Midland College
Syllabus
ARTS 1303
Art History I
SCH (3-0)

Course Description: This course satisfies the Humanities/Fine Arts core requirement; i.e., understanding the heritage and destiny of humanity as revealed through history, ideas, literature, and aesthetics. It is a basic survey course concerned with the history of the visual arts, especially painting, sculpture, and architecture from ancient times to the Renaissance. Although primary emphasis is placed upon the visual arts, other developments of a political, religious, social, economic, and geographic nature are also presented as they relate to the visual arts.


Course Goals/Objectives: Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Appreciate the aesthetic principles that guide and govern the visual arts;
2. Acquire knowledge about the historical development of the visual arts and their role as catalyst and transmitter of cultural values;
3. Comprehend the creative process and the physical and intellectual demands required of the artist;
4. Be aware of the standards of art criticism and evaluate art products and processes;
5. Understand the bases of values, beliefs, and practices found in historical societies and cultures.

Student Contributions and Class Policies: Class activities and assignments: This course is conducted in a lecture/discussion format incorporating photographic slides and other images of the more significant works of art. Study of the text is extremely important, both for its own sake and as a background for the lecture and discussion. Reading assignments will average 35 pages. Study guides are provided which outline the major points of the text, with emphasis on the significance of artistic contributions and stylistic movements. The student is expected to think critically and communicate clearly, both orally and in writing. Class participation is important, both in general discussion and in small group formats.

Attendance and make-up work: Good attendance is very important. Grades will be adversely affected by poor attendance or tardiness. In cases of unavoidable absences or tardiness, it is the student’s responsibility to contact the instructor regarding make-up work. “Excused” absences are determined by the instructor. Eight unexcused absences will result in withdrawal from the course. Make-up work and extra credit assignments may be offered at the discretion of the instructor.
**Evaluation Of Students:**

There will be 5-6 tests (including the final test) over the reading assignments and lecture, and periodic pop quizzes over the reading assignments. Each major test will count 10-15% of the final grade. Pop quizzes, as a group, will equal one major test. Class participation will count 5-10% of the final grade. Numerical grades, in percentages, equate to letter grades as follows: 90-100, A; 80-89, B; 70-79, C; 60-69, D; below 60, F. Tests are comprehensive and measure the student’s knowledge and understanding of the course content through a combination of multiple choice and true/false questions, matching, short essay topics and slide and image identification. The final course grade will indicate the student’s degree of success in meeting the course goals and objectives.

**Course Schedule:**

The class meets for three lecture hours per week. A detailed calendar of topics, assignments, and tentative test dates will be provided in class.

**Instructor Information:**

Name:
Office phone:
Office hours:
Office location:
E-mail address:
Division Secretary: Lula Lee, 141 AFA
Office phone: 685-4624

**Note:** Students are encouraged to contact the instructor at any time; however, making an appointment will guarantee the instructor’s availability at a specific time.