

NHTI Course Syllabus for VRTS 112C ZZ: Survey of Western Art History II

Hours: Lecture-3, Credits-3

Prerequisite(s): None

Term: Spring 2026, January 20th to May 9th

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Faculty Accessibility: Available by appointment

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Course Description

This course examines the history of painting, sculpture, and architecture created by Western Europeans from the early 14th century through the mid-20th century. These works of art are studied as a way to acquire an understanding of the life, beliefs, and priorities of these societies, as well as contemporary culture. Students continue to develop the skills and vocabulary necessary to study a work of art.

Learning Outcomes

Educated Person Statement of Philosophy

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- identify key monuments - painting, sculpture, and architecture-dating from the early 14th century through the mid-20th century in Western Europe
- recognize key elements of the form, subject matter, and content of the works of art they study and understand the foundations of modern art-making
- understand and use interdisciplinary approaches and art historical methodologies when completing written analyses of works of art within an historical and cultural context
- use discipline-specific vocabulary, terminology, and critical skills necessary for the historical study and visual analysis of Western works of art dating from the early 14th century through the mid-20th century

Acquired Knowledge

Students will have learned to visually identify key monuments - painting, sculpture and architecture, dating from the early 14th century through the mid-20th-century in Western Europe. They will learn to recognize key elements of the form, subject matter and content of the works of art they study. Students will gain a deeper understanding of the foundations of Modern art-making.

Acquired Skills

Students develop the ability to use discipline-specific vocabulary, terminology, and critical skills necessary for the historical study and visual analysis of Western works of art dating from the early 14th century through the mid-20th century. They acquire an understanding of, and ability to use interdisciplinary approaches and various art historical methodologies when completing written analyses of works of art within a historical and cultural context.

Course Materials and Resources

Textbooks, required

Gardner's Art Through the Ages, A Concise History of Western Art, Fred S. Kleiner and Christin J. Mamiya, Fourth Edition (Thomson Wadsworth, 2015)

Materials, required

The student's preferred method for lecture notes and studying (notebook, sketchbook, pencils, pens, etc.)

Software, required

To be successful in this course, you will need a reliable internet connection, a standard web browser, a word processing program that will save files in docx or pdf formats, and a device to take high quality digital images of artwork for projects; a smartphone is sufficient for taking photos. Ensure access to these required resources prior to the start of the course.

Resources, suggested

Students are encouraged to explore and use the NHTI-Concord Community College Library, the JSTOR database, online museum resources, and local community libraries.

Textbooks, materials, and software are available online through [eFollett/NHTI Bookstore](#), unless otherwise specified by the instructor.

Canvas Orientation and Technical Support

Canvas Orientation

If this is your first time using Canvas at CCSNH, please complete the Canvas Student Orientation to become familiar with course navigation and course tools.

Available Technical Support

If you need assistance, access the **Canvas Student Guide**, live chat, or phone support by selecting the **Help** button located in the lower-right corner of any Canvas page.

Instructional Approach

Survey of Western Art History II (VRTS 112C) is primarily a lecture course that expands on assigned readings, further cultivates the study of art history, and continues to foster recognition and understanding of key monuments of Western art - painting, sculpture, and architecture. Instructional approaches include lectures, quizzes, exams, discussions, and creative projects to engage learners and cultivate a personal connection to the material.

Educational materials will be posted in weekly modules on Canvas.

Assessment of Learning

Assignment/Assessment Descriptions

The study of art history requires a working knowledge of basic terms and vocabulary, as well as specific works of art. Specific works of art are discussed during lectures, and lists of terms to review are presented at the beginning of the units. Mastering basic terms and immediate visual recall of works of art are necessary requirements for understanding readings, class lectures, and successfully completing essays and exams, and presenting project-based assignments on class discussion boards.

To be successful in this course, the student will:

- Be responsible for all readings and should complete them during the week they are assigned.
- Participate in focused discussions, which include submitting their completed projects to class discussion boards and offering substantial responses to others' submissions.

- Complete one (1) essay (instructions will be posted on Canvas).
- Complete unit projects (instructions will be posted on Canvas).
- Complete weekly quizzes, which will be due on Sundays. These quizzes are based on the video lecture and assigned reading for the specific week.
- Complete two (2) cumulative exams: the midterm and the final.

Quizzes and exams are time-sensitive assignments and are not accepted late.

Grading Criteria and Grade Calculation

Grade Distribution

The final course grade is calculated based on the following categories.

Category:	% of Final Course Grade
Weekly Quizzes	30%
Art Analysis Assignment	10%
Midterm Exam	20%
Comic Strip Assignment	10%
Museum Tour Assignment	10%
Final Exam	20%
Total:	100%.

Grading Scale

Letter grade and grade range for the course is as follows:

- A: 100% to 94%
- A-: <94% to 90%
- B+: <90% to 87%
- B: <87% to 84%
- B-: <84% to 80%
- C+: <80% to 77%
- C: <77% to 74%
- C-: <74% to 70%
- D+: <70% to 67%

D-: <64% to 61

F: <61% to 0%

Course Schedule

This syllabus is to be used as a guide; it contains information about the course, how it will be taught, what will be required of students, and assessment methods that will be used.

All information is subject to change at any time.

