

**Course Code & No. - Section:** ARTH 301-1  
**Course Title (Credits):** Early through Proto-Renaissance Art History  
**Term & Year:** Fall / 2014  
**Course Ref. No. (CRN):** 80182

**Instructor:** Paris Almond, MFA  
**Phone:** 775-750-4661 cell (no weekend calls)  
**Email:** [palmond@sierranevada.edu](mailto:palmond@sierranevada.edu)  
**Conferences:** T/TH, 12:45 - 1pm (or by appointment)

**Class Meeting Time:** T/TH, 11:30 - 12:45 am  
**Location:** Holman Art & Media Center, Room 203

### Course Description

This Art History survey course covers the periods from the Paleolithic through Early Renaissance art, focusing primarily on Western civilization, but with some attention to non-western cultures. This course is for beginners and assumes no prior knowledge of art history. It will provide a solid foundation for further study both of art and the world. During this survey course, we will be covering a large amount of material at a rapid pace. You will view many images, learn about artworks from within their historical context, and you'll also learn how to discuss images using a formal aesthetic "art historical" language. Throughout this course, research and writing are emphasized so that by the end of the semester you will feel prepared to write and present a formal art historical research paper.

This course is as much chronological as it is cross-cultural. Even though I will be doing my best to present material in an orderly fashion, you will find that the progression of aesthetic taste in the arts is not linear! Through the cross-cultural analysis of social, cultural, religious, and historical events, we'll compare the stylistic characteristics of cultures around the globe and find out how and why the information and artifacts of antiquity are still relevant. Material in the classroom is presented through slide-lecture and class discussion. Assignments, videos, and any additional readings will be posted on our class website at [coursemate.cengage.com](http://coursemate.cengage.com), code: **CM-9781428273948-0000132**

### Course Objectives:

- To develop a general knowledge of the periods and significant art objects from the Paleolithic to the late Gothic/proto-Renaissance (*general art historical knowledge*)
- To cultivate a working knowledge of art historical terms, concepts, and techniques (*acquire appropriate art historical terminology*)
- To better understand the interdependent relationships between politics, economics, religion, and artistic expression (*this is where the relevance to present day comes in*)
- Learn how to perform comprehensive critical and formal analyses of art objects (*you'll learn how talking and writing about art is similar and different to the same practices in different disciplines*)

### Instructional Strategies

This class will utilize slide-lectures, small group discussions and activities, and individual work in class, inquiry and research learning, a field trip, and homework assignments. The course makes use of [coursemate.cengage.com](http://coursemate.cengage.com), a website companion to our text.

### Required Texts and Materials

- Fred S. Kleiner, *Gardner's Art Through the Ages: A Global History*. Vol. 1. 14<sup>th</sup> ed. Boston: Wadsworth, 2010.
- Sylvan Barnet, *A Short Guide to Writing About Art*. 9<sup>th</sup> ed. New Jersey: Prentice Hall, 2010

This course will also utilize the podcast “A History of the World in 100 Objects,” a produced by The British Museum and BBC Radio. Periodically, you will be assigned to listen to a short podcast as part of your weekly assignments. The free podcast can be accessed at

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/ahistoryoftheworld/about/british-museum-objects/>. You may download the entire podcast through iTunes or follow the provided links throughout your syllabus to individual episodes.

*\*Please note, you are expected to spend time viewing each object on the website even if you choose to download the podcast which does not provide images of each piece. You are accountable for the designated objects when it comes to exams.*

### **Recommended Texts and Materials**

- Jonathon Harris, *Art History: The Key Concepts*. New York: Routledge, 2006.
- James Smith Pierce, *From Abacus to Zeus: A Handbook of Art History*. 7<sup>th</sup> ed. New Jersey: Pearson Education, 2004.

### **Attendance**

Attendance will be taken at each class for your points, so absences affect your grade. Arriving late and leaving early affects your grade. Should you miss a class, it is your responsibility to go to our class website to retrieve any assignments, handouts, vocabulary lists, and additional information.

[coursemate.cengage.com](http://coursemate.cengage.com), code: **CM-9781428273948-0000132**

### **Class Requirements**

All electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class, *including computers, tablets, and especially phones*. If you choose to use your phone or electronic device you will have to forfeit your device until the end of class or leave class (counts as an unexcused absence). No headphones, or earbuds allowed in class. Snacks are okay in class but please avoid particularly loud or smelly foods. Beverages are fine. Coffee or tea is encouraged after late-nights or all-nighters.

**Cookie Policy:** If your phone rings or makes an obvious disturbance in class you have to bring in cookies for everybody the following class. Everyone will hold you to it.

**Late Assignment Policy:** No late assignments accepted; no emailed assignments accepted.

### **Prim Library Resources**

In this course, you will be expected to utilize the library's resources (either on-site or remotely) as you complete your assignments and research. Further information on library holdings and online research pertaining to art historical research will be handed out in class or available at our class website.

