

VART 391 HISTORY OF ART II

Prof. Mercedes Carrara
M.T.Th. 11:30 – 12:25

Office hours
M.T.Th. 8:25-9:25

Textbook: **H. W. Janson and Anthony F. Janson**, *History of Art*. 6th edition revised, 2004. New Jersey: Prentice Hall, Inc. and Harry N. Abrams, Inc.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course is divided into three parts with three exams, one after each part. First exam will be on **Thursday, February 1**. Second examination will be on **Thursday, March 8**. Final examination will be announced by the administration.

First Test, Thursday February 1.

Chapters covered: Italian Early and High Renaissance art in the 15th and 16th centuries (chapters 12 and 13). The last lecture for the first test will be held on Monday, January 29. A review session of all the slides discussed will be held on Tuesday, January 30.

CDs of all the lectures with the **plans** and **hidden slides** are available for five euros. The money goes to the Matt Madison Scholarship Fund started by GIF students after Matt's untimely death last December.

Each chapter starts with the general characteristics of the period discussed. This part is essential for a better understanding of the period. After the introductory paragraphs, students are only responsible for the pictures discussed in class. It is suggested that students read the textbook after each lecture in order to add any extra information on the pictures to their class notes. Before each class students are given an outline with all the slides discussed.

The last lecture for the first test will be held on Monday, January 30. A review session of all the slides discussed will be held on Tuesday, January 31.

The class begins with Early Renaissance sculpture with statues by Nanni di Banco and Donatello for Orsanmichele and Giotto's Bell Tower. It then covers the architecture of Filippo Brunelleschi and his discovery of one point perspective. Masaccio, his followers, and painting in Florence until 1450 will cover the first half of the 15th century.

The second half of the 15th century shows how the Early Renaissance style started in Florence, then moved to Venice. The paintings of Florence's Sandro Botticelli and Venice's Andrea Mantegna, Leon Battista Alberti's architecture, and Andrea del Verrocchio's sculpture will show the stylistic differences in Early Renaissance art from 1450 to 1500.

High Renaissance art in Florence and Rome will be analyzed in great detail. It will cover Bramante's project for *St. Peter's*, Michelangelo's *David*, and *Sistine Chapel ceiling*, Leonardo da Vinci's *Mona Lisa*, and Raphael's Vatican frescoes.

The works of Venetian 16th century painters Giorgione and Titian will finish covering the careers of the six foremost artists of the High Renaissance.

Each session has its own exam thus the final is not comprehensive but only touches the last part of the material.

Second Test – Thursday, March 8.

Mannerist architecture and sculpture in Italy, Northern Renaissance art, Baroque and Rococo art. Students are responsible for chapters 14-20 leaving out chapter 15 since it was covered last semester.

Second part of the course shows how the Renaissance style moved to Northern Europe. It then covers 17th and 18th century Baroque and Rococo. Baroque painting started in Rome with Caravaggio, Artemisia Gentileschi, and the Carraccis. It then spread to the rest of Europe with painters such as the Spaniard Diego Velázquez, the Dutch masters Rembrandt and Vermeer, and the Flemish Peter Paul Rubens. Baroque and Rococo sculpture and architecture will end the material for the second examination.

Third Part – Final to be announced

Artistic movements in the 19th and 20th centuries. Chapters 21 to 26.

The last part of the course covers 19th and 20th century art including the most important artistic movements of these two centuries such as Romanticism (Constable), Realism (Courbet), Impressionism (Manet and Renoir), Expressionism (Matisse), Cubism (Picasso), Futurism (Boccioni), Surrealism (Dalí), and others. The students are only responsible for the artists and movements discussed in class.

Final Project – Due Tuesday April 3 at the latest

A ten page paper on a favorite artist or artists with a bibliography of at least five sources will be the fourth assignment for the course. It can be prepared as soon as the choice has been made. A list of possible topics is listed below. Students are free to choose the subject they prefer. The list is simply a sample of the innumerable possibilities waiting to be researched.

(1) The artist could be one that was not covered in class but whose works you have seen in your travels. Pictures of his/her work should be included.

(2) If the artist chosen is a painter as well as an architect and a sculptor, his activity can be limited to one area.

(3) Students can also analyze works done by various artists for a pope or ruler: for example the works done by Mannerist artists for Francis I of France and Cosimo I of Florence.

(4) Another possibility could be a paper regarding the development of portraiture in the Renaissance and/or the Baroque, Neoclassic, Romantic, Neoclassic periods.

(5) A comparison between artists using the same subject for example the differences between *Davids* done in different periods by Donatello, Michelangelo, and Bernini.

Formats for Art History Tests

Art history tests usually follow the same format. The first part involves slide identification and discussion. Students are shown two slides or a slide set at a time to be discussed, compared, and contrasted for 10 minutes. There will be three slide sets of ten minutes each. The second part is simple slide identification, and the third an essay question with different choices.

ABSENCE POLICY

University policy allows a maximum of six absences for a three credit course. At the seventh absence the student's grade is lowered of a half point grade: from A to A-, A- to B+, B+ to B, and so on. Exams missed for traveling will be made up orally with a 10 point demerit, that is 90 or A- will be the maximum grade.