

CUYAMACA COLLEGE
OFFICIAL COURSE OUTLINE

ART 140 – HISTORY OF WESTERN ART I: PREHISTORIC TO 1250 A.D.

3 hours lecture, 3 units

Catalog Description

Historical survey of the major art forms (primarily architecture, sculpture, ceramics, painting) of the western world from prehistory to circa 1250 A.D.

Prerequisite

None

Course Objectives

Students will be able to:

- 1) Identify the major art forms in each time period: drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture and architecture
- 2) Identify the principle art making technologies: tools, materials, techniques and processes used in each time period
- 3) Place major artworks within a historical time line
- 4) Analyze compositional strategies used in each time period
- 5) Identify how aesthetics and creativity were used by each time period
- 6) Relate changes in art forms to the cultural climate and changes in politics, religion, philosophy, economics, science, math, technology, safety, environmental, legal, gender, minority cultures and lifestyle issues
- 7) Relate art forms and their content to other disciplines within the time periods

Special Materials Required of Student

None

Minimum Instructional Facilities

Standard classroom with dual 35mm slide projection, overhead projector, video, maps, film projector, laser disk player, multimedia projection

Course Content

- 1) Fine art, craft, applied design, commercial art
- 2) Scale of illusion: realistic, representational, abstract and nonobjective modes
- 3) Structure, style and content
- 4) Beauty and aesthetics
- 5) Proportion and measurement: golden section (.618), bioptic vision (.75)
- 6) Fundamental composition concepts
- 7) Color harmonies
- 8) Artworks from Prehistoric B.C. - 1250 A.D.
 - a. Prehistoric
 - b. Art of the ancient Near and Middle East
 - c. Aegean Art
 - d. Greek Art
 - e. Etruscan Art
 - f. Roman Art
 - g. Early Christian Art
 - h. Byzantine Art
 - i. Islamic Art
 - j. Medieval Art
 - k. Romanesque Art
 - l. Gothic Art

Method of Instruction

- 1) Lectures with transparencies, 35mm slides, videos, video discs, films and/or computer projections
- 2) Instructor demonstrations with live performances, transparencies, 35mm slides, videos, video discs, films and/or computer projections
- 3) Assignments (reading, classroom, homework)
- 4) Internet research
- 5) Individual student conferences
- 6) Journals
- 7) Art exhibitions
- 8) Research projects
- 9) Group projects
- 10) Field trips

Method of Evaluation

A uniformly applied grading system will be established in writing and distributed to all students. The instructor will use multiple measurements to determine the student's intellectual understanding of vocabulary and concepts. Instructor must have a written final exam. Grading options include:

- 1) Attendance and participation in discussions, field trips
- 2) Individual student conferences
- 3) Quantity, quality of assignments (homework, classroom)
- 4) Verbal or written critiques of historical artworks
- 5) Tests (written or objective)
- 6) Term papers in standard English

Texts and References

- 1) Required (representative example): Adams, Laurie Schneider. A History of Western Art, 4th edition. McGraw-Hill, 2005.
- 2) Supplemental: None