



Course Syllabus: Art Appreciation

Fain College of Fine Arts

ART 1413-102

Fall 2026

Wed 1:00pm–3:50pm

Fain Fine Arts **C111**

Contact Information

Instructor: Jordan Funk

Office: C115A

Office hours: **M** 1:00pm–4:00pm **T/Th** 12:30pm–1:30pm

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Course Description

This course is designed to give an introduction to the world history of art and visual culture. We will focus on the "means" of art, the way artists use visual language and communication, as well as the history and social functions of art in a variety of cultures.

This course has no prerequisites and satisfies the requirement for a Core class fulfillment for Creative Arts.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

- Course Textbook: "A World of Art, 9th edition" by Henry M. Sayre, published by Pearson.

**I recommend purchasing the e-book version, as it is significantly less expensive than purchasing a physical copy.*

<https://www.pearson.com/en-us/subject-catalog/p/world-of-art-a/P200000003059/9780137846108>

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

Classroom Conduct and Policies

- As a student at MSU Texas, you are expected to conduct yourself in a respectful and mature manner. Give your classmates the same grace you want them to give you in return.
- It is vitally important that our classroom environment promotes the respectful exchange of ideas, including being sensitive to the views and beliefs discussed during classroom and online discussions.
- Classroom 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. The student will be marked as absent (unexcused) and will miss all material covered that day.
- You are expected to come to class prepared, having completed all reading assignments and arriving with any required materials. If you did not complete the reading, you still have to come to class and participate in all class discussions and activities.
- ***If you come to class and sit there on your phone the whole time, I will mark you absent.** Simply physically being in the room is not enough to count as participation.
- Help each other, as you will learn as much from each other as you will learn from your instructor. I will do my best to create a safe and fun environment where you feel excited to make work.
- Disruptive and disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated. Tardiness is disruptive, so be on time.
- Active participation and involvement during class includes:
 - Giving your full attention to the instructor and your classmates
 - Completing assigned readings, homework, projects, etc.
 - Having an open-minded outlook and hearing others when they speak
 - Participating in exercises and assignments
 - Giving feedback during discussions, verbal or written
- All work must be made specifically for this class during this semester. No previously taken photos may be used. Failure to do so will result in an "F."
- A grade of "Incomplete" is granted only with a written doctor's excuse or under emergency circumstances such as illness or a death in the family

Required Materials

- Notebook & Pen
- Physical or digital copy of the textbook
- Access to a computer for make-up tests, D2L and other online resources.
There are many computer labs on campus that can work for these needs if you do not have a personal computer.

Student Resources

More than anything else, your #1 priority is always your well-being and safety. Learning and progress can't be made if your foundational needs are not being met. If you need support, please use the resources below; your tuition covers them regardless of how much you use them. Remember, if you feel unsafe for whatever reason, you can always call campus police or dial 911 for an emergency.

[Housing](#)
[Dining](#)
[Career Closet](#)
[Mustangs Pantry](#)
[Student Life](#)
[Tutoring Programs](#)

[Student Health](#)
[Services](#)
[Financial Aid](#)
[Disability Support](#)
[Services](#)
[Counseling Center](#)

[Clark Student Center](#)
[Bridwell Activities](#)
[Center](#)
[Wellness Center](#)
[Work-Study](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

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 individuals to whom credit is given). Please see class AI Policy for information about AI usage. Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

[Office of Student Conduct](#)

Communication Guidelines

I am always available to be reached by email, and during the day I may be by my office phone, but I expect that you are respectful and professional in your communication with me. Before you contact me, please ask yourself: *Have I first looked on D2L, in the syllabus, or reached out to a fellow student for assistance?*

If you have a private question, please contact me via email, and I will respond within 24 hours on weekdays. Please do not expect a response over the weekend.

Moffett Library

Moffett Library provides resources and services to support students' studies and assignments, including books, peer-reviewed journals, databases, and multimedia materials accessible both on campus and remotely. The library offers media equipment checkout, reservable study rooms, and research assistance from librarians to help students effectively find, evaluate, and use information. Get started on this Moffett Library webpage to explore these resources and learn how to best utilize the library.

Grading

Table 1: Percentage of final grade allocated to each assignment

Assignments	% of Grade
Participation	20%
Tests (5)	30%
D2L Discussions (5)	15%
Assignments (2)	15%
Paper (1)	20%

Table 2: Total percentage for final grade.

Grade	Percentage
A	90%-100%
B	80% to 89.9%
C	70% to 79.9%
D	60% to 69.9%
F	Less than 60%

Course Expectations

Time management is an essential part of success in this course, and each student is expected to spend the same amount of time on their class work (readings, discussions, assignments, papers) as the amount of time they are in this course during the week. This means if you spend 6 hours in class twice a week, you should spend 6 hours of your own time that week working on this class's workload. Regular attendance and participation is key to succeeding, and students with repeated absences will find it difficult to pass this course.

