

Art Appreciation
Art 1301
Sul Ross State University
Spring 2026

Schedule: Asynchronous

Location: Sul Ross State University

Instructor: Mr. Jose O. Villarreal

Contact: 830-374-0076 ext. 270

Office Hours: 3:30 - 4:00 p.m.

Course Description:

This course is an introductory course that will be delivered through BlackBoard and Collaborate.

The course is designed to help students answer the following questions;

What is art?

What does a work of art mean?

What drives an artist to create?

What makes art valuable?

And why is art important?

Textbook and Technology Requirements for the class:

- Required reading: Mark Getlein and Kelly Donahue-Wallace, Living with Art, 13th edition, 2024. PC, laptop, or tablet

GRADING SCALE:

Chapter Quizzes: 25%

Formal Analysis Paper: 20%

Film responses: 20%

Artists Blog: 10%

Midterm & Final Exam: 25%

You will be graded on **Chapter Quizzes**, **Formal Analysis Paper**, **Film Responses**, **Artists' Blog**, and **two exams**. Students are required to participate in discussions. There will be ten quizzes, mid mid-term, and a Final Exam. Each quiz will cover the required/lecture chapters. There will be five **Formal Analysis Essays before the midterm**. There will be five **Film Responses** after the midterm. Essays will consist of a minimum of a 250-word paper written in MLA format. All writings should exhibit concise reasoning, good organization, and proper formatting. **A work cited page is required; use the PURDUE Owl site for proper stylistic and formatting rules.** Details on each assignment (Art projects) will be presented as an artist's blog. There will be five blogs. The student will create a blog post by selecting various artists, analyzing their artwork, and writing a brief history of each artist, their art form, and their awards and accomplishments.

Resource: [MLA Sample Paper - Purdue OWL](#)

Late work will incur a 10-point deduction from the total grade after the due date.

Make-up work will be permitted. It is the student's responsibility to contact the professor and arrange it.

Extra Credit: Earn extra credit by visiting an art museum, documenting the visit, and writing a formal analysis of the experience, which will be posted to the students' artists' blog.

Attendance:

Nine absences result in you being dropped from the course with a grade of "F" as per university policy. Upon the 4th unexcused absence, you will be dropped one letter grade. Upon the 6th unexcused absence, you will be dropped another letter grade. And upon the 8th unexcused absence, you will be dropped yet another letter grade. Plain and simple... attendance is crucial to your survival in this course.

If you must miss a class for a school-related activity, the absence must be discussed (and arrangements made regarding coursework) before the absence. If you must miss a class for an emergency or illness, please contact me by email or phone as soon as possible and provide documentation (such as a doctor's note). Late work will not be accepted unless you have contacted me about extenuating circumstances before the due date. Extenuating circumstances will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Plagiarism, cheating, or any other form of dishonesty in the classroom or on assignments will not be tolerated. Rules and regulations regarding plagiarism, dishonesty, and other issues related to classroom participation can be found in The University Rules and Regulations and the Student Handbook. A student found to be engaging in these activities will be penalized to the full extent of university policy.

SRSU Disability Services:

Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. Any student who, because of a disability, may require special arrangements to meet the course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make necessary arrangements. If an accommodation is needed, students must present their accommodation letter, obtained from Accessibility Services, as soon as possible. Please note that instructors are not permitted to provide classroom accommodations to a student until the appropriate verification has been received. Accessibility Services is in Ferguson Hall, room 112. You can make an appointment by calling Mary Schwartze Grisham at 432-837-8203.

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WEEK 1

Introduction: Syllabus review and class requirements. Class Introduction and discussion on Chapters 1 and 2.

WEEK 2 Class Discussion: Chapters 3 and 4. Formal Analysis #1 due and Art Quiz #1.

WEEK 3 Class Discussion: Chapters 5 and 6. Formal Analysis #2 due and Art Quiz #2 and Artists Blog #1

WEEK 4 Class Discussion: Chapters 7 and 8. Formal Analysis #3 due and Art Quiz #3.

WEEK 5 Class Discussion: Chapters 9 and 10. Formal Analysis #4 due and Art Quiz #4 and Artists Blog #2

WEEK 6 Class Discussion: Chapters 11 and 12. Formal Analysis #5 due and Art Quiz #5.

WEEK 7 Class Discussion: Chapters 13 and 14. Art Quiz #6 and Artists Blog #3

WEEK 8 Review and Midterm

Spring Break March 9 - 13

WEEK 9 Class Discussion: Chapters 15 and 16.

WEEK 10 Class Discussion: Chapters 17 and 18. Film Response #1 due and Art Quiz #7.

WEEK 11 Class Discussion: Chapters 19 and 20. Film Response #2 due and Art Quiz #8 and Artists Blog #4

WEEK 12 Class Discussion: Chapters 21 and 22. Film Response #3 due and Art Quiz #9.

WEEK 13 Class Discussion: Chapters 23 and 24. Film Response #4 due and Art Quiz #10 and Artists Blog #5

WEEK 14 Class Discussion Chapter 25. Film Response #5 due.

WEEK 15 Review for final

WEEK 16 Final Exam

The course will examine the vocabulary used to describe art, discuss the processes involved in creating art, and survey the history of art. By the end of the semester, students will gain a deeper appreciation of artists and their work, along with an enthusiasm and understanding of the visual arts that will enrich their lives.

Texas State Core Curriculum Skill Objectives:

The Core Skill Objectives facilitated by Art Appreciation are:

1. Teamwork
2. Communication
3. Critical thinking
4. Social responsibility
5. Personal responsibility

Student Learning Outcomes:

Learning Outcomes facilitated by Art Appreciation are:

1. Students will become aware of the vocabulary utilized to discuss and describe art.
2. Students will be introduced to the elements, principles, theories, and styles of art.
3. Students will be introduced to the tools and techniques of making art.
4. Students will utilize these processes to create art.
5. Students will gain an awareness of art history in an abbreviated form.
6. Students will develop critical thinking skills through the examination of individual works of art.
7. Students will be able to synthesize, describe, and place works into social and historical contexts.
8. Students will learn to develop and express ideas clearly, consider the effects of meaning and message, as well as other communication skills, by working together in groups, creating presentations, and through hands-on projects.
9. Students will develop teamwork skills by working together in groups on assigned tasks.
10. Students will develop an appreciation for the visual arts, crafts, and the human imagination.
11. Students will develop personal and social responsibility through management of individual and group requirements within the course, as well as through examples of personal and social justice inherent in the history of art throughout the world.

Please note that this syllabus is subject to change.