

Art Appreciation

ART 1301 – 22174

**Sul Ross State University
Spring 2026**

Schedule: Monday and Wednesday; 3:00 — 4:20 PM

Location: Web Delivered to CC Winn Dual Credit Program: Art Appreciation (CW1)

Instructor: Ms. Katrina Jane

Contact: katrina.jane@sulross.edu

Office Hours: By Appointment via email request; please put your name, school name, and “Art Appreciation” in the subject line of your email.

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?

Why is art important?

The course will examine the vocabulary used to describe art, discuss the processes involved in creating art, and survey the history of art over time. 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 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.

Please note this syllabus is subject to change.

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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.

Textbook and Materials for the class:

- **Required reading: Mark Getlein and Kelly Donahue-Wallace, *Living with Art*, 13th edition, 2024**
 - Notebook for taking notes and sketching assignments
 - #2 Pencil, preferably made of wood, not mechanical

Evaluation:

Participation: 20% (Includes weekly response prompts posted in Blackboard)

Formal Analysis Papers: 30% (2 Formal Analysis Papers; each 15%)

Artist Spotlight Analysis Responses: 30% (3 Artist Analysis Responses; each 10%)

Midterm: 10%

Final Exam: 10%

Total: 100%

You will be graded on: **Participation, Formal Analysis Papers, Artist Spotlight Analysis Responses**, and **two exams, the midterm and final**. Students are required to participate in discussions. If you rarely or never offer thoughtful comments or questions, you will only get half credit for your participation grade. If you aren't comfortable speaking in front of the class, please come and discuss your concerns with the professor. Details on each assignment (creative projects) will be presented when assigned.

The **Formal Analysis Essays** and **Artist Spotlight Analysis Responses** consist of a minimum of a 250-word paper, written in MLA format. **Formal Analysis Essays** are reflections on a work of art discussed in class. **Artist Spotlight Analysis Responses** will be assigned from the uploaded video options selected from the [Louisiana Channel Videos on the arts](#), featuring the artists (available on Blackboard). Note: All writings should exhibit concise reasoning, good organization, and proper formatting.

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Note: Footnotes and bibliography are not required, but if you do use outside materials, you must use footnotes and you **MUST** observe proper stylistic and formatting rules.

NOTE: Late work will have a deduction of 10 points per week from the total grade after the due date.

Extra Credit: Earn extra credit by visiting an art gallery, happening, museum, artist studio and document the visit with a written formal analysis as defined below. Respond to the two additional discussion topics posted in Blackboard.

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. Upon the 8th unexcused absence, you will be dropped yet another letter grade. Attendance is crucial to your success 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.

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

Plagiarizing, cheating, or any other dishonest behavior in the classroom or on assignments will not be tolerated. Rules and regulations regarding plagiarism, dishonesty, and other issues concerning 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: Wednesday 01/14

Syllabus review and class requirements; PPT class introduction & discussion;
Homework: read chapters 1, 2, 3; discussion response #1

Week 2: Wednesday 01/21

Seeing the value in art, artists and audience, and themes/functions of art;
PPT 1, 2, 3; *Homework: read chapter 4, 5; Assignment: Artist Spotlight*
Analysis # 1: Sheila Hicks, We're Crying For Softness; *discussion response #2*

Week 3: Monday 01/26 & Wednesday 01/28

The Vocabulary of Art: Elements and Principles; PPT 4, 5; *Homework: read chapters 6, 7 & discussion response #3*

Week 4: Monday 02/02 & Wednesday 02/04

Two-Dimensional Media: Drawing; PPT Formal Analysis Essay 1 & student presentation of chosen work of art; PPT 6; *Homework: read chapter 8 & discussion response #4; Artist Spotlight Analysis #1 due 02/04*

Week 5: Monday 02/09 & Wednesday 02/11

Two-Dimensional Media: Paintings and Prints; PPT 7, 8; *Homework: read chapter 9, 10 & discussion response #5*

Week 6: Monday 02/16 & Wednesday 02/18

Two-Dimensional Media: Camera/Digital and Graphic Design; Formal Analysis Essay #1 due 02/18; PPT 9, 10; *Homework: read chapter 11, 12, 13 & discussion response #6*

