

Mercer County Community College

Arts and Communication Division

ART 124

HISTORY OF NON-WESTERN ART

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A focus on the aesthetic and historical evaluation of artists, styles, and cultures from India, China, Japan, Indonesia, Thailand, Cambodian and Pre-Columbian America. Color slides will be analyzed and discussed.

Text (s): **Reference Division Booklist**

Prerequisites:

Co-requisites:

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Studio/Lab Hours: 0

**Food and Drink are strictly prohibited in Classrooms as per Health and Safety Laws.
Students are not permitted to bring in any chemicals or cleaning fluids without the
appropriate MSD Sheets.**

Course Coordinator: Mel Leipzig

Latest Review: Summer 2005

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course focuses on the aesthetic and historical evaluation of artists, styles and cultures from India, China, Japan, Indonesia, Thailand, Cambodia and Pre-Columbian America. Color slides will be analyzed and discussed.

II. RATIONALE

Man has always produced art, in a variety of forms, long before recorded history. Art has fulfilled many vital personal and social needs. Before language and writing were developed, the visual arts, and signs or symbols provided the most universally understood means for communication. Decorations and embellishments were produced to not only personalize and identify objects, but also to establish rank in society, ownership quality and power. By studying the works of art of any period, we can better understand the life and culture of the people who produced them, or the patrons they served. The values of a society are often reflected in the styles and functions of the art which it produced. The student will learn how to identify the principle characteristics of the various periods and styles of art, and how the contemporary uses of art and design derive from the past.

III. GENERAL COURSE GOALS

After completing the course, the student should:

- A. Understand and use correct terms in describing and identifying art objects.
- B. Be able to describe correctly the materials or techniques used in producing paintings, sculpture, architecture, fabrics, craft items, and other works of art and design.
- C. Be able to list or describe with reasonable accuracy, the principle characteristics of any given work of art.
- D. Be able to identify the period in which a given work of art was produced, and describe some of the cultural aspects which prevailed at the time, for each of the following:
 - The Art of India
 - The Art of China
 - The Art of Indonesia
 - The Art of Thailand
 - The Art of Cambodia
 - The Art of Japan
 - Pre-Columbian Art
 - a. Meso-America
 - b. Central Andes
- E. Have developed a sense of aesthetics and an historical appreciation of art and the world cultures.
- F. Have developed a foundation for a continuing interest in art and art history.
- G. Have developed a better understanding of the contribution of all forms of art to human culture and the continuous value of supporting cultural pursuits.

IV. SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES

For the successful completion of the course, the student is expected to:

- A. Attend all lectures or study the appropriate materials before the next meeting of the class.
- B. Read all text assignments as they occur.
- C. Participate in class discussions and slide presentation analysis.
- D. Study and be able to use new terms presented in lectures or textbooks.
- E. Answer tests or quizzes, with at least 70% accuracy, as they occur.
- F. Attend, if able, field trips.
- G. Produce an original 300-word essay on an assigned subject, related to the course material. (This will be valued as 20% of the course final grade.)

V. INSTRUCTIONAL MODES TO BE USED

- A. Two weekly meetings, 1 hour and 15 minutes each - 16 weeks.
- B. Assigned and suggested readings.
- C. Required and optional field trips.
- D. Lectures and group discussion.
- E. Films, slides, prints, etc.
- F. Essay assignment (see V-G above).

VI. THE MATERIALS OF INSTRUCTION ARE

- Text (Reference Division Booklist)
- Slides, films and prints:
- Suggested reading (see Bibliography in textbook).

VII. ATTENDANCE, EVALUATION AND GRADING

In a course of this nature, students must participate in order to have meaningful discussions. Therefore, it is the student's responsibility to attend all of the lectures and presentations, to maintain the assigned reading schedules, and to contribute to discussions whenever possible.

Attendance

If a student must miss a class meeting, he or she should notify the instructor, at the first opportunity, and is responsible for knowing the material covered in the interim, before attending the next session. In cases of an unusual nature, or in extreme emergencies, reasonable provisions will be made for the make-up of a missed midterm or final examination.

Evaluation

Evaluation of progress, and grades, are determined by the instructor, based upon the following considerations:

- Attendance at lectures and presentations (20%)
- Results of periodic quizzes (20%)
- Individual essays (20%)
- Midterm examination (20%)
- Final examination (20%)

COURSE OUTLINE (cont'd)

- WEEK 10:** **Session 19:** Japan: Kamakura Realism
Read textbook:
Lecture, slide presentation, discussion.
- Session 20:** Japan: Ashikaga: Renewed Chinese influence.
Read textbook:
Lecture, slide presentation, discussion.
- WEEK 11:** **Session 21:** Japan: Momoyama & Edo: The Decorative Style
Read textbook:
Lecture, slide presentation, discussion.
- Session 22:** Japan: Ukiyo-e and Printmaking.
Read textbook:
Lecture, slide presentation, discussion.
(Short Quiz) before lecture.
- WEEK 12:** **Session 23:** Pre-Columbian Art: Olmec & West Mexico
Read textbook:
Lecture, slide presentation, discussion.
- Session 24:** Pre-Columbian Art: Maya & Teotihuacan
Read textbook:
Lecture, slide presentation, discussion.
- WEEK 13:** **Session 25:** Pre-Columbian Art: Aztec
Read textbook:
Lecture, slide presentation, discussion.
- Session 26:** FIELD TRIP
- WEEK 14:** **Session 27:** Pre-Columbia Art Central Andes: Chavin, Moche, Nasca
Read textbook:
Lecture, slide presentation, discussion.
- Session 28:** Pre-Columbian Art: Tihuanaco and Inca
Read textbook:
Lecture, slide presentation, discussion.
- WEEK 15:** **Session 29:** Review.
- WEEK 16:** FINAL EXAM