

Art Appreciation
Weekend College, Brescia University, ART 180M1
Fall 2010

Instructor: Lisa Erin Jones
Contact/Email: lisa.jones@brescia.edu
Course Sessions: Saturdays, 8:00AM-12:00PM, August 14, 28; September 11, 25; October 9, 2010
Location: A111
Required Text: Getlein, Mark, *Gilbert's Living with Art*. NY, NY: McGraw-Hill, Eighth Edition.
Weblinks: <http://www.luncheononthegrass.com>
Office Hours: By appointment/before and after class.

Course Description:

The expression of ideas through image is an ancient human impulse. This course is designed to enhance the student's ability to understand and appreciate the personal, social, aesthetic, and academic function of the visual arts. Students will follow an overview of art history and examine the development of art through its form and concept within various cultures.

Aims:

This course has three specific aims:

- To expose you to the development of art history through various cultures and periods.
- To introduce you to the visual elements of art, the principles of design, and to study the materials and processes used by artists.
- To encourage you to discover the language and philosophy of art.

Objectives:

On completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate the ability to think and write critically about the broad function of art.
- Analyze and discuss specific works of art both formally and conceptually.
- Apply research and develop a thought-provoking research essay examining the cultural and historical relevance of a specific artist, their life, and work.

Course Assignments:

Five Outside Essays/ In-Class Quizzes:	50%
1. Pre-Assignment: Defining Beauty/Defining Value	
2. Sensation & Blood Ties: Controversy & Censorship	
3. Visual Analysis Quiz – Edward Hopper	
4. Stolen Art? Looted Antiquities?	
5. Contemporary Art – Contextual Analysis	
Research Paper	25%
Final Exam Essay	25%

Five Outside Essays/In-Class Quizzes:

These five assignments make up 50% of your final grade. Class time will be allotted each class session for extensive discussion of readings and assignments due the following class session. These essays should be used as an opportunity to express your opinions and prepare for the next week's class material and discussion. Essays should always reflect an understanding of the textbook reading, other handouts, lectures, and artworks covered in class. See the attached Pre-Assignment for criteria and outside reading pertaining to the first essay, *Defining Beauty/Defining Value*, due August 14.

Research Paper:

A four to five page research paper on an artist of your choice will be due on our final class session, October 9. This paper must be typed, double-spaced and in a 12 point standard font. A bibliography and proper citation throughout the paper is expected. See attached for full research paper criteria. Time will be allotted for further discussion of this assignment during our first class session, August 14.

Final Exam Essay:

The final exam for this course will be in essay format. Students will use their knowledge of the Vocabulary of Art to visually analyze an artwork from the 21st century. Students will also be asked to critique and interpret the work in theme and concept within an art historical framework. Further discussion of this exam and its criteria will be provided before the test date.

Evaluation

Students will be expected to complete all assignments on time. Class participation is encouraged and makes for more dynamic study. Your participation in class discussion and all written assignments are expected to reflect a knowledge and understanding of the lectures and reading.

Grading Scale A 100% - 90% B 89% - 80 C 79% - 70% D 69% - 60% F 59% - 0%

Pre-Assignment:**Defining Beauty/Defining Value, due August 14.**

After completing your reading for class session one, write a short essay in response to the textbook section on Art and Beauty (page 26). Explain your personal definition of beauty. Use examples from the reading to discuss this point of view. While reading the text were you struck by the beautiful or ugly power of a specific work? Explain. In your opinion, does all art have beauty? Why or why not? Prior to your reading did you assume that all art should be beautiful? Did you assume that the main purpose of art is to be beautiful? In your opinion, what is the purpose of art?

In 2007, the artist Damien Hirst produced a sculpture, titled *For the Love of God*, which consists of a platinum cast of a human skull encrusted with 8,601 “flawless” diamonds. The piece cost about \$24 million to produce and if sold for the asking price of about \$100 million, it would have been “the highest price ever paid for a single work of art by a living artist”.

Read the attached articles from The New York Times surrounding this controversial object. (These links are also available through my online resources site: www.luncheononthegrass.com.) Spend some time looking at the image on your computer screen from the web. What do you think this work is about? Does it have value beyond its monetary value? Why or why not? Do you find it beautiful or horrible? Can an object be beautiful and repellant at the same time? Why or why not?

Your essay should be at least 400 words.

Articles attached:

Shaw, William. “The Iceman Cometh.” New York Times 3 June. 2007.

Riding, Alan. “Alas, Poor Art Market: A Multimillion-Dollar Head Case.” New York Times 13 June. 2007.

A Google image search is recommended.

Reading Assignment Schedule:

The following reading assignments must be completed before each class session.

SESSION ONE: August 14

PART ONE: INTRODUCTION		PAGES
Chapter 1	Living with Art	2 - 79
2	What is Art?	
3	Themes of Art	
PART TWO: THE VOCABULARY OF ART		
Chapter 4	Visual Elements	80 - 147
5	Principles of Design	
Additional Handouts/Links: See Pre-assignment Essay: Defining Beauty/Defining Value		

SESSION TWO: August 28, 2010

MEDIA EXPLORATIONS & PART FIVE: ART THROUGH TIME		PAGES
Chapter 14	Ancient Mediterranean Worlds	248 - 376
11	Sculpture and Installation	265 - 291
7	Painting	
15	Christianity and the Formation of Europe	377 - 392
Additional Handouts/Links: Several articles and/or links from online journals may be distributed during class time.		

SESSION THREE: September 11, 2010

ART THROUGH TIME – RENAISSANCE TO MODERN		PAGES
Chapter 16	The Renaissance	393 - 420
8	Prints	187 - 208
17	The 17 th and 18 th Centuries	421 - 442
Chapter 9	Photography and Computer Arts (Photography section)	209 - 227
Additional Handouts/Links: Several articles and/or links from online journals may be distributed during class time.		

SESSION FOUR: September 25, 2010

ART THROUGH TIME – THE MODERN WORLD		PAGES
Chapter 21	The Modern World 1800 - 1945	505 - 535
Chapter 22	Art Since 1945	536 - 559
9	Photography and Computer Arts (Film and Internet)	228 - 245
Additional Handouts/Links: Several articles and/or links from online journals may be distributed during class time.		

SESSION FIVE: October 9, 2010

ART SINCE THE 80'S: A POSTMODERN WORLD?		PAGES
Chapter 22	Art Since 1945	536 - 559
Additional Handouts/Links: Several articles and/or links from online journals may be distributed during class time.		