Week 7: Monday 02/23 & Wednesday 02/25

Three-Dimensional Media: Sculpture and Installation, Arts of Ritual and Daily Life, Architecture; PPT 11, 12, 13 discussion; *Homework: STUDY for Midterm Exam (no discussion response required this week)*

Week 8: Monday 03/02 & 03/04

Review for Midterm on Wednesday 03/04; *Homework: read chapters 14, 15*

SPRING BREAK: March 9-13th

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Week 9: Monday 03/16 & Wednesday 03/18

Arts In Time: Ancient Art, Christianity, and the Formation of Europe; PPT 14, 15; *Homework: read chapters 16, 17 & discussion response #7;* **Assignment: Artist Spotlight Analysis #2: Frank Bowling: The Light That Others Will See**

Week 10: Monday 03/23 & Wednesday 03/ 25

Arts In Time: The Renaissance; PPT 16; *Homework: read chapters 17, 18 & discussion response #8;* **Artist Spotlight Analysis #2 Due 03/25**

Week 11: Monday 03/30 & Wednesday 04/01

Arts In Time: The 17th and 18th Centuries, Arts of Islam and Africa; PPT 17, 18; *Homework: read chapters 19, 20 & discussion response #9;* **Assignment: Artist Spotlight Analysis #3: Your choice from Louisiana Channel Artist Videos**

Week 12: Monday 04/06 & Wednesday 04/08

Arts In Time: Arts of Asia, India, Japan, Art of the Pacific Americas; PPT 19, 20; *Homework: read chapter 21 & discussion response #10;* **Artists Spotlight Analysis #3 due 04/08**

Week 13: Monday 04/13 & Wednesday 04/15

Arts In Time: The Modern World: 1800-1945; PPT 21; *Homework: read chapters 22, 23 & discussion respond #11 (extra credit)*

Week 14: Monday 04/20 & Wednesday 04/22

Arts In Time: From Modern to Post Modern, Contemporary Art Around the World; PPT 22, 23; **Assignment: Formal Analysis Essay 2;** *discussion response #12 (extra credit)*

Week 15: Monday 04/27 & Wednesday 04/29

Review for Final and Dead Day 16-week term; Review PPT; **Formal Analysis Essay 2 due 02/29** and all outstanding assignments due by noon on April 29th to be considered for course credit.

Week 16: Monday 05/04 & Wednesday 05/06

FINAL EXAM: Monday, May 4 3:00—4:20 PM

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Rubric for Formal Analysis Essays and Artist Spotlight Analysis

Note: The rubric for Formal Analysis #1 and the final essay (Formal Analysis #2) will be utilized for the Core Assessment—skill objective: Critical Thinking.

- **Formal Analysis 1 & 2:** Critique employing Elements, Principles, and Functions Art. A concise formal essay written in the third person, comprising of five paragraphs: Introduction/Thesis, and three body paragraphs focusing on the Elements, Principles and Functions of Art.
 - *Introduction: Purpose/thesis, art information, and description; 20 points*
 - *Body Paragraph (Elements): Main ideas, supporting details, and analysis; 20 points*
 - *Body Paragraph (Principles): Main ideas, supporting details, and analysis; 20 points*
 - *Body paragraph (Functions/Social Responsibility): Main ideas, supporting details, and analysis; 20 points*
 - *Conclusion: Summary statement, critique/judgement; 20 points*

Total points: 100 each

- **Artist Spotlight Analysis 1, 2, & 3:** Watch the selected Louisiana Channel, Video on the arts, featuring the artists' selected and posted to Blackboard.
 - *Write a brief essay response reflecting on the elements of art the artists' use in their work (20 points), define their working medium or mediums using an artistic vocabulary (20 points), describe how the artists uses the principles of art in their practice (20 points), explain the social and cultural relevance of the artists' work (20 points), share your personal critique on the impact of the chosen artists' practice in relationship to art appreciation. (20 points).*

Total Points: 100 each

LOUISIANA Channel: Videos on the arts, featuring the artists