



Oregon State University

Ecampus

Course Name: Introduction to the Visual Arts

Course Number: ART 101

Credits: 3 Credits

Additional Resources:

A *World of Art* website <http://www.myartslab.com>

Textbook: *NOTE: For textbook accuracy, please always check the textbook list at the OSU Bookstore website (<http://osubeaverstore.com/Academics/>). Sample syllabi may not have the most up-to-date information.*

Students can also click the OSU Beaver Store link associated with the ART 101 course information in the [Ecampus schedule of classes](#) for course textbook information and ordering.

Catalog Description:

An introductory web based course using visual materials with emphasis on methods and motivations that generate the visual experience, both past and present.

This course combines approximately 120 hours of instruction, online activities, and assignments for 4 credits.

Baccalaureate Core:

Successful completion of this course partially fulfills OSU's Baccalaureate Core requirements in the Perspectives category under Literature and the Arts.

Course Premise:

This course encourages you to consider the visual arts and how they impact your life. I hope to spark both your interest and your desire to learn more about the visual arts. Dr. Sayre's book, *A World of Art*, has been heralded as inspiring, entertaining, informational and useful. Through the weekly web articles, I will attempt to tie together various aspects of history, art, aesthetics, and culture in a manner that I hope will enable you to recognize further correlation between all of these areas. What do we see when we look at a work of art? The history of our cultures, Western or Eastern, ancient or modern, can be told through the visual arts. Think about your house or apartment— do you have a piece of artwork, perhaps a reproduction of a painting, a photograph, or a print, on the wall? Why is it there, and what does it mean to you? What do you know about the work, or the artist who created it?

Before the advent of photography, all images of recorded history were drawn, painted, sculpted, or printed by artists. From pictographs to lithographs, the visual arts have been used

to illustrate the history of all cultures. We now live in a time when art is being questioned for its validity, particularly in areas of government funding. We are witnessing debates over censorship and freedom of speech in reference to the works of art created by some artists. Why do these artists feel inclined to be activists? What is the work about? Why are some politicians and religious leaders so concerned? As we review the images and ideas surrounding art, we will try to answer some of these questions. Ideally, this special web based course will cause you to think about the significant role art has played throughout history, and closer to home, the significance that art might hold for you.

To participate in this course, all students must:

- CHECK IN WITH ME DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF CLASS. *This includes reading and accepting the terms of the student contract located on Canvas. Please read the contract and send an email to michael.boonstra@oregonstate.edu with the subject "ART 101 Contract" that states your agreement and understanding in the body of the email. I will also post an introduction thread in our discussion forum where you MUST check in. By doing these two things it will ensure that all of the classes necessary communication channels are working properly.
- Purchase the textbook, *A World of Art*, 6th edition by Henry Sayre, through the OSU bookstore website (link from Canvas) or through your local book dealer.
- Identify an individual to serve as an exam proctor in your community, and register the proctor with DCE (see the Canvas instructions on selecting a proctor under Course Information).
- Do all assigned reading for the course, including the weekly web articles that you will access through Canvas.
- Participate in weekly discussions. Points for discussion/debate will be posted weekly through Canvas.
- Write all three essays based on short video segments found in the films, *Blade Runner*, *JFK*, and *The Birds*. All videos are readily available through Netflix, Youtube, etc., it is your responsibility to view the films through whatever channel is most efficient for you. If outside sources for the required footage is readily available I will post links, but do not count on it. Outside links are unreliable and can be taken down at any time. You will need to view films for web articles 3, 7, and 9.
- Take the midterm and the final exam.

Learning Objectives:

"Faculty often complain that students have no regard for the gifts of insight and understanding that are the true payoff of education, they care only about short-term outcomes in the "real" world: "Will this major get me a job? How will this assignment be useful in "'real' life?" But those are not the questions deep in our students' hearts. They are merely the questions they

have been taught to ask, not only by tuition-paying parents who want their children to be employable but also by an academic culture that distrusts and devalues inner reality. Of course our students are cynical about the inner outcomes of education: we teach them that the subjective self is unvalued and even unreal. Their cynicism simply proves that when academic culture dismisses inner truth and honors only the external world, students as well as teachers lose heart.”— Parker Palmer, *The Courage to Teach*

Below are the learning objectives for this class. In defining these objectives my interests are to focus on qualitative, rather than quantitative outcomes.

1. To enable you to elevate your appreciation for the visual arts.
2. To inspire you to enter an art museum in the next two years and spend a day viewing/experiencing art.
3. To whet your appetite for exploring architectural spaces.
4. To enable you to recognize how art and life constantly mirror one another.
5. To help you realize that themes evident in contemporary culture are often revealed and commented upon by visual artists— past and present.
6. To further your recognition of the importance of art in our society.
7. To open your “window of interest” to a greater world of knowledge.

Web articles and assigned readings:

Week 1	Required reading: from <i>A World of Art</i> , pages 1-39 Web article 1: <i>The Functions of Art</i>
Week 2	Required reading: from <i>A World of Art</i> , pages 40-74 Web article 2: <i>Words and Images</i>
Week 3	Required reading: from <i>A World of Art</i> , pages 75-130 Web article 3: <i>Bladerunner</i> (first essay assignment).
Week 4	Required reading: from <i>A World of Art</i> , pages 130-168 Web article 4: <i>Why Artists Become Artists: Dan Senn</i> Web article 3 essay on <i>Bladerunner</i> is due by 5:00 pm, PST. Midterm study guide available through Canvas.
Week 5	Required reading: from <i>A World of Art</i> , pages 169-253 Web article 5: <i>Why Artists Become Artists: Clint Brown</i>
Week 6	MIDTERM EXAM: Monday through Friday, pending scheduling with your site proctor.* Required reading: from <i>A World of Art</i> , pages 254-269 Web article 6: <i>Why Artists Become Artists: Jim Jenkins</i> . Note: Week 6 reading will not be tested on the midterm.

