

MORAVIAN COLLEGE
Art History Special Topics: ART 310
ART HISTORY WORKSHOP: METHODS, CRITICISM & EXHIBITION PRACTICE
Syllabus

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Office: South Hall, Church St. Campus Hours: Mon & Wed 4-5:00 pm

What is it you want to know about a work of art? Who made it? What's it about? When and where was it made? Why was it made? Is it "good" or "bad" art? The questions that you ask, and how you go about finding the answers, lead straight to issues of methodology.

This course will survey the major art historians, the questions they asked (and the answers they proposed), from the "who" of biography and connoisseurship through the "what" of iconography to the "when, where, why" of social history, Marxism and feminism. It will also survey modern criticism in America; and consider contemporary exhibition practice.

The goal of the course is to become familiar with the development of the discipline and practice of art history and its theoretical underpinnings, both in the classroom and in exhibition.

Class format is lecture, discussion and student projects/ presentations.

REQUIRED TEXTS for purchase

- 1) W. Eugene Kleinbauer, MODERN PERSPECTIVES IN WESTERN ART HISTORY
- 2) Patricia Hills, MODERN ART IN THE USA: ISSUES AND CONTROVERSIES OF THE 20TH CENTURY
- 3) ART IN AMERICAN (subscription)

RECOMMENDED READINGS on reserve in Reeves Library, and
Art News, *Artforum*, and *The New York Times* (week-end editions)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- Students must attend all classes and bring the appropriate required text to each class.
- Three assignments: either short papers (6-8pp) or projects (including oral presentation)
- A field trip to New York City (details to be announced)

Grading: 50% is determined by written work (25% for each paper); 25% by final project; and 25% by class participation and attendance.

Papers: Two short papers, each 5-6 pages in length. Papers are due at the beginning of class; papers handed in at the end of class, or any time after, will be marked down for lateness. Both papers must be completed in order to receive a grade.

Final project includes a 20-minute class presentation.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

I. ART HISTORY METHODOLOGY

Week 1: January 16th & 18th

-Introduction

Kleinbauer, MODERN PERSPECTIVES IN WESTERN ART HISTORY
(What is Art History, pp 1-12)

Week 2: January 23rd & 25th

-Biography

Vasari, LIVES OF THE ARTISTS (Giotto, Michaelangelo & 2 personal selections)

-Intrinsic Perspectives I: Connoisseurship

Kleinbauer . . . (Offner, "GUIDO DA SIENA AND AD 1221)

Week 3: January 30th & February 1st

-Intrinsic Perspectives II: Formalism

Kleinbauer . . . (Woelfflin, PRINCIPLES OF ART HISTORY)

-Intrinsic Perspectives III: Iconography

Kleinbauer . . . (Panofsky, JAN VAN EYCK'S 'ARNOLFINI PORTRAIT')

Week 4: February 6th & 8th

-Extrinsic Perspectives I: Psychology and Art/ Perception

Kleinbauer . . . (Gombrich, LIGHT, FORM, AND TEXTURE. . . .)

-Extrinsic Perspectives I: Psychology and Art/ Psychoanalysis

Kleinbauer . . . (Kris, A PSYCHOTIC ARTIST. . . .)

Week 5: February 13th & 15th

-Extrinsic Perspectives II: Social and Cultural Art History/ Marxism

Kleinbauer . . . (Antal, REFLECTIONS ON CLASSICISM AND. . . .)

-Extrinsic Perspectives II: Social and Cultural Art History/ Feminism

Pollock, VISION & DIFFERENCE (selections)

[FIRST ASSIGNMENT DUE]

II. ART CRITICISM

Week 6: February 20th & 22nd *Art in America* (February issue)

-1940s to Mid-1950s, Hills, ch 4

- TBA

Week 7: February 27th & March 1st *Art in America* (March issue)

- Greenberg, ART AND CULTURE (selections)

-1955-1967, Hills, ch 5

Week 8: **SPRING BREAK**

Week 9: March 13th & 15th *Artforum*

-1968-1980, Hills, ch 6

-Newman, CHALLENGING ART: ARTFORUM 1962-1974 (selections)
Artforum

Week 10: March 20th & 22nd *Art News*
-1980s—1990s, Hills, ch 7 (selections)
-**GUEST LECTURER** (tentative) Art News
[SECOND ASSIGNMENT DUE]

III. EXHIBITION

Week 11: March 27th & 29th Friday New York Times (*Weekend: Fine Arts, Leisure*)
-Payne Gallery
-Patronage, Taste and Collecting
Kleinbauer . . . (Hartt, ART AND FREEDOM. . . .)

Week 12: April 3rd & 5th Friday New York Times
- The Construction of Knowledge: Museums, Art History. . . . Hills, ch 7, pp 423-32
-**TRIP TO NYC** (tentative)

Week 13: April 10th & 12th Friday New York Times
-Independent Exhibitions
Hills, ch 1, pp 32-42 (ARMORY SHOW, INDEPENDENTS SHOW . . .)
-Trip to Third Street Galleries & Zollner Art Center/ Storm King & Dia Beacon

Week 14: **Easter Break** & April 19th Friday New York Times
-Trip to Allentown Art Museum

Week 15: April 24th & 26th Friday New York Times
-Art in Public Spaces, Hills, ch 7, 433-54
-Trip to Kemerer Art Museum
[THIRD ASSIGNMENT DUE]

Week 16: EXAM WEEK

