

# Spring 2017 Courses in ART HISTORY

**ARTH 282**

## **Introduction to World Art**



*Multiple sections, see My NIU*      *Profs. S. Bell, H. Nagata, M. Quinlan, A. van Dijk*

An introduction to the ways in which human civilization has imagined itself and expressed its vision of the world over time and in different cultural contexts across the globe, this course also considers how these arts continue to be interpreted by contemporary scholars and audiences.

*This course satisfies PLUS (Creativity and Critical Analysis) and Gen Ed (Humanities and the Arts) requirements. This course is required for all students in the School of Art and Design.*

**ARTH 292**

## **Art and Design Since 1900**

*MWF 11-11:50am*

*Profs. B. Jaffee, R. Houze, S. Evans*



A wide-ranging survey of artworks and practices that have challenged the artistic status quo while responding to the diverse economic, political, and social contexts of the recent past and present.

*This course satisfies PLUS (Creativity and Critical Analysis) and Gen Ed (Humanities and the Arts) requirements. This course is required for all students in the School of Art and Design.*

**ARTH 294**

## **Art History Survey: Arts of Asia**

*Tu 6-8:40pm*

*Prof. C. Raymond*



This course presents a chronological and thematic study of six millennia of the arts and architecture in China, Japan, India and Southeast Asia, including burial arts from the neolithic through the T'ang dynasty, and encompassing Buddhist and Taoist ritual arts, painting, calligraphy, sculpture, ceramics, prints, garden design and architecture. We will study works in a wide variety of media – jade, bronze, wood, lacquer, silk, ceramics and paper – examining their emergence within their historical, religious and cultural contexts, as well as the persistent influence of their creation within the cultural and archeological setting. This course has no pre-requisites, and no previous exposure to Asian art is necessary.

*This course satisfies PLUS (Creativity and Critical Analysis) and Gen Ed (Humanities and the Arts) requirements. This course is required for art history majors.*

**ARTH 310F/510F****Studies in Ancient and Middle Eastern Art: Etruscan and Early Roman Art**

M 6-8:40pm

Prof. S. Bell

The Etruscans were a vibrant, independent people whose distinct civilization flourished in central Italy for most of the first millennium BCE and whose artistic, social and cultural traditions helped shape the ancient Mediterranean, European, and Classical worlds. This course surveys Etruscan art and culture, incorporating the most up-to-date research (e.g., DNA findings) and archaeological discoveries (e.g., textile archaeology). In addition to addressing traditional topics, such as architecture, wall painting, ceramics, and sculpture, this course will look at such topics as Etruscan jewelry as an expression of social identity, the important role of women in its society, the supposed "taste" for violence in Etruscan art, the reception of the Etruscans in Greek and Latin literature, and the afterlife of their civilization (including the impact of looting and the modern antiquities trade).

ARTH 310F satisfies PLUS (Society and Culture) and Gen Ed (Humanities and the Arts) requirements and has been certified as "Writing Infused." ARTH 510F by permit only.

**ARTH 350C/550C****Studies in Contemporary Art: 1960-present**

MW 2-3:15pm

Prof. S. Evans

Any artist works within an historically distinct and limited field of possibilities defined by the artworld—defined, that is, in the discourses of other artists, critics, theorists, historians, curators, dealers and collectors. Thus, study of the history of art is really a study of ideas about art. The era of contemporary art begins in the mid-1950s, when artists adopt Duchamp's insight that art is conceptual, not visual. This means that an artwork is not primarily a visually stimulating object; instead, it is a vehicle for investigation and communication. Rather than focus on individual artists or movements, this course covers significant discourses about the nature and goals of advanced art-practice in an era of increased institutionalization and commodification of art.

ARTH 350C satisfies PLUS (Creativity and Critical Analysis) and Gen Ed (Humanities and the Arts) requirements and has been certified as "Writing Infused." ARTH 550C by permit only.

**ARTH 360B/560B****Studies in Design: Print Culture to New Media**

MW 3:30-4:45pm

Prof. R. Houze

This course will examine topics in the history of graphic design, illustration, and new media from the nineteenth century to the present. Topics will include the relationship between fine art and design, the significance of history to the field of design, and the contextualization of visual communication within the more general fields of design and media studies. We will consider a number of theoretical approaches in texts by nineteenth and twentieth-century designers as well as by contemporary design critics and historians.

ARTH 360B satisfies PLUS (Society and Culture) and Gen Ed (Humanities and the Arts) requirements and has been certified as "Writing Infused." ARTH 560B by permit only.

