

Midwestern State University

ART 1413-X30: Art Appreciation

Summer I 2025

Class Schedule: Monday, June 2nd to Thursday, July 3rd

Instructor: Sharon Bly

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Office: Fain Fine Arts Department Office; Please schedule an appointment.

Email and D2L checked daily at 9-10AM and 4-5PM. Grading is on Tuesday and Thursday. D2L News Items will notify students of changes.

Course Description

This course introduces the student to some basic skills for viewing, analyzing, and writing about visual representations and objects from material and popular culture. We will examine the essential materials and techniques of art making and investigate aesthetic and cultural production in various times and cultures throughout the world. The course demonstrates how the artist's time, culture, and political and social environments shape art production and how art communicates multiple messages. Students will learn to conduct a formal analysis of an art object and to formulate interpretive strategies. The course emphasizes the direct experience of art. Prerequisites: None.

Course Objectives

The course introduces students to the discipline of art history and establishes its position within the humanities as a both a form and a body of knowledge. The specific objectives are:

- To provide the student with a working definition of what constitutes visual art.
- To familiarize the student with a variety of practitioners and examples of visual/material culture.
- To increase the student's ability to communicate effectively.
- To support the student's ability to work as part of groups of varying sizes.
- To support the student's awareness of and respect for social justice.

Course Requirements

- Students will analyze art through formal analysis. This includes 5 criteria: Elements of Art and Principles of Design, Materials and Methods of Production, Content, Context, and Personal Response.
- Students are required to participate in class and online with reading, reviewing lectures, discussions, and quizzes. Individual students will take Questionnaires, Quizzes, Discussions with group replies, and Assignments. All coursework is available on D2L.
- Students are required to be active on D2L including viewing lectures, other videos and materials, or participating in the Virtual Classroom.
- Students must promote an inclusive environment and be respectful to others. During this course, there may be sensitive materials, and students should hold themselves accountable for their words and actions. Please review [Student Conduct](#) for further information.

Course Materials

Required Text: Richard L. Lewis; Susan Ingalls Lewis; *The Power of Art*, 3rd Edition, Revised. Cengage.

- Your professor has opted to have this course in the program to save you time and money. Inclusive Access Program delivers all required course materials to students for any of the courses participating in the program on or before the first day of class, with the cost of those materials being added as a course charge on your student account with the university or college. You can opt out of this program and acquire the required course materials on your own if you choose to.
- In your my.msutexas.edu email, find an email from Brytewave dated 5/18/25. The instructions for accessing your Art content are in this email.
- The money saving charge of \$54.25 + tax has been added to your student account, which is below the publisher's website price.
- You have the choice to "opt out" of this special pricing and find your material on your own. If you prefer to "opt out", please see below. The last day to "opt out" of this content is 06/16/2025.
- **Emailed Opt-Out Portal Link Process**
 - You will receive an email from noreply@follett.com
 - This email will provide you with directions and a link to the Opt-Out Portal. This email will be sent to your my.msutexas.edu email address.
 - Please check your junk or Spam filters for this email.

For questions concerning the program or if you need assistance, please contact the Bookstore at jenny.denning@msutexas.edu.

For directions on Book Access (Register, Course Key, Links), go to our D2L Module: Navigating our Course and Book Access.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT: For any difficulties while using Cengage, please contact Cengage.

Online videos, discussions, quizzes, assignments, questionnaires, and lectures are also required and found on D2L.

Course Evaluation

Students will be reviewed by formal evaluations. This will include following the parameters of the assignments, quality of responses, and following due dates.

Quizzes: 200 points

Discussions: 70 points

Assignments: 270 points

Questionnaires: 130 points

Non-Graded Student Assessments for Core Curriculum

Instructor will grade Monday through Friday unless specified in D2L News Items. Be sure to check the feedback section on grades, this will have comments for students about their work, extra links or information, or if anything is missing and needs correction.

Grading Criteria

A Excellent (4.0) 90 – 100

Exceptional quality of research, written work, projects, and tests with an extensive understanding of the course materials. All work was turned in on time and directions were followed.

B Very Good (3.0) 80 – 89

Demonstrated some critical understanding of the material. Student work contained well-developed information with attention to details. Work and due dates were followed or with a few issues.

C Acceptable (2.0) 70 – 79

Some knowledge produced within the course work. The work may have issues that could have been resolved with more research, detail, or critical thinking. There may have been some missing work and late work.

