

ARTS 1A Online Syllabus

De Anza College, Spring 2024

CRN: 47647

ARTS 1A: Introduction to the Visual Arts

This course introduces students to observe, analyze, and appreciate the works and process of visual artists from around the world and through history. We look at the environments that influence art movements as well as the intentions and innovations of individual artists. We touch upon the basic techniques and terminology of a number of mediums and the history leading up to their usage. Then studying paintings, drawings, and sculpture ranging from representational to abstract and utilitarian to conceptual, we enhance our understanding and our ability to critically discuss these works.

Instructor:

Darren Kerr

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Website:

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Office Hours:

Tue 12-2pm (online)

Email to schedule meeting

Important Dates:

- First day of class: Mon Apr 8th
- Automatic drop if first online module not attempted: Sun Apr 14th
- Last day to add class: Fri Apr 19th
- Last day to drop without W (and receive refund): Sat Apr 20th
- Last day to drop with W: May 31st 2024
- Final Exams: June 24-28

Course Objectives

- Learn to appreciate the craftsmanship and creativity of artwork from various cultures and through history
- Introduce students to a diverse range of art
- Enhance students' understanding of art concepts and vocabulary to prepare them for critical discourse in art and form a stronger foundation for later coursework
- Appreciate the role that artworks play in shaping our impressions of other cultures, present and through history
- Become more aware of visual art in our homes, communities, and virtual world
- Understand that art appreciation and participation enriches our lives and enhances our creativity in other fields

Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will analyze the social experiences of artists, demonstrating how artists' relationships with their patrons was a defining factor in the production of works of art.
- Students will demonstrate visual literacy and critical thinking skills by evaluating diverse scholarly perspectives when interpreting works of art.
- Students will investigate the different techniques utilized in the production of works of art through written analysis based on firsthand evaluation of art objects in local collections.

Required Textbook and Materials:

- Mark Getlein, *Living with Art (13th edition)*, published by McGraw-Hill
- A Class Notebook - any type is acceptable, at least 40 pages

Weekly Class Format

This is an online asynchronous course, so no face to face or zoom classes. Each week students are assigned a reading assignment from Living with Art, additional reading and/or video content

from the corresponding Module, a short discussion assignment in Canvas, and a quiz on the weekly readings. Students are to keep a weekly journal of concepts and ideas from class in their Class Notebook.

Additionally, there are Midterm and Final writing projects and a Final Exam.

Grading Breakdown

Discussion and Notebook:	30%
Weekly Quizzes:	10%
Midterm Project:	20%
Final Exam:	20%
Final Project:	20%

Late submission of assignments are accepted, but will earn only half credit.

Weekly Module Topics

Content and order of module content will likely be adjusted during the quarter

Week	Topics
1	Introductions, Syllabus, Grading, Notebook, and discussion of an artwork you admire. Reading assignment: Chapter 1 - Living with Art
2	What differentiates art from utility. Working artists through history. Understanding and appreciating Art. Reading assignment: Chapter 2 - Artists and Audiences, and Chapter 3: Themes of Art. Discussion: tell us about an artist you know personally (yourself included) and their struggles and successes in creating art

3	Line, Form, Perspective. Reading assignment: Chapter 4 - Visual Elements and selected sections of Chapter 16 - The Renaissance
4	Drawing. Reading assignment: Chapter 6 and selected sections of Chapter 14 - Ancient Mediterranean Worlds. Discussion: Why do we Draw?
5	Painting. Reading assignment Chapter 7 and selected sections of Chapter 17 - 17th and 18th Centuries and Chapter 21 - The Modern World, and Chapter 4 - Color.
6	Principles of Design. Reading assignment: Chapter 5 and selected readings sections of Chapter 7 - Prints.
7	Camera and Computer Arts. Read Chapter 9 and sections of Chapter 21 - The Modern World Midterm Project
8	Graphic Design. Read Chapter 10
9	Sculpture and Installation. Read Chapter 11 and selected readings from Chapters 14 (ancient art), Chapter 17 (Renaissance), and Chapter 20 (Arts of the Pacific and Americas).
10	How culture and religion influence subject matter, aesthetics, and our views on art. How individuals impact culture through art. Self expression and therapeutic effects of creating art. Reading assignment: Chapters 15 & 18- Christianity and the Formation of Europe, Arts of Islam and of Africa

11	Spectrum of Representational, Naturalistic, Stylistic and Abstract Art. Readings from Chapter 18, 21, and 22.
12	Review, Final Project, and Final Exam (based on Weekly Quizzes)

No Show - Drop Policy: All students must complete Module #1 assignments by 11:59pm on the Sunday following the first week of classes (Apr 14th) to avoid being dropped for non-participation.