



COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Description

In this course, your journey into art history begins in the late 1700s. At this time in Europe, political upheavals and scientific and technological advances had led to exploration, innovation, and great wealth for many. As you travel forward from this time to the present, you study important Western art movements, artworks, artists, and architecture. You then look at art of the past and present from a global perspective, with travels to China, Japan, Africa, Oceania, Southeast Asia, India, and back to the Americas.

Along the way, you have many opportunities to respond personally to all things art, and you share your insights with your peers through discussion boards. Three projects provide various important interactions with the art, the artists, and the movements.

Please be aware that this course includes depictions of nudity, as many art movements celebrated the human form. A number of important and influential works of art include nudity, and it would be nearly impossible to teach art history without including them. Given the subject matter, the course is extensively visual.

Required Materials

- Internet browser
- audio capability for virtual tours
- word processing software
- presentation software

Course Overview

This course is made up of six units, which are paired by time span and subject area.

- Units 1 and 2 cover Western Art from 1784 to 1950.
- Units 3 and 4 cover Western Art from 1950 to the present.
- Units 5 and 6 cover Global Art.

The course presents material in a variety of ways to allow for increased comprehension of information. This includes readings, videos, interactive content, discussions, and projects. There are opportunities for self-check as well as assessments that allow you to show what you have learned.

Some activities are graded by the learning management software; others are graded by the instructor. Additional activities are available, but not graded. Please contact the course instructor for further information about course guidelines and grading policies.

Course Organization

The units and lessons within them include brief introductions and lists of objectives for intended learning outcomes. Following each introduction, a set of activities takes place over a two-lesson continuum. Each unit pair contains 10 lessons. Each lesson pair contains activities that follow this basic pattern:

- *Art Talk* – Each lesson pair opens with an *Art Talk*. This is a Discussion Board where you are provided an opportunity to respond to an art-related prompt.
- *Travel through Time* – This is the main content presentation for the lesson pair for a given period of art history. Typically, it contains a brief overview video, the historical context for the art movement(s) of the time, characteristics of the art and architecture, and important artists associated with it.
- *That's a Wrap!* – This brief activity appears at the end of the initial lesson of each lesson pair. It recaps the main takeaway points from the content.
- *Art Show* – Kicking off the second lesson of each lesson pair, this activity presents a virtual art gallery of selected important artworks from the movement(s) being discussed.
- *Art Forum* – This is a Discussion Board through which you explore various pieces of art in depth and respond thoughtfully to the comments of your peers.
- *Checkpoint* – This graded activity uses 10 questions to assess mastery of lesson objectives of each lesson pair. The Checkpoint may be taken multiple times.

Note: The last lesson of the course contains a 25-question Final Exam. There are no Workbook questions or Unit Exams in this elective course.

Each unit pair includes a required project.

- Units 1 and 2: *Closer Look* project
 - The *Closer Look* project is designed to help you “read” art. The steps of this process to help you gain the skills to decipher any work of art. It includes what you see in an artwork, what you think about the work, and why the work matters. Guiding questions help you complete each step. The final product is a presentation about an artwork you choose.
 - Units 3 and 4: *Be the Artist!* project
 - The *Be the Artist!* project is designed to help you get to know an artist or architect by “becoming” that person! First, you research and analyze the historical events, personal life experiences, and beliefs that impact an artist/architect and his or her work. Then, you use your findings to create a Q&A interview document in which you answer the questions as the artist. Interview questions are provided for you.
 - Units 5 and 6: *Each One Teach One* project
 - The *Each One Teach One* project helps you “teach” an audience of your peers about a movement or style that was not covered in the course. You can choose the movements from a provided. You learn about it yourself as you gather pertinent information about the art movement and an artist and artwork within it. You then design a presentation that is an abbreviated version of the “Travel through Time” and “Art Show” elements of the course. Guiding questions are provided for you.
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Schedule of Work

Units 1 and 2: Western Art 1784–1950

- Lessons 1 and 2: Introduction, Neoclassicism, Romanticism, and Realism
- Lessons 3 and 4: Impressionism and Post-Impressionism
- Lessons 5 and 6: Fauvism, German Expressionism, and Early Modern Architecture
- Lessons 7 and 8: Cubism, Constructivism, and Dada
- Lessons 9 and 10: Surrealism, American Realism, and Organic Architecture

Units 3 and 4: Western Art 1950–Present

- Lessons 11 and 12: Abstract Expressionism, Neo-Dada, and International Style
- Lessons 13 and 14: Pop Art, Minimalism, Conceptual Art, and Earth Art
- Lessons 15 and 16: Performance Art, Identity Art, and Activist Art
- Lessons 17 and 18: Street Art, Public Art, and Postmodern Architecture
- Lessons 19 and 20: Spectacle Art, Installation Art, and Interactive Art

Units 5 and 6: Global Art

- Lessons 21 and 22: China and Japan after 1279
- Lessons 23 and 24: Africa
- Lessons 25 and 26: Oceania, Southeast Asia, and India
- Lessons 27 and 28: Art of the Americas
- Lessons 29 and 30: Review and Final Exam