



## ARTH 2361 Art History: Ancient through Medieval

---

**Instructor:** Dr Helmut Orpel

**Office Hours:** by appointment

### Course Description

---

The course will survey the art and architecture from the Ancient world to the Middle Ages, including the art of the Near East, Egypt, the Classical Greek and Roman worlds, and Medieval Europe, from about 3500 BC to about 1400 AD. It will reflect the great variety and richness of the arts of these different cultures, and some of the general problems of how art historians understand and write about art. Examples of art reviewed include works of sculpture, architecture, wall and vase painting, mosaic, manuscript illumination, and other media in their physical, historical and social contexts.

A special focus – to make use of the particular advantages of the **Study Abroad** semester – is placed on **local** examples, be it classical works of art exhibited in Heidelberg, Mannheim or Worms museum collections or in German museums of global importance visited during the semester excursions, such as the Pergamum Museum in Berlin, or by visits to local or regional landmarks like the cathedrals of Speyer (UNESCO world heritage site), Worms or Strasbourg, the local Heiligenberg monastery ruins, or the exhibits of the Kurpfälzisches Museum, the Ladenburg excavations or the Lorsch abbey UNESCO world heritage site.

### Course Objectives

---

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to

- Recognize and discuss important masterworks of art from prehistoric times through the Medieval period
- Demonstrate effective communication skills with special consideration of world art with its historical, social, economic and cultural contexts.
- Show evidence of understanding aesthetic meaning and value through an ability to recognize beauty, form and balance in artwork, including understanding of the way aesthetic experience reflects spirituality, wellness, and cultural context.

### Class Schedule and Sequence of Instruction

---

List the dates and indicate the topical areas to be covered in the course.

Lecture	Date	Content
1	Week 1	Orientation: THE KREHL VILLA & ITS HISTORY THE PALEOLITHIC AND NEOLITHIC ARTS
2	Week 2	ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA, 3. ART OF THE HITTITES, ASSYRIA AND PERSIA ART OF THE HITTITES, ASSYRIA AND PERSIA ANCIENT EGYPT, OLD, MIDDLE AND NEW KINGDOMS
3	Week 3	THE AEGEAN BRONZE AGE ANCIENT GREEK VASE PAINTING ARCHAIC ARCHITECTURE AND SCULPTURE

4	Week 4	TRANSITION TO CLASSICAL ARCHITECTURE AND SCULPTURE THE ATHENIAN ACROPOLIS and the CLASSICAL IDEAL PERSIAN ART
5	Week 5	LATE CLASSICAL & HELLENISTIC ILLUSIONISM
6	Week 6	ETRUSCAN ART; THE ROMAN REPUBLIC TO AUGUSTUS: ART AND PROPAGANDA
7	Week 7	DOMESTIC ART AND ARCHITECTURE IN POMPEI AND SOUTH ITALY IMPERIAL ROMAN PORTRAITURE
8	Week 8	IMPERIAL ROMAN ARCHITECTURE AND RELIEF SCULPTURE, NERO TO TRAJAN & HADRIAN TO CARACALLA; JEWISH & CHRISTIAN ART IN ROME BEFORE CONSTANTINE <b>MID-TERM EXAM</b>
9	Week 9	EARLY CHRISTIAN ART & ARCHITECTURE IN ROME AFTER THE EDICT OF MILAN; DEATH, AFTERLIFE AND THE CULT OF THE SAINTS IN RAVENNA; EARLY BYZANTINE ART AND ARCHITECTURE DURING THE REIGN OF JUSTINIAN
10	Week 10	MONASTICISM, PILGRIMAGE AND THE CULT OF ICONS AT MOUNT SINAI; BYZANTINE ART AFTER ICONOCLASM: THE TRIUMPH OF IMAGES; ISLAMIC ART
11	Week 11	ARTS OF THE MIGRATIONS AND MONASTIC MISSION IN NORTHERN EUROPE; ROME REBORN: CHARLEMANGE AND THE CAROLINGIAN "RENAISSANCE"; THE OTTONIAN EMPIRE
12	Week 12	FRENCH ROMANESQUE ART, ARCHITECTURE, RELICS AND PILGRIMAGE; MONASTIC ARCHITECTURE IN BURGUNDY: CLUNIACS AND CISTERCIANS; FRENCH ROMANESQUE SCULPTURE
13	Week 13	GOthic ART OF THE TWELFTH AND THIRTEENTH CENTURIES; EARLY GOthic ART AND ARCHITECTURE, THE ILE DE FRANCE, 35. HIGH GOthic ART AND ARCHITECTURE
14	Week 14	SACRED & PROFANE ART FOR THE LAITY IN MED. ENGLAND, GERMANY & FRANCE ; REGIONAL VARIATIONS ON THE GOthic: ENGLAND AND GERMANY
15	Week 15	ITALIAN ART OF THE FOURTEENTH CENTURY; THE BLACK DEATH AND MYSTICISM; THE HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE & PRAGUE OF CHARLES IV
16	Week 16	REVIEW CLASS & <b>FINAL EXAM</b>

