
Contact Information

Instructor

Carissa Nicholson

Email

EMAIL Expect a response within 24 hours.

Office Hours

By appointment using Zoom Conferences (link located in course navigation menu)

For further information about your instructor and Teaching Assistants (TAs), please see [About/Contact Your Instructor and TA](#).

Course Information

This class introduces students to the visual arts from a global perspective in order to equip them with the knowledge and skills necessary to engage critically with the artistic and cultural landscape of the United States today. In particular, this course helps students master the skills necessary to analyze artworks according to the basic elements and principles of design. It also exposes students to canonical artworks from many of the world's artistic traditions, helping them appreciate how artists, both inside and outside of the United States, have engaged with art's global histories to make work that reflects the rich diversity of the American experience. The semester is organized thematically, with each module dedicated to a single theme or issue that resonates with art from around the globe and throughout time. These modules, when combined, offer a broad and deep look at the history of global arts and the role of art in American society.

General Education Objectives and Outcomes

This course fulfills the requirements for General Education in the Humanities (H) and Diversity (D) categories. Please refer to the [Subject Area Objectives](#) and [Student Learning Outcomes](#) for more information.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Identify and analyze a varied collection of artworks from across time and geographical regions.
2. Identify and explain key art historical terms and concepts.
3. Explain the various meanings of the term "appreciation," and apply those meanings to the appreciation of art.

4. Identify the elements and principles of art and apply these to the creation of an artwork of your own.
5. Identify and describe some of the major art historical methods (including iconographic analysis, contextual analysis, feminist analysis and critique, critical race analysis and critique, and post-colonial analysis and critique, etc.).
6. Carry out visual and contextual analyses of artworks using the elements and principles of art as well as multiple art historical methods.
7. Identify some of the perspectives/artworks that have shaped the discipline of art history, along with how those perspectives resonate or conflict with current values regarding inclusion, diversity, equity and accessibility.
8. Identify artists whose biographies and/or artworks enrich our understanding of the historical processes and contemporary experiences characterizing social and cultural differences within the United States.
9. Analyze artworks that consider the complexity and nuances of important issues related to the history of art and the diversity within the United States.
10. Practice both oral and written communication as you engage with historical material and reflect on its relevance to your own life.

Course Requirements

Required textbook (E-Book)

Debra J. DeWitte, Ralph M. Larmann, and M. Kathryn Shields, *Gateways to Art: Understanding the Visual Arts*, 3rd edition (New York: Thames and Hudson, 2018).

Note that you **MUST** acquire the digital access code for *Gateways to Art* to have access to the full suite of resources. This book can best be acquired using UF ALL ACCESS. For more information on how to acquire and access the textbook see the **Course Overview and Textbook Info within the orientation module.**

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Minimum technology requirements

The University of Florida expects students entering an online program to acquire computer hardware and software appropriate to his or her degree program. Most computers are capable of meeting the following general requirements. A student's computer configuration should include:

- Webcam
- Microphone
- Broadband connection to the Internet and related equipment (Cable/DSL modem)
- Microsoft Office Suite installed (provided by the university)

Individual colleges may have additional requirements or recommendations, which students should review prior to the start of their program.

You will also need a camera capable of taking high-resolution photographs. For our purposes, high-resolution is at least 300 dpi and at least 1000 x 750 pixels.

Minimum technical skills

To complete your tasks in this course, you will need a basic understanding of how to operate a computer and how to use word processing software.

Materials/Supply Fees

There is no supply fee for this course.

Grading Policy

I will make every effort to have each assignment graded and posted within one week of the due date.

Course Grading Policy

Assignment	Points
InQuizitive Assignments	30%
Application Assignments	40%
Museum Analysis Essay	10%
Final Project Proposal	5%
Final Project Presentation	15%

Grading Scale

Percent	Grade	Grade Points
100 to 94	A	4.00
< 94 to 90	A-	3.67
< 90 to 87	B+	3.33
< 87 to 84	B	3.00
< 84 to 80	B-	2.67
< 80 to 77	C+	2.33
< 77 to 74	C	2.00
< 74 to 70	C-	1.67
< 70 to 67	D+	1.33

< 67 to 64	D	1.00
< 64 to 60	D-	0.67
< 60 to 0	E	0.00

See the [current UF grading policies](#) for more information.

Course Policies

Late-Work Policy

As this is an online class, you are responsible for observing all posted due dates and are encouraged to be self-directed and take responsibility for your learning. Do not wait until the last minute to submit an assignment; technical problems will not excuse late work.