Active participation in lectures and discussions is expected, as it supports your understanding of key vocabulary, concepts, and topics. Your success in this course depends on consistent engagement in all activities. I will call on individual students to ensure broad participation and preparedness. If you can respond based on the day's material, you're meeting expectations; repeated inability to do so will lower your participation grade. Please know that I also have eyes and can see students who are on their phone, asleep, playing on a gaming device,

talking during lectures, texting, etc. If you use your phone for note-taking, *please come and let me know.*

AI Policy

***AI PROHIBITED: The use of AI is not allowed in any way in this class.**

Tests will be handed out as physical copies and students will take tests with the instructor in the room. If you use AI for translation, accessibility or grammatical reasons, please send me an email and we can discuss how you use it so that I am aware of it if any submissions are flagged for AI. This class is about forming your own genuine thoughts and opinions about art and learning about all the history behind it. The use of AI is a middleman that can dilute how information is disseminated, and I want you to read the readings and write the papers yourself, even if they are not perfect. I want to hear your genuine thoughts and opinions, even if they are not perfectly articulate or completely fact checked.

If I suspect AI has been used, I will send you an email directly to schedule a meeting so we can talk about the academic integrity of the work. Please know that if I discover AI was used to create an assignment, I will compile evidence and submit a report to the Academic Integrity office for further examination.

Quizzes & Exams

There are five (5) tests over the course of the semester, all of which will be given in person and filled out by hand. If you need accommodations for test-taking, please contact the [DSS Office](#) for help with accommodations such as alternate modes of testing, accessibility software, extra time for your exam, etc.

***All written assignments, papers, discussions, etc. submitted through D2L will use Turnitin to check for plagiarism and AI.**

No digital testing will be done without a specific need for it (i.e. DSS support, a student being out of town due to an emergency, etc.) **If a student needs to take their test online, **Respondus Lockdown Browser will be used** to proctor the test and ensure academic integrity.*

Please note that Respondus Lockdown Browser is a free software, but if you must use this to take a test, you may have to pay an additional cost if your webcam or microphone are not working. Tests will not be administered online without Respondus Lockdown Browser used to proctor tests.

Any issues with Respondus Lockdown Browser can be discussed with the [Online Education Office](#) for more information, or support in getting access to or using Respondus.

Projects Required

Participation & Lectures (20%)

Participation: Active participation in lectures and discussions is expected, as it supports your understanding of key vocabulary, concepts, and topics. Your success in this course depends on consistent engagement in all activities. I will call on individual students to ensure broad participation and preparedness. If you can respond based on the day's material, you're meeting expectations; repeated inability to do so will lower your participation grade. Please know that I also have eyes and can see students who are on their phone, asleep, playing on a gaming device, talking during lectures, texting, etc. If you use your phone for note-taking, *please come and let me know.*

Lectures: Lectures will be delivered in class. Students are expected to complete the assigned readings prior to class, in order to deepen their understanding of lecture materials and prepare for in-class discussions. PDF copies of the slide lectures will be available on D2L after each class.

Tests (30%)

There will be five tests in this class based on slide information, lectures, and any other assigned materials. The tests consist of multiple-choice and short answer questions. A study guide will be provided two weeks before the test. These tests will take place within regular class hours without the assistance of notes, textbooks, or other materials. The tests will all be given out on paper, and must be filled out by students.

No make-up exams will be allowed without documentation from the [OSRR Office](#). In this case, prior notice of any upcoming missed days is preferred.

Assignments (15%)

Two written assignments will be assigned over the course of the semester. Detailed instructions and evaluation criteria will be provided in class at the time each assignment is introduced.

D2L Discussions (15%)

Approximately every other week, students will respond to topics posted on D2L. As graded discussions, students are expected to make initial comments and reply to other students in the class. Each posting will have specific criteria.

Paper (20%)

Your final paper will be an argument-driven essay that analyzes artworks using course vocabulary. More details will be provided later in the semester.

Final Exam

There is no cumulative final exam, instead the final paper in this class is used to evaluate your overall, semester-long growth and progress.

Extra Credit

Extra credit will be offered at the discretion of the instructor.

Late Work

Late work will have 5% of the overall project grade deducted **per day** that the project is late. If you miss the deadline by a couple of hours, then your grade will see minimal points deducted. However, if you waited until the last minute to start a project, and you turn it in 1 week late, then you will see 7 days' worth of late points deducted from your final grade (a 35% reduction of your project grade). These late points are *automatically* deducted from late assignments in the gradebook on D2L.

Make Up Work

Make up work is accepted on a case-by-case, instructor-approved basis. An excused, documented absence (from illness, an injury, family emergency, etc.) from the OSRR at MSU is needed with the submission of the make-up work, or the entire assignment will not be accepted.

Important Dates

- Last day for term schedule changes: 8/27/26
- Deadline to file for December graduation: 9/21/26
- Last Day to drop with a grade of "W": 11/23/26
- Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log in to [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Attendance

Students enrolled in the Juanita and Ralph Harvey School of Visual Arts must comply with the following department-wide Attendance and Lateness Policy:

- If you are sick . . . Please don't come to class!! We can Zoom/Facetime you in if appropriate.

