Course Syllabus

ART-1010
INTRODUCTION TO VISUAL ARTS

University of Utah | Department of Art and Art History
Course Syllabus | ART 1010, Introduction to Visual Art
Spring Semester | 2015

Monday, January 12, 2015: Class begins
Wednesday, January 21, 2015: Last day to drop (delete) this class
Tuesday, January 26, 2015: Last day to add, elect CR/NC or audit this class
Friday, March 6, 2015: Last day to withdraw from this class
Friday, May 1, 2015: Last day to submit work for this class

Instructor | Scotti Hill, M.A.
Email | scottiaustinhill@gmail.com

Required Textbook
Gilbert’s Living with Art, 10th edition, by Mark Getlein, Copyright 2013, Published by McGraw Hill. ISBN# 978-0-07-337925-8. New and used versions of the text are available on web sites such as http://www.amazon.com, http://www.barnesandnoble.com, http://www.half.com or at the campus bookstore at University of Utah. Several sections of ART 1010 use this text, so if you happen to find a used edition, the CDROM is not required for this course. You may go with an earlier edition of this text, but keep in mind the reading assignment page numbers may be off, but this will certainly be workable.

Course Description
ART 1010-090 | Introduction to Visual Art is an online course

This 3 credit course fulfills a Fine Arts Foundation requirement and is cross-listed as UGS 1010
This course meets the General Education and Bachelor’s Degree Requirements. The General Education learning outcomes for this class are: Critical Thinking, Written Communication and Teamwork.

Beginning level course that focuses on establishing an understanding and appreciation of the visual arts. Key components of coursework include a formal understanding of artworks, understanding art within a cultural context, and exploring the creative process. This course investigates these areas and discusses art as a chronological history. The content is designed to be cross-cultural, gender-conscious, and discipline-correlated, meaning that visual art is introduced to include filmmaking, digital imagery and animation, architecture, sculpture, painting, drawing, graphic design, photography, and the applied arts. The creative process, aesthetics, composition and history draw upon all of these diverse interests.

Course Goals

Goals of this course includes providing students with a fundamental understanding of the visual arts: how visual elements and principles of design function; materials, processes, and formats of the different media areas; understanding art within a cultural context; and gaining an understanding of the creative process. Students can look forward to exploring artworks from historical periods and diverse cultures. This course also examines premises behind contemporary artworks and new horizons in the field of visual arts.

Course Objectives

At the end of the course, the student will be able to:

Understand the visual arts on a fundamental level.
Understand the function of visual elements and principals of design.
Have an understanding of a wide range of materials, processes and art practices.
Understand the function of art within a cultural context.
Create links between historical and contemporary art practices.
Understand the cultural function of visual art within diverse cultures.

Course Requirements

Textbook Readings: The course work for the semester is divided into 14 lecture units identified as assignments. Each assignment requires specific readings from the textbook and is supported by an online web lesson-overview. Careful review of these materials is required.

Web Lessons: The web lesson provides a context for assigned readings and images. It provides you with an overview of the information that will be covered in your text readings for that lesson and gives additional insight into the topic.
Most lessons require you to review information at different web sites. Visiting these sites will expand upon information in the textbook and at times require you to research information that will be used in your discussion assignments. Also, these sites will give you access to viewing representations of an extraordinary amount of contemporary and historic artwork.

**Group Online Discussions:** At the end of each of the 14 assignments a related topic(s) will be posted as an online discussion assignment. For discussion participation, the students in the class will be divided into three sections. Each student is required to respond to their group’s topic question (initial response) as well as reviewing posted responses of other members of the class. Students are then required to comment a minimum of two times in their own group on what their fellow classmates have posted as their response to the assigned group topic. In addition, each student will comment one time in each of the other two groups. This adds up to a minimum of five posts per assignment, and creates a discussion amongst fellow students about the content of the assignment. Discussion responses must occur by the deadline date posted at the top of each discussion assignment page.

**Written Papers:** This course requires the completion of one midterm paper and one final paper with a minimum of five pages for each. Successful completion of this course requires that these papers be turned in.

