Department of History
Art History Course Descriptions
Spring 2019

AAH 1101-001 **History of Western Art: Ancient**
10:00-11:15 a.m.
Dr. Jeanne Brody
This survey of Western Art History covers painting, sculpture, decorative arts, and architecture from prehistory to the Middle Ages. We will consider questions about the origins of art, how it was created, and its artistic techniques, themes, and styles. Special emphasis will be paid to how social, religious, and political climate affected all areas of art production. Through lectures and directed discussions, we will examine not only the linear history of art, but also how the church, governments, philosophers, and artists themselves expressed ideas through art, as well as how such imagery has been interpreted.
Attributes: Fine Arts Requirement

AAH 1104-001 **Visual Arts in US 1877-Present**
M W F 1:30-2:20 p.m.
Dr. Mark Sullivan
A study of painting, sculpture, and architecture done in the United States since the Philadelphia Centennial exhibition from Thomas Eakins and The Gross Clinic to great contemporary artists such as Andrew Wyeth, Frank Gehry, and Jeff Koons.
Attributes: Cultural Studies, Fine Arts Requirement

AAH 1903-001 **Internship Elective**
TBA
Dr. Timothy McCall
Attributes: Fine Arts Requirement

AAH 2002-001 **Early Renaissance Art in Italy**
TR 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m.
Dr. Tim McCall
This course introduces students to the dazzling art and architecture of the Early Italian Renaissance, covering the lives of artists including Giotto, Masaccio, and Donatello. We will investigate art's social, political, and stylistic contexts during the period 1300 to 1475, critically examining a number of important concepts and categories including portraiture, mendicant patronage, material culture, and campanilismo. Artists, works of art, sites of production, materials and techniques, patrons and publics will all be related to specific social, political, economic, and cultural conditions of fourteenth and fifteenth-century Italy. Our focus will range over the Italian Peninsula, from well-known Venice, Florence, and Rome, to less familiar centers such as Rimini, Ferrara, and Naples – and our attention will be turned to radiant altarpieces, stunning frescoes, luminous bronzes, and magnificent palaces.
Attributes: Fine Arts Requirement

AAH 2009-001 **Contemporary Art**
M W F 11:20 a.m. - 12:20 p.m.
Dr. Mark Sullivan
Artistic movements and artists around the world from the 1960s to the present; Pop Art, Minimalism, Neo-expressionism, Arte Povera, Graffiti Art, and Performance Art, from Warhol to Wyeth to Haring and Koons.
Attributes: Cultural Studies, Fine Arts Requirement

AAH 2009-DL1 **Contemporary Art**
TBA
Dr. Jeanne Brody
The term "Contemporary Art" evokes something completely different than the usual definitions found in art history. Art History takes a linear approach and surveys "fine art" objects -- paintings, sculpture, and architecture,--classifying each by its representational movement or period or regional style. Contemporary art defies these traditional boundaries. It is global rather than regional; it is diverse and heterogeneous rather than unified; and rarely can it be limited to a particular style or medium. This 7 week on line course surveys the historical origins of contemporary art and explores the ways artists over the last few decades have challenged notions of what art is and should be. Special emphasis will be paid to how race, gender, socio-economic structures, religious institutions, and political climate have led to new ideas and work, some of which may not even be tangible objects. Through on-line class lectures, power points, videos, and participation in directed on-line and live discussions, students will experience and explore diverse and provocative art and media.
Attributes: Cultural Studies, Distance Learning, Diversity Requirement 2, Diversity Requirement 3, Fast Forward Course, Fine Arts Requirement

AAH 3001-001 **Women in Art**
T R 8:30-9:45 a.m.
Dr. Jeanne Brody
Since 1970, when Linda Nochlin asked "Why Were There No Great Women Artists?" feminist art historians have sought to explore women's place in art and art production. In the past 40 years, feminist art history has evolved from its original goal of rediscovering women artists to include many exciting strategies in thinking about how gender is constructed in art and history. This Art History course will survey the role of gender in art and how women appear as both creators and subjects of art from prehistory to modern times. We will consider women's creative role in society including how women fought to be both professional artists and still fit society's definition of female. Students will read and discuss articles reflecting recent art historical scholarship. The class will visit at least one art exhibition, which focuses on gender issues or women as creator and/or subject.
Attributes: Diversity Requirement 2, Fine Arts Requirement

AAH 3002-001 **Art of Philadelphia**
T R 1:00-2:15 p.m.
Dr. Mark Sullivan
Philadelphia's unique contribution to American painting, sculpture, and architecture, from the early Swedish and Welsh settlers of the Delaware Valley, to Andrew Wyeth and Robert Venturi.
Attributes: Fine Arts Requirement

AAH 3009-100 **Topic: History of Photography**
M W 6:00-7:15 p.m.
Dr. Kim Nastick
A survey of Photography from the 19th-21st century, from glass plate and film photographs to contemporary, high-definition digital photographs. Lectures and discussions about various kinds of subject matter and photographic techniques are filtered through the lenses of capitalism, colonialism, racism, feminism, gender identities, and postmodernism. Women photographers figure prominently throughout the course. May include visits to the Philadelphia Museum of Art and/or The Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts to engage with actual photographs by world-renowned photographers.
Attributes: Diversity Requirement 2, Diversity Requirement 3, Fine Arts Requirement

AAH 5516-001 **Independent Research**
TBA
Dr. Timothy McCall
Attributes: Fine Arts Requirement
Permission of the Chairperson is required.