- Students arriving after class begins will be considered late. Students arriving 10 minutes after class begins will be counted absent.
- THREE late arrivals count as an absence.
- Students may be absent from class THREE times without penalty and without providing any documentation regarding the absence.
- ***If students incur a FOURTH absence, their final course evaluation will be reduced by a full letter grade.**
- If students are absent or late FIVE times, whatever the reason, they will receive a FAILING GRADE, be dropped from the class roll, and be asked to stop attending class.
- Example: after your 4th absence, a 90% (A) will become an 80% (B)
- Example: after your 4th absence and 3rd tardy, an 80% will become an F and you will be dropped from the course.
- Faculty members have the discretion to make exceptions to this policy based on individual circumstances.

Inclement Weather

If the university closes due to inclement weather, or I deem the road conditions to be unsafe for commuting students, our class will not shift to an online format. Any assessments, assignments, or deadlines that coincide with the closure dates will be adjusted as needed once campus reopens. I will communicate any changes or updates via D2L and email. Please monitor official university announcements during severe weather events.

Online Computer Requirements

Taking this class requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload your assignments. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working computer in this class. The computers in the lab C115 are available to use unless there is another class in progress.

****Assignments and tests are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered a reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests, or discussion postings.*** Computers are available on campus in various areas of the buildings as well as the Academic Success Center.

***Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline!!**

There are many places to access your class! Our online classes can be accessed from any computer in the world which is connected to the internet. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble. If you have technical difficulties in the course, there is also a student helpdesk available to you. The college cannot work directly on student computers due to both liability and resource limitations, however, they are able to help you get connected to our online services. For help, log into [D2L](#).

Recording Classes

****Recording classes is generally prohibited without the professor's explicit permission.***

Recordings of my lectures or demonstrations are recordings of my intellectual, copyrighted material. Such recordings, when permitted, are for personal use only and may not be uploaded to the internet or otherwise shared, transmitted, or published without the professor's prior written consent. When it is feasible and appropriate, students may record classes to accommodate disabilities under the Americans With Disabilities Act, with prior approval of [Disability Support Services](#) (DSS). Such recordings **may not** be uploaded to the internet or otherwise shared, transmitted, or published. Please speak to DSS to establish accommodations for this class if you need them!

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exists in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Student Wellness Center, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

Emergency Aid Resources for Basic Needs

Unexpected life circumstances can affect anyone. If you are experiencing challenges meeting basic needs—such as housing, utilities, food, transportation, healthcare, technology, textbooks or other life necessities, resources may be available to help. Visit the [Student Emergency Support and Resources webpage](#) to learn more, and explore emergency support opportunities through MSU and how to access them. For additional information, please contact the Office of Student Affairs: Clark Student Center #108, (940) 397-7500, student.affairs@mstuexas.edu.

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and

strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUReady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled “*Run. Hide. Fight.*” which may be electronically accessed via the University police department’s webpage: [“Run. Hide. Fight.”](#)

Grade Appeal Process

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#)

***Notice:** Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

Course Schedule:

Week	Activities/Assignments/Exams	Assignment Due All assignments are due at the beginning of class unless otherwise stated.
Week 1 8/26	Introduction/Syllabus Classroom policies & expectations Lecture: Intro, Chapter 1	N/A
Week 2 9/2	Lecture: Chapter 2 Screening & Discussion Introduce Assignment #1	Due: D2L Discussion #1
Week 3 9/9	Test #1: Chapters 1 & 2 Lecture: Chapters 3, 4 & 5	N/A
Week 4 9/16	Lecture: Chapters 6 & 7	Due: D2L Discussion #2
Week 5 9/23	Test #2: Chapters 3-7 Lecture: Chapters 8, 9 & 10	Due: Assignment #1
Week 6 9/30	Class visit to the Wichita Falls Museum of Art - <u>MANDATORY</u>	N/A
Week 7 10/7	Lecture: Chapter 11 Introduce Assignment #2	N/A
Week 8 10/14	Lecture: Chapters 12, 13 & 14	Due: D2L Discussion #3
Week 9 10/21	No class meeting – Field trip for art majors Online Review: Chapters 15 & 16	Due: Assignment #2 Due: D2L Discussion #4
Week 10 10/28	Test #3: Chapters 8-16 Lecture: Chapters 17 & 18 Introduce Final Paper	N/A

Week	Activities/Assignments/Exams	Assignment Due All assignments are due at the beginning of class unless otherwise stated.
Week 11 11/4	Lecture: Chapters 19, 20 & 21	Due: D2L Discussion #5
Week 12 11/11	Test #4: Chapters 17-21 Lecture: Chapters 22 & 23	Due: Final Paper Proposals
Week 13 11/18	Lecture: Chapters 25, 26 & 27	Due: D2L Discussion #6
Week 14 11/24	Thanksgiving break – No class meeting this week	N/A
Week 15 12/2	Test #5: Chapters 22-27, excluding 24	Due: Final Paper - 12/4/26 @11:59pm