

Las Positas College  
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## Course Outline for ARHS 1

### INTRODUCTION TO ART

Effective: Fall 2014

#### I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

ARHS 1 — INTRODUCTION TO ART — 3.00 units

Architecture, sculpture, painting, photography and design in relation to human inventiveness in providing for material and aesthetic needs. This course provides a general introduction to art that offers a look at works of art through the study of theory, terminology, themes, design principles, media, techniques, with an introduction to the visual arts across time and diverse cultures. 3 hours lecture.

3.00 Units Lecture

#### **Strongly Recommended**

- Eligibility for ENG 1A -  
with a minimum grade of C

#### **Grading Methods:**

Letter or P/NP

#### **Discipline:**

	<b>MIN</b>
<b>Lecture Hours:</b>	54.00
<b>Total Hours:</b>	54.00

#### II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 1

#### III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

**Before entering this course, it is strongly recommended that the student should be able to:**

A. -Eligibility for ENG 1A

#### IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

**Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:**

1. Evaluate and critique works of art and architecture based on formal elements and principles of design and employing appropriate art historical terminology
2. Analyze, evaluate, and distinguish materials and techniques used for creating art and architecture
3. Differentiate art historical methodologies
4. Identify, analyze, and discuss the functions of art and architecture and the roles of artists in diverse cultures

#### V. CONTENT:

1. Defining Art: Functions
2. Visual Elements of Art
3. Principles of Design
4. Media and Techniques
5. Methodologies of Art History and Art Criticism
6. Overview of Art History from a global perspective

#### VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. **Lecture** -
- B. **Discussion** -
- C. **Demonstration** -
- D. **Lecture** -
- E. **Audio-visual Activity** - Slides, PowerPoint, and videos
- F. **Field Trips** - A museum and a gallery visit with an appropriate exhibition
- G. **Student Presentations** -

#### H. Examples of student and professional work

### VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

#### A. Writing or Discussion

1. Discuss the impact on the environment from such works as Smithson's Spiral Jetty or Christo's Running Fence.
2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of painting with synthetic media as opposed to the more traditional oil paints?
3. Compare and contrast the expressive possibilities of drawing with metalpoint and with charcoal.
4. Explain why you think the authorship of a work of art is important to the viewer's appreciation of that work. Refer in your discussion specifically to The Polish Rider, which may or may not have been painted by Rembrandt himself.
5. Explain the major differences between the Postmodern style of architecture that emerged in the 1980's and the International style prevalent in the 1960's and 1970's.

#### B. Projects

1. Critique in detail one work you find personally the most interesting (include overlay). Make a comparison with another artist of another style or period (include overlay). Make sure your comparison relates by theme (war, love, fantasy, etc.), meaning (iconography or representation/abstract), or subject (landscape/landscape, portrait/portrait, still life/still life, etc.) Discuss how both images are the same, and how they are different in regards to the following: line, shape, mass, light, value, color (hues and chroma), texture, pattern, space, time and motion, theme, meaning, subject, and all the principles of design.
2. Explain the various ways in which art is present in your daily life, and consider how you might live more actively with that art.

### VIII. EVALUATION:

#### A. **Methods**

1. Exams/Tests
2. Quizzes
3. Oral Presentation
4. Projects
5. Home Work

#### B. **Frequency**

1. 2-4 quizzes
2. Weekly critiques of art work
3. 1 Midterm project
4. Daily class participation

### IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

1. Fichner-Rathus, L *Understanding Art*. 9th ed., Cengage Learning, 2009.
2. Lazzari, M. and Schleiser, D *Exploring Art: A Global, Thematic Approach*. 4th ed., Cengage Learning, 2011.
3. Preble, S. and Frank, P *Prebles' Artforms*. 10th ed., Pearson, 2011.
4. Sayre, H *A World of Art*. 7th ed., Prentice Hall, 2012.

### X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS: