Class meeting: MWF 11:00 – 11:50, Carr 101

**American Art** examines the origins and development of American painting, sculpture and architecture from the European conquest of the Americas period through the present day, with special emphasis on art until 1900. This course seeks to answer the question, “What is American about American art?” by approaching the images, visual practices, and artistic styles of this period in relation to their social, historical, and cultural contexts.

**OBJECTIVES:** In ARTS 3320, you will learn the major ideas behind the development of American art and of the characteristic forms of various artistic movements and periods associated with it. You will also become familiar with many of the important artistic figures of the eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth centuries who played a significant role in these developments. Upon completing the course, you will have acquired an understanding of the way American art evolved in response to our country’s history, and developed your powers of critical thinking through readings, written assignments, and a final paper.

**REQUIRED TEXT:**


**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

- Exam I: 20%
- Exam II: 20%
- Exam III: 20%
- Final Paper: 20%
- Activities, Assignments, and Participation: 20%

Exams will be timed, slide-based exams consisting of image identification, short answer questions, unknown objects and essay questions. Exams are not cumulative, though you will be expected to demonstrate mastery of major concepts and artistic movements covered in previous sections.

**PLEASE NOTE** that no make-up exams will be administered under any circumstances except documented, excused medical circumstances. No exams will be administered early. Because art history exams are timed, slide-based exams, it is imperative that you arrive on-time for all exams. If you arrive late for an exam, you will not be given additional time to complete the test and missed slides will not be reviewed.
Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is contained in both print and web versions of the Student Handbook. Please consult your Student Handbook for broad (though not exhaustive) definitions of both cheating and plagiarism. You are responsible for knowing and understanding what constitutes cheating and/or plagiarism; if you are caught cheating or if you commit plagiarism, you will fail the exam or assignment and fail the class with no exceptions.

**GRADE SCALE:**

- 90-100 = A
- 80-89 = B
- 70-79 = C
- 60-69 = D
- 59 and below = F

**ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:**

Students are expected to attend class regularly and to participate attentively. Roll will be circulated at the beginning of each class. If you must arrive late or leave early, please notify Dr. Stewart in advance.

Acquiring information (including but not limited to class notes, assignments, and important announcements) missed due to tardiness or absence will be the responsibility of the student.

**INCOMPLETE AND PROLONGED ABSENCE:**

A grade of incomplete can only be granted for documented health and family purposes. In the event of prolonged illness, please contact me personally or have a family member contact me as soon as possible. Furthermore, it is the student’s responsibility to contact the Dean of Student Life at 942-2193 and document your circumstance.

**CLASSROOM CONDUCT:**

Students are expected to treat each other, and Dr. Stewart, with respect at all times. Any student who disrupts the class through her or his speech, behavior, or any other distraction, may be asked to leave the class for the duration of the period. Repeated infractions may result in being removed from the class.

Cell phones should be silenced or placed on vibrate before the class period begins. All cell phones should be put away for the duration of the class period. Any use of a cell phone, including texting, web browsing, social media, ringing, or other audible notifications, during the class period will be considered intentionally disruptive student behavior. Any use of an electronic device during an exam will result in automatic failure of the exam with no possibility of make-up.

**UNIVERSITY COURSE WITHDRAWL POLICY:**

The last day to drop a course or to totally withdraw from the University will be **Thursday, March 28, 2019**. Withdrawal grades will be indicated by W. Any student who withdraws from the course after this date will receive a failing (F) grade for the course.
ADA Compliance:

Persons with disabilities which may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Garden Level, University Center, (325) 942-2191, in order to request such accommodations prior to any accommodations being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Class Schedule:

Please note that this schedule is tentative and subject to revision.

January 14 – 18: Introduction to American Art/Art and Architecture in New Spain

Reading: FA Chapters 1 – 2; Barbara Mundy, “Mapping the Aztec Capital: The 1524 Nuremberg Map of Tenochtitlan, Its Sources and Meanings,” *Imago Mundi* 50 (1998): 11-33 (Blackboard).

January 21 – 25: Art and Architecture in New France and New England/ No Class Meeting Jan. 21


January 28 – Feb. 1: Representing the American Revolution


February 4 - 8: The Art and Architecture of a New Nation

Reading: FA Chapters 6 – 7

February 11 – 15: Nature and the Sacred

Reading: FA Chapter 8

February 18 – 22: Exam I February 18/Westward Expansion


February 25 – March 1: Images of War: The Mexican-American War

March 4 – 8: Images of War: Slavery, The Civil War, and Reconstruction


March 11 – 15: No Class/Spring Break

March 18 – 22: Images of War: The Indian Wars


March 25 – 29: Exam II March 25/Labor and Industrialization

Reading: FA Chapters 15-16

April 1 – 5: Gender, Idealism, and Realism at the End of the Century


April 8 – 12: Early American Modernism and the Avante-Garde

Reading: FA Chapter 19; additional reading TBA

April 15 – 19: American Modernism and The Other

Reading: FA Chapters 20 – 21

April 22 – 26: Art of the Interwar Period – New American Identities

Reading: FA Chapters 22 – 24

April 29 – May 1: America Against Fascism

Reading: FA Chapter 25; additional reading TBA

Final Exam Wednesday, May 8, 10:30am.