

BUTTE COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

ART 2 - Art History Survey I

3 Unit(s)

Prerequisite(s): NONE

Recommended Prep: English Level IV Reading Level IV

Transfer Status: CSU/UC

51 hours Lecture

This course provides an overview of western art and architecture from prehistory through the medieval period within their historical and cultural contexts. (C-ID ARTH 110).

II. OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Identify, examine, and assess representative works of art and architecture from prehistory through the medieval period employing appropriate art historical terminology.
- B. Analyze, discuss, and differentiate works of art and architecture in terms of historical context and cultural values.
- C. Analyze, discuss, and differentiate the roles of art, architecture, and the artist from prehistory through the medieval period.

III. COURSE CONTENT

A. Unit Titles/Suggested Time Schedule

Lecture	
<u>Topics</u>	<u>Hours</u>
1. Introduction to the discipline of Art History: terms, concepts, methodology	3.00
2. Prehistoric and other Small-scale societies	6.00
3. Ancient Near East: Mesopotamia	6.00
4. Egyptian	6.00
5. Aegean and Greek	8.00
6. Etruscan and Roman	5.00
7. Early Christian and Byzantine	3.00
8. Early Medieval, including Carolingian and Ottonian	4.00
9. Romanesque	4.00
10. Gothic	6.00
Total Hours	51.00

IV. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- A. Lecture
- B. Instructor Demonstrations
- C. Class Activities
- D. Homework: Students are required to complete two hours of outside-of-class homework for each hour of lecture
- E. Discussion
- F. Reading Assignments
- G. Multimedia Presentations

V. METHODS OF EVALUATION

- A. Exams/Tests
- B. Written Assignments
- C. Written Examinations
- D. Mid-term and final examinations
- E. Essays and research papers
- F. Class Discussion

VI. EXAMPLES OF ASSIGNMENTS

A. Reading Assignments

1. Read Chapter 1 in Jansen's History of Art, on Prehistoric Art, and come to class prepared to discuss the various theories about the possible functions of Upper-Paleolithic art.
2. Access Oxford Art Online, through the Library website, and research the Akkadian "Victory Stele of Naram-Sin". Be prepared to discuss or write on the parallels between this sculpture and the Egyptian "Palette of King Narmer".

B. Writing Assignments

1. Art in Small-scale Societies:

In this paper, to be written in essay format, you will describe the commonalities and contrasts between the artworks of Upper-Paleolithic hunter-gatherers and Indigenous Australian Aborigines.

What can be learned from the physical evidence and the use of "cultural analogy" about the importance of art to everyday life for people living in small-scale societies?

2. Spirit in the Stone: Using examples of art and architecture from Ancient Greece, Rome, and Medieval European Roman Catholicism (Romanesque and Gothic styles), examine the religious uses of material objects and constructed environments. Why did people seem to need tangible concrete objects and structured environments to effectively practice their various spiritual faiths?

C. Out-of-Class Assignments

1. View a selection of 6 Roman portrait busts in class, and attempt to infer characteristics of their personalities from the way the sculptors represented them. Then, research these individuals, and write a paper comparing their actual personalities to your initial impressions. How close did the sculptors come to conveying the actual personality of each person?
2. Explore the websites: Google Art Project, or Web Gallery of Art. Find an artwork of interest to you. Write a short paper in which you describe, interpret, and evaluate the selected artwork.

VII. RECOMMENDED MATERIALS OF INSTRUCTION

Textbooks:

- A. Davies, P., Denny, W., Hofrichter, F., Janson, A., et al. Janson's History of Art: The Western Tradition (8th Edition). 8th Edition. Prentice Hall, 2010.

Materials Other Than Textbooks:

- A. Library resources, such as Oxford Art Online
- B. Websites