**ARTH 370A/570A****Studies in Asian Art: Chinese Art**

TuTh 9:30-10:45am

Prof. H. Nagata

This course is designed to help you gain a general understanding of major traditions and genres in the history of Chinese art from prehistoric to pre-modern times (end of the Qing dynasty, 1644-1912) while offering you an opportunity to investigate a work of your choosing in closer detail. The approach will be quite topical and by necessity highly selective in terms of the number and types of works introduced in class. You will be encouraged to develop your ability to analyze and interpret art, conduct

independent research, and refine your expository writing. It is hoped that you will develop an appreciation for the broad range of expressive communication in Chinese art, and see the ties that bond works of art to their cultural and historical contexts, as well as the threads that make cultural monuments timeless.

*ARTH 370A satisfies PLUS (Society and Culture) and Gen Ed (Humanities and the Arts) requirements and has been certified as "Writing Infused." ARTH 570A by permit only.*

#### ARTH 452/652

### Topics in Art History: Medieval Art



#### ***Nude and Naked in Medieval Art***

*(Day, Time) Prof. A. van Dijk*

Addressing the distinction between nudity and nakedness, we will examine the various contexts in which the unclothed human figure appears in medieval art, and the complex associations it carried. This reading-intensive course will take the format of a seminar, with students engaging in research projects that they

will present both orally and in written form.

#### ARTH 457/657

### Topics in Art History: Asian Art

#### ***Women in a Thousand Years of Buddhist Art in Southeast Asia***



*Th 6-8:40pm C. Raymond*

Although Buddhism and Buddhist Art tend to illustrate mainly the historical figure of Buddha and his disciples, the role of women as divine and seductive figures, female devotees, and lay women within Buddhist narratives plays an essential function in the depictions of a full millennium of Buddhist Art from across Southeast Asia. This course will explore their diverse representations and roles from past to present within the various Buddhist traditions of insular and

mainland Southeast Asian Buddhist Art from Myanmar/Burma, Cambodia, Laos and Viet Nam to Indonesia.

#### ARTH 486/586/ART 465/565

### Introduction to Museum Studies and Art Historical Methodologies:

#### ***The Art Exhibition***



*M 6-8:40pm Prof. B. Jaffee*

Art Exhibitions are elaborate works of theater that reveal underlying political, social, and economic agendas. This course will be a critical examination of the exhibition of art in galleries and museums, focusing on the history, theory, and significance of a wide range of practices. Particular attention will be paid to the common ground between the academic practices of art historians and the professional practices of art museum personnel, making this course an excellent

introduction for those considering career possibilities in either or both of these fields.

*ARTH 486 is required of all art history majors.*

#### ARTH 701

### Graduate Seminar in Art History:

#### ***New Mythologies in Design and Culture***

*W 6-8:40pm Prof. R. Houze*

This course takes as its point of departure Roland Barthes classic 1957 book, *Mythologies*. Just as Barthes explored the wide-ranging messages communicated in different aspects of French popular culture in the 1950s, this course considers a range of contemporary visual images and icons that resonate across social and political culture today, from the color green to the meaning of sports logos and children's building toys. Among the ubiquitous global trademarks examined are BP, Target, McDonald's, and



Nike. What do these icons say to us today? What political and ideological messages are hidden beneath their surfaces? Taking the idea of myth in its broadest sense, the individual case studies employ a variety of analytic methods derived from linguistics, psychoanalysis, anthropology, sociology, and art history.

## COURSES TAKEN INDEPENDENTLY

*Students must obtain permit from faculty supervisor.*

<b>ARTH 499H</b>	<b>Senior Thesis in Art History</b>
<b>ARTH 699A/699B</b>	<b>Art History Thesis/Master's Research Project</b>
<b>ARTH 703</b>	<b>Independent Study in Art History</b>

## ART HISTORY COURSES OFFERED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM

### ARTH 292-00H1, 292-0DH1 Art and Design Since 1900



MW 11-11:50, W noon-12:50      Profs. B. Jaffee, R. Houze, S. Evans

A wide-ranging survey of artworks and practices that have challenged the artistic status quo while responding to the diverse economic, political, and social contexts of the recent past and present.

*This course satisfies PLUS (Creativity and Critical Analysis) and Gen Ed (Humanities and the Arts) requirements. This is an honors mini-section with a discussion section open to University Honors students only.*

### ARTH 485-00H1 Topics in Art History

#### ***The Ancient World in Cinema: Representations of Greece and Rome***



W 6-8:40pm

Prof. S. Bell

This course surveys representations of ancient Greek and Roman culture through the lens of 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century cinema and television. Subject matter drawn from classical myth as well as historical accounts will be considered. Students will read critical, scholarly literature about, view, and discuss the following films: *The Odyssey*, *The Searchers*, *Troy*, *Oedipus*,

*Minority Report*, *A Funny Thing happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Spartacus*, *Cleopatra*, *Ben-Hur*, and *Gladiator*. In addition to surveying the history and mythology of the Greek and Roman worlds, the course will provide students with a basic understanding of modern film theory, its essential concepts and literature.