## Required Textbooks and Materials

---

We will use a general textbook, with additional readings chosen to focus on certain issues in greater depth and allow students to get some sense of different approaches to art history.

- Marilyn Stokstad/Michael W. Cothren, Art History: Ancient Art. Portable/Book1/4<sup>th</sup> ed. or newer
- ISBN 13: 978-0205790913 ISBN 10: 0205790917
- Marilyn Stokstad/Michael W. Cothren, Art History: Medieval Art. Portable/Book2/4<sup>th</sup> ed. or newer
- ISBN 13: 978-0205790920 ISBN 10: 0205790925
- [try to find a used copy or one from the library]
- My Arts Lab, accompanies both books.

## Grading

---

### Grading Scale (Based on points)

Grade	Descriptive Grade	Numeric Grade	Grade Points
A	Excellent Scholarship	93-100	4.00
A-	Excellent Scholarship	90-92	3.70
B+	Good Scholarship	87-89	3.30
B	Good Scholarship	83-86	3.00
B-	Good Scholarship	80-82	2.70
C+	Satisfactory Scholarship	77-79	2.30
C	Satisfactory Scholarship	70-76	2.00
D+	Poor Scholarship	67-69	1.30
D	Poor Scholarship	63-66	1.00
D-	Poor Scholarship	60-62	0.07
F	Failure	Less than 60	0.00

## Exams

---

There will be one midterm and one final exam. All will be in the usual classroom.

Mid-Term Exam	40%
Final Exam	40%
Class Participation	10%
Paper & Presentation	10%

## Paper and Presentation

---

Students will be asked to do a presentation and write a paper on a local example of ancient or medieval art.

It should address the following aspects:

- Assessing the physical properties
- Analyzing the formal structure
- Identifying the subject matter
- Interpretation within the cultural context

## Other Regulations and Policies

---

### Attendance and Participation

Attendance and active classroom participation are required of each student. Tests will cover for all course material provided through lectures and presentations, readings, discussions, cases, and videos during class.



**Absences and/or a lack of participation in discussions will impact negatively on the final grade.** Each student is responsible for all material covered and/or assigned and any announcements made in any class session, whether student is present or not. Group activities require all students to participate and contribute to group discussions and projects.

**Students are expected to come to class on time and to have read assigned material before class.** There may be an occasional pop quiz to verify whether students have read the assignments before class.

**All work must be turned in on time.** Late work may be accepted but points will be taken off if work is not turned in to instructor when it is due. At all times, in class and group discussions, students are expected to respect contributions, questions, and opinions of other people. Demeaning others in any way is not acceptable.

### **Scholastic Dishonesty**

You are expected to do your own academic work and cite sources as necessary. Failing to do so is scholastic dishonesty. Scholastic dishonesty means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering, forging, or misusing a university academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis.

If it is determined that a student has cheated, he or she may be given an "F" for the course, and may face additional sanctions from the Study Center.