**Library Guides:** <http://Libguides.sierranevada.edu> These web pages contain instructions about how to use resources available at Prim Library, how to evaluation the appropriateness of information from the Internet for a research paper, how to cite sources, and other topics related to finding and using information.

### **Sanctions for Cheating and/or Plagiarism**

#### **The Honor Code**

SNC students and faculty are expected to be familiar with the principles and guidelines of the Sierra Nevada College Honor Code as published in the current SNC Course Catalog. Faculty and students are expected to read, understand, and uphold the standards of the Honor Code

#### **Consequences of Violating the Student Honor Code**

SNC students and faculty share the responsibility for maintaining an environment of academic honesty. Thus, all are responsible for knowing and abiding by the SNC Faculty/Student Honor Code published in the current SNC Catalog. Faculty are responsible for reporting all incidences of academic dishonesty to the Provost. Students are responsible for knowing what constitutes *cheating, plagiarism, and fabrication*

and for refraining from these and other forms of academic dishonesty. *Academic dishonesty, such as plagiarism, will result in an F in the course and subject to further disciplinary action by the College.*

### **ADA Accommodations**

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, students with a documented disability are eligible for support services and accommodations. If a student wishes to request an accommodation, please contact the Director of Academic Support Services, Henry Conover, at (775) 831-1314 x7534, [hconover@sierranevada.edu](mailto:hconover@sierranevada.edu), office in Prim Library: PL-304.

### **The SNC Email System**

The SNC email system is the official communication vehicle among students, faculty members and administrative staff and is designed to protect the confidentiality of student information as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 Act (FERPA). Students should check their college email accounts daily during the school year.

Students have a right to forward their SNC e-mail to another e-mail account (for example, @hotmail or @gmail). However, confidentiality of student information protected by FERPA cannot be guaranteed for SNC e-mail forwarded to an outside vendor. Having email redirected does not absolve a student from the responsibilities associated with official communication sent to his or her SNC email account.

### **The Sierra Nevada College Mission Statement:**

Sierra Nevada College graduates will be educated to be scholars of and contributors to a sustainable world. Sierra Nevada College combines the liberal arts and professional preparedness through an interdisciplinary curriculum that emphasizes entrepreneurial thinking and environmental, social, economic and educational sustainability.

### **The Core Themes:**

-Liberal Arts    -Professional Preparedness    -Entrepreneurial    -Thinking Sustainability

### **Course Requirements**

- Midterm Exam (120 points)
- Final Exam (120 points) *Exams may consist of image identification, vocabulary, compare & contrast, and short answer, or essay questions. There are no make-ups on exams unless due to emergency only*
- Research Paper or Project (200 total points) *The research paper or project is an opportunity for you to perform an in depth analysis of work of art, a topic, an artist, or a body of work related to our course. You may choose the topic of your choice but I must approve it in advance.*
- Quizzes x 5 (20 points each) *There are no make-ups on quizzes if you are late or absent.*
- Museum Assignment (40 points) *A field trip is scheduled for **11:00 am, Saturday, October 26.** You are responsible for your own transportation. Once at the museum, you will be given a docent-guided tour during which you will take notes. You will write a 500 word essay from these notes, to be turned in at the next regularly scheduled class meeting. Attendance is mandatory. Failure to attend will count as an unexcused absence and you will not receive the points for the assignment.*
- Participation/Attendance (220 points) *Attending class and completing the Guided Reading Questions are your participation points. Guided Reading Questions will be available online to*

*assist in comprehending main themes and topics of each chapter and will aid in studying for quizzes and exams. Guided Reading Questions are worth 10 points each x 16 = 160 points. Please remember, absences affect your grade. Arriving late/leaving early affects your grade.*

**Grading Scale (800 points possible):**

Midterm Exam = **120 points**

Final Exam = **120 points**

Research Paper/Project Proposal = **25 points**

Peer Reviewed Draft of Research Paper/Project = **25 points**

Research Paper/Project Presentation = **50 points**

Final Research Paper/Project = **100 points**

Quizzes x 5 (20 points each) = **100 points**

Museum Essay = **40 points**

Guided Reading Questions (Participation) = 10 points each X 16 = **160 points**

Attendance = **60 points**

**Letter Grade Equivalent:**

720 – 800 = A

639 – 719 = B

558 – 638 = C

477 – 557 = D

0 – 476 = F

**Fall 2014 Weekly Class Schedule**

This schedule is subject to change. Chapter readings and Guided Reading assignments should be completed *before* the class date! **Podcast links** and **Guided Reading Questions** available at:

[coursemate.cengage.com](http://coursemate.cengage.com), code: **CM-9781428273948-0000132**