Weekly Schedule

Table 2: Weekly Schedule

Week	Dates	Topics	Activities/ Assignments	Due Dates
1	1/20 - 1/25	Introduction Early Northern Renaissance Art	Gardner, pp. 1-12, 81, 120-21 (top), 185, 215 Gardner, pp. 216-24 and p. 249 (The Big Picture-Flanders) Discussion board (DB) post, Quiz 1	DB: 1/25 Quiz 1: 1/25
2	1/26 - 2/1	Prelude - Italian Renaissance	Gardner, pp. 205-12 and p. 215 (The Big Picture-Italy) Quiz 2	Quiz 2: 2/1
3	2/2 - 2/8	15 th C Italian Renaissance	Gardner, pp. 229-40, 243(Alberti), 244 (Perugino) and p. 249 (The Big Picture-Italy) Quiz 3	Quiz 3: 2/8
4	2/9 - 2/15	High Renaissance Art	Gardner, pp. 250-61 Quiz 4 Introduce Art Analysis assignment	Quiz 4: 2/15
5	2/16 - 2/22	16 th C Venetian Art/ Mannerism	Gardner, pp. 265-71, p. 274 (Durer) p. 278 (Bosch) and p. 283 (The Big Picture-Italy) Quiz 5 Art Analysis Outline due	Quiz 5: 2/22 Art Analysis outline: 2/22
6	2/23 - 3/1	17 th C and 18 th C European Art	Gardner, pp. 284-308, and p. 311 (The Big Picture) Quiz 6 Art Analysis rough draft due	Quiz 6: 3/2 Art Analysis rough draft: 3/1
7	3/2 - 3/8	Art Analysis Assignment Midterm Prep	Study for midterm exam Art Analysis assignment due	Art Analysis assignment: 3/8

8	3/9 - 3/14	Midterm Exam		Midterm: 3/14
9	3/15 - 3/22	Spring Break!	No classes	
10	3/23 - 3/29	19 th C European Art: Romanticism 19 th C European Art: Realism	Gardner, pp. 312-16 (Fragonard), 323-26, and p. 329 (The Big Picture) Gardner, pp. 330-46, and p. 355 (Big Picture Romanticism/Realism) Quiz 7 Introduce Comic Strip assignment	Quiz 7: 3/29
11	3/30 - 4/5	Impressionism Post-Impressionism Expressionism	Gardner, pp. 356-69, 370 (Munch), p. 378-81 (Expressionism) and p. 375 (Big Picture) Quiz 8 Comic Strip sketches/outline due	Quiz 8: 4/5 Comic Strip sketches/ outline: 4/5
12	4/6 - 4/12	Comic Strip Assignment	Comic Strip assignment due	Comic Strip assignment: 4/12
13	4/13 - 4/19	Pre-WWII Art	Gardner, pp. 377, 382-88 (Duchamp), 390-93, 394- 96 (Surrealism), 401-04, 408 (Big Picture) Quiz 9 Introduce Museum Tour assignment	Quiz 9: 4/19
14	4/20 - 4/26	Post-WWII Art and mid-20th Century American Art	Gardner, pp. 414-17, 418 (Smith), 423, 426-27, 433 (Smithson), 453-455 Quiz 10 Museum Tour outline due	Quiz 10: 4/26 Museum Tour outline: 4/26
15	4/27 - 5/3	Museum Tour Assignment Final Exam Prep	Study for final exam Museum Tour assignment due	Museum Tour assignment: 5/3
16	5/4 - 5/9	Final Exam		Final Exam: 5/9

Course Notices

Faculty Email Response Time

Within 36 hours; 48 hours on weekends

Posting of Grades

Grades are available throughout the semester with feedback on Canvas.

All assignments must be submitted on Canvas to earn credit. No assignments will be accepted via email.

Attendance Policy

Students are required to complete assignments weekly, as outlined in this syllabus and further explained in the Modules section of Canvas.

Consistent participation and engagement are essential for academic success in this course; missing assignments count towards marked absences. Since this is a college-level course, you are expected to demonstrate critical thinking skills, maintain meaningful engagement, complete complex assignments that require analysis and revisions, adhere to academic integrity standards, and use additional NHTI academic services as needed.

Online courses require students to be self-motivated and practice careful time management; your success in this course is determined by your willingness to be an active participant.

Lack of assignment submissions for four (4) consecutive weeks, or more than six (6) weeks in total, will result in the student being dropped from the course with a final grade of AF (Academic Failure).

Late Assignment Policy

Submitting work in a timely manner is essential to the flow of the course. All assignments must be completed according to instructions (distributed throughout the semester on Canvas) and submitted by the assigned due date. **Late projects are subject to losing 10 points per day, and no late submissions will be accepted after one week past the original due date.**

Quizzes and exams are time-sensitive assignments and are not accepted late.

Participation & Classroom Community

Participation in critiques and class discussion is expected. It is important that students develop informed vocabulary and proficient literacy skills to enable them to intelligently discuss artwork and ideas in this class and in future endeavors. Personal courtesy in language and mannerisms toward instructors and others in the class is a normal expectation. Written work and art themes/work should not denigrate any individual/group, use offensive stereotypes, or display any suggestion of glorifying violence.

Use of AI

AI-generated submissions are not permitted in this course. The development of literacy, analytical, and critical thinking skills is an important part of academic growth, and it is expected that all work submitted for this course is the student's own. Students are prohibited from using generative artificial intelligence tools at any stage of the work process, unless otherwise stated by the instructor.

Do not use AI to create original work, which includes, but is not limited to, writing words for an assignment, creating an image that you credit as your own, using AI tools to answer questions or complete prompts on quizzes/exams, etc.

Academic Affairs Notices

Students are responsible for reading the [Academic Affairs Notices](#), which apply to all NHTI courses and are updated each semester.