Late submissions of InQuizitive activities and Application Assignments will NOT be accepted. Instead, your lowest InQuizitive score and your two lowest Application Assignment scores will be dropped, meaning that they will not be factored into your final grade. So, if you miss a deadline for any reason, whether it be because of technical issues or for personal reasons, you can rest assured that you have a cushion and you can simply proceed without concern that those missed assignments will impact your grade.

For the larger projects, the Museum Paper and the Final Project, late submissions will be accepted but will incur a 10% grade penalty per day late.

If you are unable to complete class work due to an illness, family emergency, or other serious issue, please contact your instructor immediately and also refer to the [Dean of Students office](#) for assistance.

UF Policies

University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities:

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, <https://disability.ufl.edu/get-started/>) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter that must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

University Policy on Academic Conduct:

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore,

you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Etiquette and Communication Courtesy:

All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions, and chats.

In Class Recordings

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A "class lecture" is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), Field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To "publish" means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third-party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

Getting Help

Technical Difficulties:

For issues with technical difficulties for Canvas, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu>
- (352) 392-HELP (4357)
- Walk-in: HUB 132

Health and Wellness

- **U Matter, We Care:** If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit umatter.ufl.edu to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- **Counseling and Wellness Center:** Visit counseling.ufl.edu or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

- **Student Health Care Center:** Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit shcc.ufl.edu.
- **University Police Department:** Visit police.ufl.edu or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- **UF Health Shands Emergency Room/Trauma Center:** For immediate medical care in Gainesville, call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center

Academic and Student Support

- **Career Connections Center:** 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services career.ufl.edu/.
- **Library Support:** Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources. cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask
- **Teaching Center:** 352-392-2010 General study skills and tutoring: teachingcenter.ufl.edu/
- **Writing Studio:** 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers: writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/

Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries [of course evaluation results are available to students at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public- results/](https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/).

Tips for Success

Taking a course online can be a lot of fun! Here are some tips that will help you get the most of this course while taking full advantage of the online format:

- Schedule "class times" for yourself. It is important to do the coursework on time each week. You will receive a reduction in points for work that is turned in late!
- Read ALL of the material contained on this site. There is a lot of helpful information that can save you time and help you meet the objectives of the course.
- Print out the Course Schedule located in the Course Syllabus and check things off as you go.
- Take full advantage of the online discussion boards. Ask for help or clarification of the material if you need it.
- Do not wait to ask questions! Waiting to ask a question might cause you to miss a due date.
- Do your work well before the due dates. Sometimes things happen. If your computer goes down when you are trying to submit an assignment, you'll need time to troubleshoot the problem.
- To be extra safe, back up your work to an external hard drive, thumb drive or through a cloud service.

Privacy and Accessibility Policies

For information about the privacy policies of the tools used in this course, see the links below:

↳ Instructure (Canvas)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Accessibility](#)

↳ Sonic Foundry (Mediasite Streaming Video Player)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Accessibility](#)

↳ PlayPosit

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Accessibility](#)

↳ Zoom

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Accessibility](#)

↳ YouTube (Google)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Accessibility](#)

↳ Microsoft

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Accessibility](#)

↳ Adobe

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Accessibility](#)

Course Overview and Content

Week 1- Orientation

- Application Assignment: Introduce yourself discussion post

Week 2- The Value of Art

- Application Assignment (Pick and Post): Personal Keystone Artwork
- InQuizitive: Gateways Intro

Week 3- Elements and Principles of Design

- Application Assignment (Critical Making): Photos Demonstrating Elements/Principles
- InQuizitive: Gateways 1.10

Week 4- Museum History

- Application Assignment (Reflect and Respond): Reflections on the Museum (Fri/ Sun.)

Week 5- Museum Futures

- Application Assignment (Reflect and Respond): Analysis of an Exhibition

Week 6- Community and Public Art

- Application Assignment (Pick and Post): Public Art In Your Community
- InQuizitive: Gateways 4.1
- InQuizitive: Gateways 4.2
- MUSEUM PAPER DUE

Week 7- Life Cycle AND Final Project Module 1

- InQuizitive: Gateways 4.3

Week 8- Art and the Environment

- Application Assignment (Critical Making): Your Own Land Art

Week 9- Art and the Human Body

- Application Assignment (Reflect and Respond): Body as Subject or Medium (Fri/ Sun.)
- InQuizitive: Gateways 4.9

Week 10- Art and Identity

- InQuizitive: Gateways 4.10
- FINAL PROJECT PROPOSAL DUE

Week 11- Art, Political Leaders and Rulers

- Application Assignment (Critical Making): Political (Self) Portrait
- InQuizitive: Gateways 4.6

Week 12- Art, War and Revolution

- Application Assignment (Reflect and Respond): Art and Truth (Fri/ Sun)
- InQuizitive: Gateways 4.7
- FINAL PROJECT DUE