

Department of History
Undergraduate Art History Course Descriptions
Fall 2016

AAH 1102-001

History of Western Art: Renaissance to Cont.

T/R 8:30 – 9:45 a.m.

Dr. Jeanne Brody

This course is a survey of Western Art History covering paintings, sculpture, and architecture from the Renaissance period to the present. We will consider questions about 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 explore how the church, governments, philosophers, and artists themselves expressed ideas through art, as well as how such imagery has been interpreted by both historical and modern scholars. This class will take a field trip to the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

Attributes: Fine Arts

AAH 1103-001

Visual Arts in the U.S. 1607-1876

MWF 1:30 – 2:20 p.m.

Dr. Mark Sullivan

A survey of painting, sculpture, and architecture done between the founding of Jamestown and the great Centennial Exhibition of 1876 in Philadelphia. Artists featured in this survey will include John Singleton Copley, Charles Willson Peale, Jonathan Trumbull, Thomas Cole, Albert Bierstadt, Frederic Church, Thomas Sully, Thomas Eakins, Mary Cassatt, William Rush, Edmonia Lewis, Thomas Jefferson, Charles Bulfinch, William Strickland, James Renwick, A. J. Davis, A. J. Downing, Richard Morris Hunt, and H. H. Richardson (to name only a few).

Attributes: Fine Arts

AAH 1903-001

Internship Elective

Dr. Mark Sullivan

AAH 2009-001

Contemporary Art

M/W 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Dr. Mark Sullivan

Contemporary Artists: A survey of the world art scene from the 1960s to the present, covering movements such as Pop Art, Minimalism, Neo-Expressionism, Arte Povera, Graffiti Art, and Performance Art. Featured artists will include Andy Warhol, Robert Rauschenberg, Roy Lichtenstein, Anselm Kiefer, Komar and Melamid, Francesco Clemente, Keith Haring, Jean-Michel Basquiat, Laurie Anderson, Joseph Beuys, Andrew Wyeth, Chris Ofili, Damien Hirst, Judy Chicago, and Jennifer Bartlett.

Attributes: Fine Arts

AAH 2993-001
Dr. Mark Sullivan

Internship

AAH 3005-001
T/R 2:30 – 3:45 p.m.
Dr. Timothy McCall

Gender, Sexuality and Visual Cultures

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 and visual culture 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 culture. We examine topics including, among others, women artists, the gaze, feminist art and art history, audience reception and Horror films, 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 gender and sexual identities. The course requires first hand looking and writing about a work of art in the Philadelphia Museum of Art or the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. 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 3007-100
T/R 6:00 – 7:15 p.m.
Dr. Tina Bizarro
TBA

Art of Ireland

AAH 3009-001
T/R 10:00 – 11:15 a.m.
Dr. Jeanne Brody

Impressionism and Post-Impressionism

During the mid-nineteenth century, a radical group of young French artists challenged traditional definitions of what constituted appropriate subjects and styles of painting, and their palettes and canvasses exploded with color and light. This course will explore the social and political climate that led to the shift into the modern painting style that came to be known as Impressionism. By examining some of the ground-breaking masterpieces of the period, including Manet's Luncheon on the Grass and Van Gogh's Starry Night, students will discover this fascinating period of art history. This class will visit both the Philadelphia Museum of Art and the Barnes Foundation to experience in person examples of Philadelphia's world-famous Impressionist art.

Attributes: Fine Arts

AAH 4000-001
Dr. Mark Sullivan
Attributes: Writing Enriched

Senior Thesis

AAH 4010-001
T/R 2:30 – 3:45 p.m.
Dr. Mark Sullivan

Interpreting Art

A survey of the various types of art history which have been practiced over the centuries, including connoisseurship, formalism, iconography, the social history of art, Marxist art history, feminist art history, Structuralism, Post-Structuralism, Deconstruction, Post-Colonialism, and the psychoanalytical approach.

Attributes: Fine Arts, Writing Enriched