Art Appreciation Syllabus, **Face-to-Face** Course

ARTS-1301

FALL 2025

South Plains College

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Course Description

This is an introductory course that studies visual culture including arts through an exploration of ideas and processes, including evaluation of selected items, works, and creating individual projects. No prerequisite required.

No textbook required. Instructor provides free class materials, Open Educational Resources. What's an Open Educational Resources.

Course Type

This is a face-to-face course and offers face-to-face instruction with online assignments provided to supplement and enhance learning. Each week, I will post presentations, readings, viewings, audio, and/or discussions for your journaling assignment, and usually a creative or field project assignment in Blackboard to discuss in class.

Please log in to Blackboard and participate a minimum of two times per week to fully complete all posted weekly content and check Blackboard assignments. You should expect to spend about 3-6 hours per week on this course's work.

No textbook required. Instructor provides free class materials, Open Educational Resources.

Course Objectives

- Cultivate a greater appreciation and understanding of visual culture, arts, its elements, practice, and theory.

- Introduce students to a broad range of art media and techniques.

- Promote thought and communicate about the visual, intellectual, social, and historical facets of visual culture and art.

- Provide techniques to evaluate, appreciate, and understand visual culture and art.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Apply art terminology as it specifically relates to works of art.

2. Demonstrate knowledge of art elements and principles of design.

3. Differentiate between the processes and materials used in the production of various works of art.

4. Critically interpret and evaluate works of art.

5. Demonstrate an understanding of the impact of arts on culture.

Course Content

- Elucidate the term "art" and its purposes, including general categories of visual arts.

- Identify and interpret visual elements and principles.

- Examine the techniques of visual communication, visual culture, including in the "Fine" and Applied Arts.

- Understand the art of the past historical and current modes in visual art and how those modes influence making visuals.

Course Requirements

- **Attendance:** Attendance is expected. Participation and engagement are required to pass. That includes turning in assignments and communication. Unexcused absences beyond 3 can lead to grade penalties.

- **Participation:** students are expected to participate in communicating about topics (in-person, online), through class journaling, creative activities, and field activities.

    - *If a student is continuously unresponsive in participation and communication, a warning email may be sent to that student with a week to respond to the request. If no response is received at that point the student may be submitted to administration for course withdrawal.

- **Preparation:** Students should come to class prepared, with supplies, having viewed and/or read the assigned material. The students are expected to take notes on all materials presented.

    - *Students are responsible for assigned video viewings and reading content even if not covered during the lecture.

- **Quizzes:** Quizzes are a part of this class. Short quizzes give a quick assessment over the presented material. Quizzes could include matching, fill-in-the-blank, multiple-choice, and short-answer questions.

- **Texts:** There is **no required textbook** for this class. Readings and videos will be provided by the instructor for class.

- *STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR LEARNING THE MATERIAL COVERED IN CLASS ON THE DAY(S) THE STUDENT IS ABSENT*

Possible Methods

- Lectures, text, video presentations in-person and/or online

- Discussions

- Sketch-note journaling about readings/presentations

- Quizzes

- Possible guests/artist, videos and texts

- Art articles and art experiences

- Project work: writing, drawing, field observations, research, creative processes, and other creative activities

Class Participation

Class participation and active learning are important aspects of this class, so your engagement is critical to your success regardless of modality/delivery. However, I understand that sometimes you must miss assessments or other academic obligations affecting your grades because of illness, personal crises, and other emergencies. I will work with you as best I can to help you succeed in the course. Please contact me as soon as possible when such absences arise so we can make arrangements to get you caught up. This policy will not apply in the case of non-emergency absences.

Grading Criteria

- **Class Participation:** Engagement with class presentations and assignments as well as work performance and ethic in activities and assignments, including using Class Civility.

- **Class Civility:** Information, images, and discussion topics may deal with subject matter uncomfortable or offensive to some students. Discussions require a calm and open-minded dialogue to consider different points of view. Civility and respect will be required at all times. There will be zero tolerance for inappropriate behavior.

    – Be prepared with preliminary work so you can participate fully.

    – Individual behavior and attitude can greatly influence the class mood as a whole. Please conduct yourself in a way that promotes the productivity of the entire group.

- **Academic Honesty:** faculty is strongly committed to upholding standards of academic integrity. These standards, at the minimum, require that students never present the work of others as their own.

    – ***WARNING:** Cheating or plagiarism will result in the student receiving a 0 on the assignment for the first offense, second offense you will be dropped from the class and reported to administration.