Week 1	Tuesday	Aug 19	First Day of Class. Welcome to ARTH 301! Course Overview, Syllabus, Assignments, Text
	Thursday	Aug 21	Paleolithic & Neolithic Art Chapter 1 “Art Before History” <b>Chapter 1 Guided Reading Questions Due</b>
Week 2	Tuesday	Aug 26	The Ancient Near East Chapter 2 “The Ancient Near East” <b>Chapter 2 Guided Reading Questions Due</b>
	Thursday	Aug 28	Ancient Egyptian Art Part I Chapter 3 “Egypt Under the Pharaohs” (This is a hefty chapter, so plan accordingly.)
Week 3	Tuesday	Sep 2	Ancient Egyptian Art Part II <b>Chapter 3 Guided Reading Questions Due</b> <b>Quiz #1 – Chapters 1 – 3</b>
	Thursday	Sep 4	Ancient Aegean Art Chapter 4 “The Prehistoric Aegean” Listen to the podcast “Minoan Bull Leaper” <b>Chapter 4 Guided Reading Questions Due</b>

Week 4	Tuesday	Sep 9	Ancient Greece Part I Chapter 5 “Ancient Greece” Read before Thursday: <i>A Short Guide to Writing About Art: Chapter 3 “Formal Analysis and Style”</i>
	Thursday	Sep 11	Ancient Greece Part II & Intro to Formal Analysis <b>Chapter 5 Guided Reading Questions Due</b>
Week 5	Tuesday	Sep 16	Chapter 6 “South and Southeast Asia Before 1200” Listen to the podcast “Pillar of Ashoka” <b>Formal Analysis Writing Assignment Due</b>
	Thursday	Sep 18	Chapter 7 “China and Korea to 1279” <b>Chapter 6 &amp; 7 Guided Reading Questions Due</b> <b>Quiz #2 – Chapters 4 – 7</b>
Week 6	Tuesday	Sep 23	Chapter 8 “Japan Before 1333” Listen to the podcast “Jomon Pot” <b>Chapter 8 Guided Reading Questions Due</b>
	Thursday	Sep 25	Review for Midterm – Chapters 1 – 8
Week 7	Tuesday	Sep 30	<b>Midterm Exam</b>
	Thursday	Oct 2	Chapter 9 “The Etruscans”
Week 8	Tuesday	Oct 7	The Romans Part I Chapter 10 “The Roman Empire” (Again, a hefty chapter, give yourself time over the week to read it entirely) Listen to the podcast “Head of Augustus”
	Thursday	Oct 9	The Romans Part II <b>Chapter 9 &amp; 10 Guided Reading Questions Due</b>
Week 9	Tuesday	Oct 14	Chapter 11 “Late Antiquity” <b>Chapter 11 Guided Reading Questions Due</b> <b>Quiz #3 – Chapters 9 – 11</b>
	Thursday	Oct 16	Byzantine Art Chapter 12 “Byzantium” <b>Chapter 12 Guided Reading Questions Due</b>
Week 10	Tuesday	Oct 21	Chapter 13: “The Islamic World” Listen to the podcast “Tughra of Suleiman the Magnificent” <b>Chapter 13 Guided Reading Questions Due</b> <b>Quiz #4 – Chapter 12 – 13</b>

Week 11	Thursday	Oct 23	**No Class Due to Field Trip on Saturday, October 25**
	Saturday	Oct 25	<b>Class Trip, 11:00am, Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, for Docent-Guided Tour</b>
	Tuesday	Oct 28	Chapter 14 "Native Arts of the Americas Before 1300" Listen to the podcast "Ceremonial Ballgame Belt" <b>Chapter 14 Guided Reading Questions Due</b>
Week 12	Thursday	Oct 30	Chapter 15 "Africa Before 1800" <b>Chapter 15 Guided Reading Questions Due</b> <b>Research Paper Proposals Due</b>
	Tuesday	Nov 4	Chapter 16 "Early Medieval Europe" <b>Chapter 16 Guided Reading Questions Due</b> <b>Quiz #5 – Chapters 14 – 16</b>
	Thursday	Nov 6	Chapter 17 "Romanesque Europe" Listen to the podcast "Lewis Chessmen" <b>Chapter 17 Guided Reading Questions Due</b>
Week 13	Tuesday	Nov 11	Chapter 18 "Gothic Europe" <b>Chapter 18 Guided Reading Questions Due</b>
	Thursday	Nov 13	<b>Class presentations</b>
Week 14	Tuesday	Nov 18	<b>Class presentations</b>
	Thursday	Nov 20	<b>Class presentations</b> <b>Final Paper/Project Due</b>
Week 15	Tuesday	Nov 25	<b>Thanksgiving Break (no class)</b>
	Thursday	Nov 27	<b>Thanksgiving Break (no class)</b>
Week 16	Tuesday	Dec 2	Review for Final – Chapters 1 – 8
	Thursday	Dec 4	Review for Final – Chapters 9 – 18
FINAL WEEK	Friday	Dec 12	<b>Final Exam, 11:30 – 14:30, HAMC 203</b>
	Wednesday	Dec 17	Final Grades filed with Registrar

**Thank you for a great semester!**