

ARH 2050: Art History and Criticism, Survey I

Valencia College – Spring 2023

Professor and Contact Information

Dr. Maura Gleeson
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Valencia College
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Office Hours (Virtual): Thursday 10-11:30AM &
by appointment.

Telephone: (407)-582-6981

Course Format – Online

All course content and assignments will be delivered through our Canvas classroom



Thutmose, *Bust of Nefertiti*, c. 1345 BCE. Limestone.



Tomáš Libertíny, *Eternity*, 2019-2020 CE. Natural beeswax, wood, glass, Cor-ten steel.

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.
- Articles: In some weeks, I will assign additional articles to facilitate your textbook reading and Module Discussions. These are listed in the Course Calendar (p. 4) will be made available to you via Canvas.
- Recommended Text: Henry Sayre, *Writing About Art*, Sixth Edition. 2009: Pearson Education, Inc. ISBN 9780205645787.

Useful Resources

- [ArchiveGrid](#)- A database of archived materials from public and private collections from all over the world. This resource is invaluable for research!
- [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

This course provides opportunities for students to demonstrate college-level-writing skills per the State Board of Education Rules as implemented at Valencia College. Students are expected to demonstrate writing proficiency in all assignments and written correspondence.

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, please review the Course Calendar (p. 4).

Your coursework consists of weekly reading assignments and video lectures. You will also complete short quizzes, assignments, and discussion posts in our Canvas classroom, which are designed to help you master the content, facilitate discussion and prepare for the exams. Discussion prompts encourage you to think critically about the material we cover in lecture, and to increase your acuity in analyzing and writing about art. I will provide written feedback to help you to improve your writing and prepare for your Visual Analysis paper.

You will take three timed exams over the semester. They will include multiple-choice, short answer, and written essay questions. The exams are designed to test your knowledge on the vocabulary, art works, and ideas covered in your reading and in lectures. Your study guides for the exams will be the "Terms 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 paper will be a Visual Analysis essay of one artwork that you will choose 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. Prior to the paper deadline, we will complete two assignments that will help you to prepare for the paper, and I will also host a Writing Workshop via Zoom. 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.

Assignments/Discussions: 30%

Quizzes: 10%

Visual Analysis Paper: 30%

Exam 1: 10%

Exam 2: 10%

Exam 3: 10%

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. Any missing assignments will be marked with a '0' grade. Late submissions for assignments are welcome but will receive a 10%-point deduction. The final deadline to submit any late work is Thursday, April 20th at 11:59PM. Exam deadlines are less flexible and must be completed by the assigned day and time as outlined in the course calendar.

Life sometimes gets in the way of things, and I am happy to work with you based on your situation. If, for any reason, you believe you will miss an assignment deadline, please let me know by email. 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. Additional documentation may be required.

Communication with Professor

Students should communicate with the instructor 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, including use of capitalization, punctuation, and complete sentences. Failure to check your Atlas or Canvas email does not excuse you from acting on any notices that have been sent.

Attendance Policy

This is an online course, available 24/7, managed through Canvas. A successful semester requires your active participation. In the event of an extended absence, you should contact me via email as soon as possible so that we can discuss strategies for catching up with the work.

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 (including uncited material paraphrased from the internet), sharing exam questions and answers with others, 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."

- Violation #1: Student will earn a 0 on their assignment with an explanation of why their work is an example of academic dishonesty. Student will have the chance to redo the assignment within a timeframe set by the Instructor.
- Violation #2: Student will earn a 0 on their assignment and will not be offered the chance to make up the points.
- Violation #3: Student will earn a 0 on their assignment and I will submit a report to Valencia College's Academic Affairs office. Student and Professor will meet to discuss next steps.

Classroom Demeanor

This course takes place entirely on Canvas. Our virtual classroom is a professional learning space. As your Professor, I ensure for my students a civil and safe environment conducive to learning and inquiry. Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to

learning, in accordance with the [Valencia Student Code of Conduct](#). I reserve the right to request removal of a student who displays inappropriate, disruptive, or intolerant behavior in the classroom.

No-Show Policy

Class attendance is required for online classes. If you do not log in to the course during the first week and complete the Required Attendance Activities, you will be withdrawn from the class as a "no show". If you are withdrawn as a "no show," you will be financially responsible for the class and a final grade of "WN" will appear on your transcript for the course.

Valencia College Withdrawal Policy

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 (January 17th, 2023). The deadline to withdraw with a grade of "W" is March 24th, 2023.

Important Academic Deadlines	School Holidays
Add/Drop ends – January 17 th	Martin Luther King, Jr Day – January 16 th
Last day to Withdraw with "W" – March 24 th	Spring Break – March 13 th -19 th
Final Exam Week – April 24 th -30 th	

Course Calendar

Please check Canvas daily for any updates or changes to the semester schedule.

The Course Calendar for our class can be accessed in our Canvas classroom. Please email me directly (egleeson@valenciacollege.edu) with any questions or concerns.