

ARH 2050: Art History and Criticism, Survey I

Valencia College - Fall 2021

Instructor and Contact Information

Name: Dr. Maura Gleeson

Office Hours (virtual): Monday 9-11AM, 11AM-1PM; Tuesday 9-11AM, 3-5PM; Friday 9-11AM, 1-3PM.

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Course Format – Mixed Mode

Your course content will be delivered through our Canvas classroom, and we will meet in person on Wednesday, 4-5:15PM at the UCF/Valencia Downtown Campus (UWCV - Room 303).



Beyoncé performing in front of the *Nike of Samothrace* (Hellenistic Greece, c. 190 BCE)
Still image from The Carters, *Apesh*t* (music video), 2018.

Course Description

This course explores the visual and material culture of Europe, the Near East, North Africa, and the Mediterranean Basin from Pre-History to the Late Medieval era. We will trace a narrative about the development of Western history and consider the meaning and significance of objects in writing that story. The reading, lectures, discussion, and assignments will empower you with the skills to describe, analyze, and interpret an object's physical (material) properties as well as its iconographic (symbolic) interpretations. By the semester's end, you will be able to walk the halls of any museum, open any magazine, or browse any website and start to decipher the messages and meanings of the images you encounter there.

Course Objectives

- Identify the major monuments in art from the prehistoric era through the Middle Ages.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the characteristics of each period style, regional style, cultural style, as well as the style of individual artists.
- Explain the human desire record what one physically sees in the natural world, as well as what is unseen (such as deities, desires, feelings, and ideas).
- Increase ability to analyze works of art and architecture, as well as other aspects of the visual environment.
- Uphold the [Valencia Student Core Competencies](#): (1) think clearly, critically, and creatively, analyze, synthesize, integrate and evaluate in many domains of human inquiry; (2) make reasoned value judgments and responsible commitments; (3) act purposefully, effectively, and responsibly; (4) communicate with different audiences using varied means.

Tools for the Course

- Required Text: Fred S. Kleiner, *Gardner's Art Through the Ages: A Concise Global History* (4th Edition), Cengage Learning. ISBN 978-1-305-57780-0.
- Recommended Text: Henry Sayre, *Writing About Art*, Sixth Edition. 2009: Pearson Education, Inc. ISBN 9780205645787.

Useful Resources

- [Bibliography of the History of Art \(BHA\)](#) - A database maintained by the Getty Research Institute that will be helpful for paper and presentation research.
- [Oxford Bibliographies](#) - A database of annotated bibliographies that will be useful for research.

Course Policies

Coursework

An "A" in the course can be achieved with 6-8 hours per week of focused engagement with your coursework. For an overview of weekly assignments, see the Course Calendar (p. 4).

Your coursework consists of reading, video lectures, discussions, a term paper, and exams. The course content will be delivered in our Canvas classroom, and we will meet in person once a week for discussion. Discussions are designed to help you master the content, facilitate exchange, and prepare for the exams. Activities and assignments that take place in Discussion meetings can include debates, short writing prompts, and group presentations. Our meetings encourage you to think critically about the material we cover in lecture, and to increase your acuity in analyzing and synthesizing information from diverse sources. You will take a weekly quiz on the reading assignment on Canvas.

You will take three exams for this class, which take place on Canvas. They will be timed and include both multiple-choice and written response questions. The exams are designed to test your knowledge on the vocabulary, concepts, and ideas covered in your reading and in lectures. Your study guides for the exams will be the 'Concepts and Images' lists uploaded to Canvas every week. Exams are not cumulative - in other words, each exam will cover material that you have examined up to that point in the semester.

Your term paper will be a Visual Analysis essay of one artwork in a Florida museum collection. The images that you will choose from come from a list that I will provide. The essay asks that you give a formal analysis of the work and explain, based on what you have learned in class about the respective culture, how the work relates to that culture. Your thesis statement, which takes both the formal features and the cultural context into account, will explain what you think is the work's meaning or significance. In Week 11, you will take part in a Writing Workshop to prepare for this assignment. For more information, please review the assignment instructions uploaded to Canvas.

Rubrics, Grades, & Grading Scale

Your course grades will be updated weekly on Canvas. Discussion and term paper grades are determined by a rubric that is attached to that assignment in our Canvas classroom. I will review each rubric with you on our first day of class.

Discussions: 25%

Quizzes: 10%

Visual Analysis Paper: 20%

Exam 1: 15%

Exam 2: 15%

Exam 3: 15%

Total Percentage	Letter Grade
90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
0-59%	F

Late Work, Make Up Work, and Deadlines

Students are responsible for knowing the due dates of each assignment (see the Course Calendar, p. 4). As part of my duties as your professor, I will keep your grade updated weekly on Canvas. Therefore, any missing assignments will be marked with a '0' grade. Please note, however, that this is not a permanent score. Late submissions for assignments are welcome but will receive a 10%-point deduction.