D Poor (1.0) 60 – 69

There is a lack of critical thinking, research, and development of materials for projects, discussions, writings, and exams. Lack of work, late work, or poor quality of work could contribute to low grade.

F Failing (0.0) 0 – 59

A lack of coherency, organization, and grasp on the course materials including exams, written, visual, or verbal forms of work. Work was either not turned in or did not meet the required parameters.

All work must be turned in on time. **ALL WORK MUST BE TURNED IN BY THURSDAY, JULY 3RD AT 4:00PM.** D2L will have the open dates, due dates, and end dates for all student work. Questionnaires are prerequisites for each learning section, so read the book chapter and answer questionnaire as soon as possible.

All coursework will have an open and end date (this is when it is due and closes). Once the work has been closed, it can only be reopened if students email instructor a request and a valid reason for missing the work (situations out of student control). Only questionnaires, quizzes, and assignments can be reopened. Once reopened, it will have a 50% deduction per weekday it is late. Instructor will use discretion on opening closed student work and will discuss this as a case-by-case basis for each student request. If requests are repeated and continual, students maybe advised to drop course.

Students must be active within the classroom lectures and class exercises. Students that distract themselves or others from the course, or any other activities that are of problematic nature for the students and faculty, will have a deduction to the participation or overall grade of the course. This can include point deduction for the in-class work or considered an absence for the day. Please do not use electronics, conversations, or movements to cause distraction during the course.

ATTENDANCE, ABSENCES, TARDINESS

FOR ONLINE COURSES: Regular online activity is also required. Students must contact the instructor as soon as possible if there are any emergencies or issues that will influence class performance. Please follow [Student Handbook](#) guidelines to follow appropriate measures.

An instructor may send Early Alerts through D2L to a student and their advisor about the following issues: student offline for more than three days in a row, missing assignments or lack of progression and communication, not obtaining or using class materials, behavioral issues, or plagiarism. If 2 Early Alerts are sent, and no student progression is made, Instructor will perform an Instructor Withdrawal to drop the student from the course.

Faculty members have the discretion to make exceptions to this policy based on individual circumstances.

Policies

Students are responsible for familiarizing yourself with the course requirements and policies described in this syllabus. If any emergency happens during the time of the course, refer to [Student Handbook](#) and contact the instructor to find the proper protocol for late work or incompletes in the course.

Conduct Statement (As of Fall 2017):

Behavior that interferes with either the instructor's ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to benefit from the instruction will result in the instructor's removing the disruptive student(s) from the class, either temporarily or permanently (instructor drop), and receive a final lower grade, up to and including an F. In addition and depending on the nature of the behavior or conduct, the student(s) may be subject to further disciplinary actions as per MSU policies.

Academic Honesty from Appendix E (Page 119 - 2015-2016 MSU Student Handbook)

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the [Office of Student Conduct](#).

Plagiarism is unacceptable and will result in a 0 for the work. Any student that participates in academic dishonesty will be subject to disciplinary action according to the [Student Handbook](#). AI is not acceptable in this course; all work will be reviewed with TurnItIn and 3rd party AI Detection. AI use will follow the same disciplinary procedures as Academic Dishonesty.

Students with Disabilities and Medical Concerns

Any student who, because of a disability, may require special arrangements in order to meet the course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make necessary arrangements. Students must present appropriate verification from the [University Disability Support Services \(DSS\)](#) during the instructor office hours. Please note that instructors are not

allowed to provide classroom accommodation to a student until appropriate verification from the DSS has been provided.

Student Privacy

Federal law prohibits the professor from releasing student information to outside parties without the student's signed consent. The professor will not discuss students' academic progress or other matters with parents, guardians, or any outside parties.

Social Justice Defined

Social justice is one of Midwestern State University's stated core values. The classroom is a place where students will treat and be treated with respect as human beings, regardless of their worldview, gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religious or spiritual affiliation or lack thereof, sexual orientation, political beliefs, age, or ability. Diversity of thought is THE KEYSTONE in effective intellectual and academic pursuits. Difference of opinion is valued here.

Students will be expected to keep their minds and hearts open and refrain from expressing denigrating judgments of others' cultures, values, and material/cultural production.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Course schedule is located on D2L Calendar and on each assignment. Each Monday at 12am, the weekly unit is opened. Each assignment will be paced to have different due dates, but students may turn in work prior to the due dates to finish the week early. **ALL WORK MUST BE TURNED IN BY THURSDAY, JULY 3RD AT 4:00PM.**