

Department of Art History
Fall 2018 Courses

AAH 1101-001 **History of Western Art: Ancient – Mediterranean**

T TR 8:30 am – 9:45 am

Dr. Jeanne Brody

This survey of Western Art History covers painting, sculpture, and architecture, and decorative arts 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 religions, governments, philosophers, cultures, and artists themselves expressed ideas through art, as well as how such imagery has been interpreted.

Attributes: Fine Arts Requirement.

HIS 1102-001 **History of Western Art: Renaissance – Contemporary**

M W 3:00 pm – 4:15 pm

Dr. Kim Nastick

A survey of Western Art ranging from 16th century Renaissance painting to 21st century Contemporary painting and photography. Lectures and discussions about the formal qualities of works of art and the stylistic trends developed in different periods in the history of art. An emphasis on the social, political, religious, and philosophical contexts of art. A consideration, as well, of contemporary interpretative interests in race, class, colonialism, sexual and gender identities. Includes a visit to the Philadelphia Museum of Art to enjoy engaging and discussing selected works of art.

Attributes: Fine Arts Requirement.

AAH 1903-001

Internship Elective

Dr. Tim McCall

Permission of program director required.

Attributes: Fine Arts Requirement.

AAH 3003-001

Romanticism – Post-Impressionism

T TR 10:00 am – 11:15 am

Dr. Jeanne Brody

From the power of Neoclassicism to the decadence of the fin-de-siècle, painters, sculptors, and architects challenged tradition and transformed art during the exciting and often turbulent years between 1800 and 1900. This course will explore the social and political climate that nurtured these tendencies. By examining some of the masterpieces of the period, including Manet's Luncheon on the Grass and Van Gogh's Starry Night, as well as equally provocative examples of sculpture and architecture, we will explore this fascinating and increasingly popular period of art history.

Attributes: Fine Arts Requirement.

AAH 3005-001
T TR 4:00 pm – 5:15 pm
Dr. Tim McCall

Gender, Sexuality, and Visual Culture

This course is a critical survey of themes and issues relating to the construction of gender and sexuality as visualized, produced, and expressed in and through art and visual culture. We explore the representation, viewing, production, and interpretation of art with a resolute historicism, while spanning chronological periods and geographic boundaries (focusing primarily, however, on the United States and Europe from the fifteenth century to the present). This course is decisively interdisciplinary in nature; we consider approaches from art history, history, visual studies, film history, and literary criticism. Likewise, the visual materials we investigate cross traditional art historical boundaries, reflecting the more expansive conception of visual and material culture.

We examine topics including, among others, women artists, the gaze, feminist art and art history, queer identities and art, and recent controversies involving censorship and art. Not only artists, but also viewers and spectators, will be shown to interpret creatively, even oppositionally, according to, and sometimes against, various positions and categories of identity. We will explore the ways that visual constructions of gender and sexuality are informed historically by constructions of race and ethnicity, and so too the ways they intersect with understandings and experiences of class, status, and privilege (and, equally, marginalization and exclusion). By investigating what is at stake for those rendered artistically and culturally invisible, and by considering artists who increasingly assert the visibility of marginalized identities and experiences, we can perceive crucial connections between power, normativity, and visual representation.

The course requires first hand looking and writing about a work of art in the Philadelphia Museum of Art or another Philadelphia-area museum or gallery. By employing gender and sexuality as analytical categories and tools, students will become not just more sophisticated art historians, but critical consumers of the visual culture that surrounds us.

Attributes: Cultural Studies, Gender and Women's Studies, Fine Arts, Diversity Requirement 2.



AAH 4010-001
T TR 2:30 pm – 3:45 pm
Dr. Tim McCall

Interpreting Art: Visual and Material Cultures

This seminar will introduce students to essential methodologies and controversies of Art History. We will investigate key concepts of art historical inquiry and more recent trends in art historical

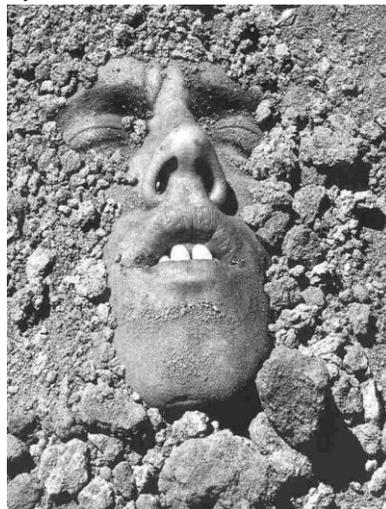
analysis, particularly the turn towards the study of Visual Culture and Material Culture. We will pay close attention to the intersections between visual representation and forms of power, and this course will give students the opportunity to critically examine the ideological frameworks and assumptions that underpin histories of art and images.

We will engage with a wide range of the viewpoints, concepts, and constructs that inform how we do our jobs as students of art and visual culture. Topics will include, among others, Formalism, the Nude, Art and Politics, Spectatorship, and Museums and Power. Images surround us, and students in this class will learn to interpret, understand, and negotiate them in sophisticated ways.

This course will be a discussion-based seminar, and we will cooperate with each other throughout the class by workshopping various writing assignments related to individual research projects. Students who are not art history majors are most welcome, though an interest in interpretation – historical, cinematic, or literary, for instance – is recommended, as would be an interest in images or visual culture.

Attributes: Fine Arts Requirement, Writing Enriched Requirement.

Restrictions: Art History Majors only.



AAH 5515-001
Dr. Tim McCall

Independent Research

Restrictions: Art History Majors only. Permission of program director required.