Exam deadlines are less flexible than course assignments. Exams should be completed by the assigned day and time as outlined in the course calendar. Extensions may be granted in extreme circumstances (such as illness or bereavement), but only on a case-by-case basis as decided with your professor.

If, for any reason, you believe you will miss an assignment deadline, please let me know by email. Life sometimes gets in the way of things, and I am happy to work with you based on your situation. We're in this together!

Communication with Professor

Students should communicate via Canvas email or by using their academic email to contact me at egleeson@valenciacollege.edu. I will respond to you within 24 hours on a weekday. Email correspondence on a weekend is not guaranteed. All e-mails must be written with appropriate formal writing etiquette and grammar. Failure to check your Atlas or Canvas email does not excuse you from acting on any notices that have been sent.

Classroom Demeanor

Our discussions, both in person and on Canvas, take place in a professional learning space. As your Professor, I will ensure for my students a civil and safe environment conducive to learning and inquiry. I encourage you all to maintain an open mind as you thoughtfully communicate your ideas. Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning, in accordance with the [Valencia Student Code of Conduct](#). Discussion is healthy when it is kept within the boundaries of mutual respect. I reserve the right to request removal of a student who displays inappropriate, disruptive, or intolerant behavior in the Canvas and/or physical classroom.

Recording Lectures

As your professor, I'm committed to giving you as many opportunities and resources to support your learning as possible. Therefore, you may find it beneficial to record class lectures to review later. A class lecture is defined as a planned presentation by a college faculty member or instructor, during a scheduled class, delivered for the purpose of transmitting knowledge or information that is reasonably related to the pedagogical objective of the course in which the student is enrolled. Students may record video and/or audio of class lectures for their personal use. Recordings may be a useful tool to support your learning and provide a resource for review. It is important to be respectful of your peers' rights to privacy; with that in mind, please refrain from recording your peers during lectures. You may not record class discussions, student presentations, labs, group work, and private conversations. Further, you may not publish or share recordings without my written consent, nor may you provide recordings to classmates as a substitution for class participation and attendance. If necessary, I will handle violations of this section through the [Student Code of Conduct](#). Should you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact me.

Academic Integrity

All work submitted to the professor must be in your own words. Any evidence of academic dishonesty in any class work will earn you an immediate zero on that work. It may also result in a grade of "F" for the course and a report to the Dean of Students Office. Violations of the Academic Integrity policy for this course include, but are not limited to, violation of testing protocols, submitting work which is not your own, lying to instructors or college personnel, and plagiarism. In some cases, there may be additional consequences, such as expulsion from Valencia College.

Per [Valencia's Student Code of Conduct](#), "academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, acts or attempted acts of plagiarism, cheating, furnishing false information, forgery, alteration or misuse of documents, misconduct during a testing situation, facilitating academic dishonesty, and misuse of identification with intent to defraud or deceive."

Attendance Policy

Record of your attendance will be maintained in our Canvas classroom. This class requires your active participation in our weekly discussion meetings as well as in our digital Canvas classroom. You must maintain acceptable attendance in your course. More than three absences are unacceptable. If you are unable to attend class, please let me know by email.

COVID-19 Safety and Contact Tracing

Valencia College is asking all students and faculty to wear masks indoors and accommodate physical distancing. Masks will be available for free on the campus should you forget to bring yours.

Before coming to class, students should complete the [CDC's Self-Checker](#), which you can access in the [Valencia College Safety App](#). You should answer all questions honestly. If the self-checker says "sounds like you are feeling ok," then please come to class. If you receive any other result from the self-checker, please do not visit campus and notify the college about your self-checker results by emailing COVIDillness@valenciacollege.edu. Please also email me at egleeson@valenciacollege.edu so that I can assist you with an alternative assignment.

Vaccines are being offered for free at several drive-thru and walk-in locations on the Valencia Campuses. For more information, please visit this website: [COVID-19 Vaccine](#).

Withdrawal Policy (Valencia College only)

The College will drop you from your courses for non-payment of fees. It is your responsibility to make sure all of your fees are paid on time. You may drop the course by the end of Add/Drop Week (August 30th, 2021). The deadline to withdraw with a grade of "W" is October 29th, 2021.

Important Valencia Academic Dates	School Holidays
Add/Drop ends: August 30 th	September 6 th Labor Day
Last day to Withdraw with "W" – October 29 th	November 11 th : Veterans Day
Final Exam Week: December 6-12 th	November 24-28 th : Thanksgiving