

SYLLABUS

I. COURSE TITLE

ART 125

Art Appreciation

3 semester hours

II. PREREQUISITES

None

III. TEXTBOOK

Buser, T. (2006). *Experiencing Art Around Us* (2nd ed.). Belmont, CA: Thomson.

IV. COURSE DESCRIPTION

“General survey of the four disciplines of art: aesthetics, art criticism, art history, and studio art. Focus is on the relationship of art to contemporary living. Satisfies the core curriculum fine arts requirement. This course may not be used to satisfy requirements for a major in art.”

This course introduces the basic elements and principles related to the production and understanding of works of art. Through the text and other sources a historical account of art from cave paintings to the art of today is presented. Styles of art, major artists and their works, and current trends in art are explored, as well as art as a reflection of a culture.

V. RATIONALE

Instruction in the fine arts is essential in order to provide a well-rounded academic experience for the college student. It is difficult to separate a history of civilization and its people from the history of art and its production. The exposure of this information through lecture, discussion, and the sharing of ideas, along with the execution of the student's own creative work, will enable the student to make intelligent and mature observations of works of art; will contribute to an understanding of the need for creative expression and its place in the past and present; and will assist the student in attaining comprehensive instruction.

VI. COURSE OBJECTIVES

In order to provide a meaningful art experience for the college level student and assist the student in assimilating a balanced program of study the student will:

A. Survey the history of art and acquire knowledge of the periods, styles, and artists and their contributions.

B. Participate in hands-on activities which will provide studio production experiences.

C. Research and report on an artist, art movement, or art-related topic applicable to the course of study.

D. Employ various techniques to critique or discuss art.

E. Receive lecture, multi-media presentations, group discussions, demonstrations, and research efforts that reinforce the class inquiry.

F. Become aware of how the Christian faith impacts the world of art and how the world of art impacts it.

VII. COURSE TOPICS

The major topics to be considered are:

- A. The Nature of Art
- B. The Visual Elements
- C. The Visual Arts
- D. Art History

VIII. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND ACTIVITIES

- A. Lecture and discussion
- B. Studio projects
- C. Video/digital presentations
- D. Gallery experiences
- E. Demonstrations

IX. LIST OF MATERIALS

Textbook and writing implement must be brought to each class meeting.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Gardner, H. (1980). *Art through the ages* (7th ed.). New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich. [709 G173a 1980](#)
- Gilbert, R. (1992). *Living with art*. New York: McGraw-Hill. [701.1 G376L 1992](#)
- Gowling, L. (Ed.). (1995). *A biographical dictionary of artists*. Oxfordshire, England: Andromeda Oxford. [709.22 B52 1995R](#)
- Hartt, F. (1993). *Art: A history of painting, sculpture, architecture* (4th ed.). New York: Abrams. [709 H258a R](#)
- Henri, D. (1972). *Art in perspective: A brief history*. New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich. [709 D737a](#)
- Hoving, T. (1999). *Art for dummies*. Foster City, DA: IDG Books Worldwide. [701.1 H829a](#)
- Janson, H. W. (1987). *A basic history of art* (3rd ed.). Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall. [709 J267b 1987](#)
- Thomson Learning. (2006). Buser companion site. Available August 6, 2007, at: <http://www.thomsonedu.com/thomsonedu/discipline.do?disciplinenumber=37>
[click on art appreciation, then our text]
- Turner, J. (1996). *The dictionary of art*. New York: Grove's Dictionaries. [703 D561 R](#)
- Welton, J. (1994). *Looking at paintings*. New York: Dorling Kindersley. [750.11 W468L](#)