- Week 7 Required reading: from *A World of Art*, pages 270-318
Web article 7: *JFK* (second essay assignment).
- Friday of week 7 is the last day for Course Withdrawal or changes to/from S/U
- Week 8 Required reading: from *A World of Art*, pages 320-382
Web article 8: *What is Tropical Deco?*
- Web article 7 essay on *JFK* is due by 5:00 pm, PST.
- Final study guide available through Canvas and the Art 101 website.
- Week 9 Required Reading: from *A World of Art*, pages 384-406
Web article 9: *Alfred Hitchcock's Surreal Tricks-The Birds* (third essay assignment).
- Week 10 Required Reading: from *A World of Art*, pages 477-525
Web article 10: *Queensware and Kingsware*
- Web article 9 essay on *The Birds* is due by 5:00 pm, PST.
- Week 11 FINAL EXAM: Monday through Friday, pending scheduling with your site proctor. The final exam is not comprehensive, and will only cover material presented from week six through week 10.

*PLEASE NOTE: The midterm and final exam must be taken during the hours of availability, starting at 6:00 am on the Monday of the exam week, and ending at 6:00 pm on the Friday of exam week. This five-day time margin allows students flexibility when scheduling their exams.

Grading:

Total points possible for the midterm exam:	80
Total points possible for the final exam:	100
Total points possible for three essay assignments (10 points each)	30
<u>Total points possible for discussion participation</u>	<u>30</u>
The total number of points possible for this course is	240

Both the midterm and the final are graded using a standard bell curve. The essays are graded on a scale. During the spring 2011 quarter, the final scores and grades were determined on the following points = grade table: Note that the total point value was 210 that term, not 240.

210-167 = A

166-158 = A-

157-153 = B+

152-144 = B

143-142 = B-
141-134 = C+
133-114 = C
113-108 = C-
107-105 = D+
104 - 95 = D
94 - 91 = D-

Web Essay Assignments:

When you access your Canvas account for Art 101, under Course Documents, you'll see the link for Web Articles. The web articles become available each week, and are required reading in addition to the reading assigned in *A World of Art*. Web articles 3, 7, and 9, require you to write an essay in response to questions that you're asked about a specific film clip. Links outside of Canvas may be available for some of these clips, however the most reliable way to view the clips is to view the film in its entirety by procuring it from Netflix, Hulu. Currently, all three films are available for rent through YouTube. If you have an account, this is pretty inexpensive and convenient. The essays are due the Friday following the week that the web article is introduced, so you have about 12 days to submit the essays. PLEASE NOTE: Failure to do one of the three essays results in loss of points for the essay.

Failure to do two of the three essays results in loss of points for the essays and minus 1/2 letter grade. Failure to do all three essays results in loss of points for the essays and minus a full letter grade.

Submitting your essays: (Do not use Canvas's Digital Drop Box)

I suggest that you write your essays in your word processing program of choice, and save it. Make sure that your name, ID #, and title of the essay are included with the text of the essay. There are several ways to submit. The easiest, most direct (and reliable), is for you to copy the text of the essay, open your ONID or other e-mail acct., and paste the essay directly into the body of the email. Include your complete name at the top.

The next easiest is to send it as an MSWord attachment to the e-mail. As an example, if your name is Tony Blair, please label the attachment like this: Blairessay1.doc Suggested essay word count is between 350 and 500 words.

All essays should be sent to michael.boonstra@oregonstate.edu

About the Study Guides:

The study guide that I post on the Canvas site will be up for at least one week BEFORE the exams become available. **As soon as the exams go "live" (6:00 am on Monday, the first day of testing) the study guides will be taken off line.** For this reason, I always recommend that students print out the study guides as soon as they become available. Please check the course schedule to see dates.

Prentice Hall's *MyArtsLab* website is also a comprehensive study site. I encourage you to familiarize yourself with this site and its navigation process. This site is dedicated specifically to the content of the textbook and it contains reading objectives for each chapter. The companion

website will also allow you to link to other sites throughout the world, visit museums, and take self-assessment quizzes. It is an exceptional learning tool. I would encourage you to do the Multiple Choice and Fill in the Blanks quizzes on this website. All quiz results are sent back to you immediately. These quizzes do not affect your grade, and you can take them as many times as you wish. NOTE: Please do not enter in my e-mail address when you log in, since I don't need to know the results of your quizzes. Have fun!

Plagiarism

You are expected to submit your own work in all your assignments, postings to the discussion board, and other communications, and to clearly give credit to the work of others when you use it. Academic dishonesty will result in a grade of "F." Link to Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct: <http://oregonstate.edu/admin/stucon/achon.htm>.

Students with Disabilities

Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty and [Disability and Access Services \(DAS\)](#). Students with accommodations approved through DAS are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through DAS should contact DAS immediately at 541-737-4098.

Course evaluation

We encourage you to engage in the course evaluation process each term – online, of course. The evaluation form will be available toward the end of each term, and you will be sent instructions through ONID. You will login to "Student Online Services" to respond to the online questionnaire. The results on the form are anonymous and are not tabulated until after grades are posted.

— ONE FINAL NOTE —

Your feedback is very important to me. I encourage you to e-mail me with your questions, and I will try to answer all your questions expediently. I hope you enjoy the course.