

# SURVEY OF ART HISTORY: ANCIENT TO MEDIEVAL

## DESCRIPTION:

The course provides an introduction to select objects, monuments, regions and cultures from the dawn of civilization until the Middle Ages with a chief focus on Europe. An overview of key works is coupled with practical immersion in the interpretative tools of art historical research, and art is understood through close visual analysis and critical engagement.

## READING ASSIGNMENTS:

There are two textbooks. All readings are required. Assigned texts not in the textbook will be available on Blackboard at least two weeks before class. *The reading load varies, so plan accordingly.*

Textbooks:

1. Hugh Honour and John Fleming, *The Visual Arts: A History*, 7<sup>th</sup> edition (2005). **[H&F]**
2. Joshua C. Taylor, *Learning to Look*. **[JT]**
3. All other readings will be available in a PDF format on Blackboard. These readings are marked **(BB)**.

## September 8

Theme: introduction to art history, course format, the history of art history, some key monuments

NO READING

## September 15

Theme: Paleolithic and Neolithic art, the art of ancient Egypt Reading: H&F 2 – 39; 52 – 65; 83 – 95. Browse JT.

## September 22

Theme: Mesopotamia and India

Reading: H&F 40 – 52; 80 – 83; 95 – 106. JT 51 – 68.

## September 29

Theme: Bronze Age Aegean

Reading: H&F 65 – 74; JT 69 – 76; Pedley *Greek Art* 62 – 101 **(BB)**.

## October 6

Theme: Archaic and Classical Greece

Reading: H&F 116 - 154; JT 123 – 133; Pedley *Greek Art* 144 – 197 **(BB)**; 234 – 273 **(BB)**.

## October 13

Theme: Hellenistic world, Iron Age Europe and the Etruscans. MIDTERM REVIEW.

Reading: H&F 154 – 178.

## October 20

MIDTERM EXAM

## October 27

Theme: Roman architecture

Reading: H&F 178 - 195; JT 133 – 138; TBA **(BB)**

**November 3**

Theme: Roman painting and portraiture

Reading: H&F 195 - 207; Ramage *Roman Art* 82 – 99 (**BB**).

**November 10**

Theme: Late Antiquity, early Christianity

Reading: H&F 207 – 213; 288 – 306.

**November 17**

Theme: Byzantine art, early Islam

Reading: H&F 306 – 353.

**November 24** [THANKSGIVING: NO CLASS]

**December 1**

Theme: Medieval art; Gothic and Romanesque

Reading: H&F 356 – 415.

**December 8**

RESEARCH PAPER DUE

Theme: 15<sup>th</sup> century Europe Reading: H&F 416 – 456.