Grading Scale:

- 90-100 - A Excellent work = 4

    – 90-93 - A-

    – 94-96 - A

    – 97-100 - A+

- 80-88 - B Above average, good work = 3

    - 80-83 - B-

    - 84-86 - B

    - 87-88 - B+

- 70-78 - "C" Average work = 2

    - 70-73 - C-

    - 74-76 - C

    - 77-78 - C+

- 60-68 - "D" Below average work = 1

    - 60-63 - D-

    - 64-66 - D

    - 67-68 - D+

- 00-58 - "F" Fail = 0

- Any grade ending in a 9 is rounded up.

Overall Grade:

- Points are assessed for each quiz and journaling work assignments.

    - Journaling work combines: presentation sketch-note journaling plus a creative, research, and field project journaling.

    - Journaling work assignment criteria points are marked on a rubric and further feedback available upon request.

- Presentation Sketch-note journaling projects are over class presentations.

- Creative, Research, and Field Project Journaling are assignments with instructions provided.

- Quizzes are over presentations and automatically graded.

- Extra Credit opportunities are provided.

Grade Breakdown Overview

Unit Structure

- Total Units: 5

- Units 1 = 280

- Unit 2, 3, & 5 = 360 points each

- Unit 4 = 400 points

- Each Unit has 3 Segments

Segment Breakdown

Each Segment = 120 points, divided into:

- Segment Quiz = 40 points

  – Due during its segment

- Segment Journaling & Project Work = 80 points

  – Typically due during its segment

Point Totals by Unit

- Unit 1: Segment Quizzes 120 (3 x 40) + Journaling & Projects 160 (2 x 80) = Unit Total 280

- Unit 2: Segment Quizzes 120 (3 x 40) + Journaling & Projects 240 (3 x 80) = Unit Total 360

- Unit 3: Segment Quizzes 120 (3 x 40) + Journaling & Projects 240 (3 x 80) = Unit Total 360

- Unit 4: Segment Quizzes 120 (3 x 40) + Journaling & Projects 160 (2 x 80) + 120 Pubic Art Work = Unit Total 400

- Unit 5: Segment Quizzes 120 (3 x 40) + Journaling & Projects 240 (3 x 80) = Unit Total 360

- Total Course Points = 1760

Final Grade

- Your letter grade is based on the percentage of total points earned out of 1760.

Technology Requirements

To be successful in this course, you will need to be able to access and use SPC email, online readings, and videos through Blackboard. If online access for you could be an issue, please contact me to figure out options. You also need access to a **digital camera,** like the one on your phone will do. If you don't have access to a camera, let your instructor know so that we can figure out options.

Withdrawal Policy

The last day to withdraw/drop with a grade of "W" is listed on the [Academic Calendar](#) for this school year. It is the student's responsibility to withdraw from this course. Otherwise, students will be assigned their earned letter grade at the end of the course. Course grades and guidance will be provided throughout the term to help students decide whether they need to drop the class or not. For more information regarding drops/withdrawals, please visit https://www.southplainscollege.edu/admission-aid/apply/schedulechanges.php.

Intellectual Exchange Statement

In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group difference and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting variance in intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

[SPC 2024-2025 General Course Syllabi Statements](#)

[Intellectual Exchange Statement](#)

[Disability Statement](#)

[Non-Discrimination Statement](#)

[Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement](#)

[CARE (Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation) Team Campus](#)

[Concealed Carry Statement](#)

[COVID-19 Statement](#)

[Artificial Intelligence Statement](#)

Other Medical and Mental Health Needs

As your instructor, I am dedicated to supporting students with existing medical and mental health needs, as well as any new needs that may arise during the semester. Please reach out to me as early as possible to discuss any necessary adjustments for this course. Reasonable accommodations may include using the course modules creatively to ensure access during

quarantine due to COVID exposure, or during absences related to a disability, pre-existing medical and mental health needs, or a COVID-19 diagnosis. While I cannot guarantee specific outcomes, I am committed to working with you to explore all available options in this course.

SPC Mission

South Plains College provides educational opportunities that improve the lives of its students by establishing a foundation for lifelong learning. The College offers high quality courses, programs and services that assist students in clarifying and achieving their educational and career goals in order to become productive and responsible citizens in a global society. South Plains College empowers its faculty and staff to provide a learning environment that is innovative, engaging, compassionate, safe, and supportive of the College vision.

Expanded [SPC Vision, Values Statement](#)