

**ARTH 100****Idea and Image****Fall 2010**

Prof. Nathaniel Infante

Office hours: TuTh 12:00-1:00

Office: Brainerd Hall Room 101H Tel. 267-3239

TuTh 200-315, Brainerd 202 Speech class Tu 11-11:50, Brainerd 215

**Required text.** Lois Fichner-Rathus, *Understanding Art*, 9<sup>th</sup> edition (Belmont, CA, 2010).

**Course description.** A work of art is not only an expression of its creator's mind, but is also a product of the artist's time and culture. You will be learning how to analyze works of art, and in doing so to make your daily experience of art more fruitful and enjoyable. This course consists of class lectures, discussion groups, and some special presentations.

**Course requirements.** Four quizzes and a final examination will be given, each consisting of slide identifications (4-5), a time-line (identifying dates for artists and their works and of historical periods), visual analyses, and short answers (vocabulary terms). The final examination will only cover material discussed since the last quiz, though it may contain a comprehensive general essay question. There will be no make-ups; if you miss a quiz for a good, documented reason, you must write a 5-page research paper.

**Project and short paper.** This is a two-part assignment: the first part is to create a collage that expresses your own feelings and views - your own life as a whole, or an issue that is very important to you. Part two of the assignment involves writing a formal analysis of your own artistic creation - we will be learning how to conduct a formal analysis of a work of art in the first weeks of class. This is not a research paper, and requires no reading outside of class notes or your textbook; it is designed to familiarize you with the process of writing about art.

**Research paper.** This paper is to be 5-7 pages, with foot- or endnotes (see term paper guide, on back of this page) and a bibliography. Your paper is to be a study of a work of art, or any aspect of a work of art, in any medium, including architecture. For this paper you are required to conduct research in the library, and to cite in your paper at least three books or journal articles. Although you may use encyclopedias, general works, and the internet, and must reference each such source, these cannot be counted as books or journal articles. Most important of all, your paper is to present a real thesis, or developed theory, about your work of art. A purely descriptive paper, with a few outside references thrown in, will not receive a high grade. The paper must also, of course, be your own work; plagiarism may be punished by expulsion from the college. **You cannot pass the class without completing this paper.**

**Grading.**

Quizzes	25%
Project/paper	20%
Research paper	20%
Final	10%
Class participation	5%
Speech participation	20%

## Guide for Term Papers

You may write on any subject relating to visual art. This can include not only major areas like painting, sculpture, and architecture, but also topics like folk art, interior design, landscape architecture, or jewelry design. You can choose to study a style of art, such as Impressionism, you can research an individual artist, or you can concentrate on one work of art. You should be careful, though, not to choose a topic that is too broad. If you need help narrowing down a topic, you can see me after class or during office hours.

**Research.** You must have three library sources, that is, books or articles from art journals. You may use the Internet, and of course you must reference these sources, but they will not count as one of the three sources. If you choose to research a living artist, personal conversation with the artist can count as one of your sources.

Suggestion: After you have done your research and taken notes, try brainstorming for ideas - just jot down anything that strikes you as important. Then make a rough outline to help you organize your ideas and establish a sequence for writing the paper.

Once you have a first draft, then go back over your work carefully, checking for grammar and spelling errors. At this point you might want to take your paper to one of the writing centers on campus for additional help.

**Mechanics.** The paper is to be 5-7 pages, preferably word-processed. It must have a title page, foot- or endnotes, **and** a bibliography page.

To reference sources in art history, we use foot- or endnotes. Footnotes are found at the bottom on the page, endnotes at the end of the paper. This is sometimes known as the MLA style. Do not use parentheses.

Foot- or endnotes are numbered consecutively; do not use a number more than once. If you want to refer again to the same source, you may use a shortened form, as shown below.

Foot- or endnote style:

1. F. Smith, *Three Critical Periods in Art*, (London 1995) 43-44.
2. C. Johnson, "The Great War," *Art Journal* 43 (1998), 17-19.
3. Smith, *Three Critical Periods*, 25.
4. M. Huntley, personal communication, 25 February, 2000.

Note 1 above shows the format for a book, note 2 that for an article from a journal or magazine, and note 3 shows a shortened version of note 1. Note 4 gives the format for an interview.

## Bibliography

This must be a separate page at the end of the paper. It is alphabetized (last name first), not numbered, and only includes page numbers for articles, not books.

Johnson, C., "The Great War," *Art Journal* 43 (1998), 9-27.  
Smith, F., *Three Critical Periods in Art*. London, 1995.

**Plagiarism.** You must give references for information and for ideas, even if not quoted directly (and of course for quotes). Failure to reference is plagiarism.

**Schedule of Classes   Idea and Image      Fall 2010**

Aug. 31	Intro to course: What is art? What is art history? Ch. 1
Sep. 2	Style, Form, and Content, Ch. 4
Sep. 7	Visual Elements, Ch. 2
Sep. 9	Principles of Design, Ch. 3
Sep. 14	What is a collage? Group work on visual elements and principles of design
Sep. 16	<b>QUIZ</b> on visual elements and principles of design
Sep. 21	Drawing and painting, materials and techniques, Ch. 5+6
Sep. 23	Printmaking and Imaging, Ch. 7+8
Sep. 28	Sculpture and Site Specific art, Ch. 9+10
Sep. 30	<b>COLLAGE AND ESSAY DUE</b> Critique
Oct. 5	Architecture, Ch. 11
Oct. 7	Craft and Design, Ch. 12
Oct. 12	<b>FALL RECESS</b>
Oct. 14	Review
Oct. 19	<b>QUIZ</b> on two and three dimensional media
Oct. 21	Ancient Art, Ch. 13
Oct. 26	Greek and Roman Art, Ch. 14
Oct. 28	Christian Art, Ch. 15

Nov. 2            Renaissance Art, Ch. 16

Nov. 4            Baroque Art, Ch. 17

**Class schedule, continued**

Nov. 9            Non-Western Art, Ch. 18

Nov. 11           **QUIZ** on art through the ages  
Discussion of term paper format

Nov. 14           Modern Art, Ch. 19  
Discussion of term paper format

Nov. 16           20<sup>th</sup> Century Art, Ch. 20  
**RESEARCH PAPERS DUE**

Nov. 18           20<sup>th</sup> Century Art, Ch. 21

Nov. 23           **THANKSGIVING RECESS**

Nov. 25           **THANKSGIVING RECESS**

Nov. 30           21<sup>st</sup> Century Art, Ch. 22

Dec. 2            Review

Dec. 7            **QUIZ** on Modern and Postmodern times

Dec. 9            Review

**FINAL:           TO BE ANNOUNCED**