**Teaching and Learning Methods**

The primary teaching approach in this course will occur through collaborative learning. We will all work together to ensure that our online discussions reflect respect for differences of opinions and sensitivity to the needs, opinions and circumstances of our peers.

This online course is divided into 14 assignments. Each assignment presents information to the student in three formats:

1) **assigned textbook reading**
2) **online lesson**
3) **suggested URLs**

Students should approach each unit in that order; first read the assigned text pages, second read the online lesson, and third read the linked URLs.

Students are required to submit two papers. The written papers are required and need to be submitted by a specific due date. Due-dates for the written papers are listed on your assignment page. Papers submitted past the due date have points deducted; 4 points per day are deducted for late assignments, with a maximum of 24 points deducted per assignment.

Students are required to respond to 14 online Group Assignments (these are referred to as Online Discussions). Online Discussions are open for student participation for an approximate 7 - 8 days. Each Discussion must be responded to by a specified due dates. Entries posted after the closing date for a discussion will not be read.
Grading

Online Group Discussion participation is 55% of final grade. Participation will be evaluated on regular input to the discussions, the relevant content of your comments, the accuracy of the information, how insightful the comments are compared to information that is already posted, and require correct spelling and use of grammar.

The mid term paper and final paper is 45% of the final grade. Successful completion of this course requires that both these papers be turned in. Paper due dates are indicated on the assignment page. A paper turned in past its scheduled due date will have points deducted for lateness. The papers will be evaluated on content, thoroughness, and require correct spelling and use of grammar.

Submitting The Mid-Term and Final Papers

The papers are to be submitted electronically through Canvas links on the assignments page. It is preferred that you upload a file rather than use the text entry box. Technical problems with your computer or the server will not be a valid reason to submit an assignment past its scheduled due date.

Commitment

Intro to Visual Art is a course for non-art majors. This course is interesting, informative, and is serious in its goal to provide the student a thorough knowledge of course materials. Be advised that a substantial amount of time and commitment is required from the student to be in a position to acquire this knowledge. To be fully prepared to write excellent posts and papers, students must read chapters from the text, discussion board posts entered by other class members, lessons from the online course, and information at numerous web sites. In addition, students are required to research information on the web. This can be a time consuming task, depending on your web-searching abilities. It has been my experience that some students take an on-line course as a time saving measure. I would not recommend you take this course if that is a primary criteria.

System Requirements

This class can be "attended" from anywhere there is an Internet connection. All course work can be submitted electronically. Students must be able to use an Internet browser, send attached files via e-mail and post comments to a web board. A Java and javascript-enabled browser are required to obtain the maximum benefit from your online course.
Faculty and Student Responsibilities

All students are expected to maintain professional behavior in the online classroom setting, according to the student code, spelled out in the Student Handbook. Students have specific rights in the classroom as detailed in Article III of the code. The code specifies prescribed conduct (Article XI) that involves cheating, plagiarism, and/or collusion. Students should read the Code carefully and know they are responsible for the content. According to Faculty Rules and Regulations, it is the faculty responsibility to enforce responsible classroom behaviors, beginning with written warnings and progressing to dismissal from class and a failing grade. Students have the right to appeal such action to the Student Behavior Committee.

Discussion threads, e-mails, and chat rooms are all considered to be equivalent to classrooms, and student behavior within these environments shall conform to the Student Code. Specifically:

- Posting photos or comments that would be off-topic in a classroom are still off-topic in an online posting.
- Off-color language and photos are never appropriate.
- Using angry or abusive language is called “flaming”, is not acceptable and dealt with according to the Student Code.
- Do not use ALL CAPS, except for titles, since it is the equivalent of shouting online, as is overuse of certain punctuation marks such as exclamation points!!!!! And question marks?????

Course e-mails, e-journals, and other online course communications are part of the classroom and as such, are University property and subject to GRAMA regulations and the Student Code. Privacy regarding these communications between correspondents must not be assumed and should be mutually agreed upon in advance, in writing.

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, service and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the instructor and to the Center for Disability Services. 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD) to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification.

Note: The syllabus is not a binding legal contract. It may be modified by the instructor when the student is given reasonable notice of the modification.