paper** (see web site for specifics)

- consider this the “packaging and presentation” of your essay--it’s quite important!

*** source material MUST BE CITED; must use EITHER footnotes or endnotes**

-essays for Art 170 MUST USE footnotes or endnotes with a Bibliography at the end of the essay

-No APA or MLA is allowed

-see the WebCT site for on-line style manuals

Note: essays without in-text citations & a bibliography page will automatically receive a failing grade

Academic consequences if source material is not cited

-Not citing your sources in your papers is a form of plagiarism and therefore cannot receive a passing grade. If you are not sure about when and how to cite your sources, consult your *Style Manual*, or see the writing tutorial on the Art 170 website. If there is extensive plagiarism, you can fail the class and steps can be taken to have you removed from the College.

Opportunity for a “pre-read” of your essay

To assist students in developing strong researching, writing, and proofing skills, you will be able to submit your complete essay to me to proof ONCE before final grading. By complete, I mean the main essay text is finished (including introduction and conclusion), and the citations and the sources are quoted and in proper format. Please be aware that this pre-read requires much extra time on my part and that I **expect** the comments and suggestions made on the first copy will be followed up and evident in the final submitted essay. Your first draft of the essay must be submitted with your second draft when handing the paper in for the final grading. I encourage you to read the “essay writing tutorial” on WebCT; it provides tips and suggestions on essay researching and writing. Remember that you are welcome to come and chat with me to ask specific questions.

7. the “notebook” (10% total)

To assist you with managing the rather large quantity of information this course covers, you will be required to keep a “notebook.” This notebook consist of your definitions to the vocabulary words given at each class as well as drawing and labeling diagrams, and the occasional (small) assignment given in class. The notebook is YOUR PERSONAL, CUSTOMIZED STUDY GUIDE. It is a place to manage, simplify, and synthesize lecture notes & information from the text. The notebook is separate from your class notes; it may take whatever form you prefer: coil book, loose leafs in a folder, etc. The notebook will be taken in for grading the day you write your midterm & final exam. Photocopied pages of handwritten notebooks will not be accepted; if it is turned in, it will receive a failing grade.

Note: Should the same or very similar word processed notebook be handed in by 2 or more people, the total grade will be divided evenly between the number of parties.

8. Late essay and “notebook” assignments

Late assignments will be penalized. Until I hold the assignment in my hands, 3% per week day will be deducted from the final assignment grade. The weekend (Sat & Sun) counts as 1 day.

NOTE: Assignments may not be accepted after 1 calendar week (7 days) from due date unless special permission is arranged beforehand.

9. Missed exams & Make-up exams

If a student misses an exam due to illness or extenuating circumstances, notify the instructor immediately (voice mail is acceptable). Medical (written) certification must be produced within **three** (3) week days of missed exam before alternate testing will be arranged; otherwise a grade of “0” will be

issued for that exam. The make-up exam is scheduled within 3 week days of the missed exam. Please be aware that make-up exams are completely essay-based and usually consist of four different essays, each approximately 8-10 paragraphs in length; the essays may or may not reflect the “review” sheet handed out at the review class.

10. Student resources available

- the **Learning Skills Centre** (Fisher 128; tel: 370-3583) has a number of excellent workshops on time management, reading textbooks, learning from lectures, writing exams and so forth. There is a learning skills counselor available for individual appointments (including helping you with your essay writing). These services are free to students but book way, way ahead of time! (like tomorrow for an appointment mid term or later).
- **hire a tutor** to help you with studying for your course or proof reading essays; see the Learning Skills Centre (Fisher 128; tel: 370-3583) for a list of tutors. Or, ask me for names of qualified people.
- if **English** is not your first language, consider one of the following:
 - talk to the ESL center (370- 3322) to see if you can be tutored by a teacher
 - hire a qualified tutor that has a high level of English to help you

11. Miscellaneous

- tape recording my lectures is **not** permitted unless English is your second language or other circumstances warrant recording the lectures. Chat with me first.
- “good citizenship” is expected in my classes: no excessive talking during my lectures, no cell phones .

12. Accommodating student disabilities

In order to accommodate student disabilities, you must register with Disability Support Services. Call Kathy at 370-3312 to make an appointment to see Susan. Or, stop by their office (234 Ewing). You must bring documentation of your disability; if you do not have this, Susan will direct you. After registering, you can receive accommodation such as tutoring, extra time for assignments, and special equipment. All information is confidential.

Grade scale

A+	95-100%	B+	80-84%	C+	65-69%	F	0-49%
A	90-94%	B	75-79%	C	60-64%		
A-	85-89%	B-	70-74%	D	50-59%		

Scheduled lectures (subject to change)

06 Jan	introduction class
08 Jan	Prehistoric art
13 Jan	Ancient Egypt, part I
15 Jan	Ancient Egypt (architecture), part II
20 Jan	Aegean Art
22 Jan	Ancient Greece, part I
27 Jan	Ancient Greece, part II
29 Jan	Etruscan; Roman, part I
03 Feb	Roman, part II
05 Feb	Early Christian

10 Feb Byzantine
12 Feb **talk about essays; slide review** (prehistoric-Byzantine)

-----**Camosun reading break:** Thursday Feb. 13 & Friday 14 Feb.-----

17 Feb **MID TERM EXAM (notebooks due before you write)**
19 Feb **mandatory library orientation** (to be confirmed); **MEET IN CLASSROOM FIRST!**
24 Feb Islamic art
26 Feb Pre-Colombian art
03 mar art of India
05 Mar art of China
10 Marearly Medieval; **last day for Nancy to pre-read your essay**
12 Mar Romanesque
17 Mar Gothic; **ESSAYS DUE** & “show and tell” with the art pieces
19 Marearly Renaissance (North) - 15th C
24 Marearly Renaissance (Italy) - 15th C
26 Marlater Renaissance (North) - 16th C
31 Marlater Renaissance (Italy) - 16th C
02 Apr Italian Mannerism
07 Apr Baroque (and intro to Rococo)
09 Apr **slide review “hint day”**
TBA **final exam; notebooks due for grading** (exam based on Islamic-Rococo)

want to check out my Art 170 web page?

I'm designing a tutorial component to my Art 170 and Art 150 courses and thought I would let every one know so that if they were interested, they could go on-line and check it out.

If you would like to see what I've been doing, here's how you access my Art 170 site:

open up	Netscape or Explorer
log on to	http://deserv1.camosun.bc.ca:8950/webct/public/home.pl
click on	see courses on this server
under "category" click on	Arts and Sciences
click on	the self-registration icon beside "Art 170"

For your Camosun-based WebCT courses

Go to <http://deserv1.camosun.bc.ca:8950/> and click on the **myWebCT** link. A dialog box will prompt you to enter your User Name and Password, enter your User Name and your initial password (your instructor will give this to you).

Username: Camosun College ID (e.g. C1234567)

Password: is ***changeme*** . You should change your password right away.