

# Syllabus

## Contact Information

### Instructor Contact

Ashley Gregg

[greggad@etsu.edu](mailto:greggad@etsu.edu)

### Instructor Availability

If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to me. The best methods for communication are email and our course discussion boards. You may email me at [greggad@etsu.edu](mailto:greggad@etsu.edu). If you have a question or concern regarding course content or deadlines, please post that to the General Questions discussion board topic as other students may have the same concerns. I will be responding to student inquiries daily Monday through Friday so during the week you should generally expect a response time from me within 24 hours. Response times may be slower on weekends.

If you prefer to speak with me directly regarding a more complex issue, please email me to set up a Zoom video conference meeting time. You should email me with your request to speak via Zoom. Once we agree on a meeting time, I will email you the link to attend the meeting.

## Course Information

### Credit Hours 3.0

### Course Description and Purpose

A study of the world's visual arts, focusing on the development of visual awareness, assessment and appreciation by examining a variety of styles from various periods and cultures while emphasizing the development of a common visual language.

### Course Goals

At the completion of this course students should expect to have a broader understanding of the role of art in human culture and experience from the prehistoric through the contemporary. A refined vocabulary for discussing the visual arts and a deeper sense of the methods, techniques, and practices of artists will allow students to more meaningfully engage with contemporary art as well as historic works.

## **Course Objectives**

Once students successfully complete this course, they should be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of basic art vocabulary.
2. Observe and analyze selected works of art for how they reflect the culture of any given period or oppose the cultural milieu out of which they arise.
3. Explain the significance of individual works of art and describe the importance from the artist's point of view.
4. Explain significant historical periods and related works of art from that era.
5. Compare and contrast the art of other times and places with the art of our contemporary culture.

## **Textbooks and Readings**

This course uses digital course materials designed using Open Educational Resources (OER), high-quality, openly licensed educational materials, rather than a traditional textbook. You can access all lecture notes, images, links for readings, assignments, videos, and supplemental course materials through the Content section of our course site on D2L. You may access these materials online via your computer or mobile device. You may also choose to download and save these directly to your electronic device.

## **Course Policies and Expectations**

### **Email Communication**

The ETSU email policy requires all faculty communication with students regarding ETSU business be conducted via the official ETSU email account. Please refrain from emailing from a personal email account. Please check your ETSU email regularly.

### **Classroom Courtesy Online**

When replying to posts made by your classmates, please be sure to remain respectful and courteous as we work to build a strong, supportive, and communicative online classroom culture.

### **Online Course Format, Assignments, and Exams**

The online course has several components with which you will be interacting on a weekly basis, including weekly digital sketchbook assignments and written discussion topic responses. There are two exams for this course.

### **Digital Course Content Presentations**

Rather than utilizing a traditional textbook, the course materials will be presented via PDF presentations that will be uploaded directly to D2L. You will be required to read through the presentations as well as visit linked external websites to interact with course materials. These presentations cover the entire history of art, from prehistory through contemporary art, and are full of images as well as information about the works of art included. Expect to also find within them links to articles and videos that present further information about the works of art addressed. If a link is included, you should watch the video or read the article as it will reinforce and further explain the information included in the presentation. Some of the less crucial, yet interesting and relevant, links are marked \_Optional.

## **Weekly Digital Sketchbook Assignments**

Your coursework will require you to think like an artist, an art critic, and an art historian. You will be completing regular digital sketchbook assignments for which you will need access to a digital camera (and, yes, mobile devices are a great option). Digital sketchbook assignments are meant to emphasize practices of creative thinking and artistic method, while reinforcing concepts addressed in classroom lectures and required readings. No prior artistic experience necessary! You will be submitting these via the discussion boards so that your classmates can see your work as well. Feel free to comment on, provide kudos, or even respond with an emoji or GIF to the sketchbook submissions of your classmates.

## **Weekly Discussion Topics**

You will also be required to respond to topics presented on the discussion boards. These will relate to concepts addressed in art and will be introduced with an article, video, image, or combination of those. You should view the information presented on the prompt and respond to the questions posed. Feel free to incorporate contemporary media into your responses like a TikTok video or a photo from Instagram. Our goal with these discussion topics will be to talk about art, yes, but also about images in general and the way that images influence our understanding of our world, our history, and ourselves.

## **Exams**

2 digital, multiple-choice exams will be given during the course, one at midterm and one at finals.

You will be given an extensive study guide showing images of works of art and information about what you are required to know about each. You should consult the course presentations to find the answers. You will then use this to guide your studies in preparation for the exam. The study guide will include more questions than you will encounter on your exam and each student will be assigned a randomly ordered, unique set of questions. You are welcome to assist each other in finding the correct answers on the study guide but not in completing the exam.

The exams will each have 50 randomly ordered questions and will need to be completed in 40 minutes. You are not allowed to work together on the exam and taking the exam while signed into your D2L account serves as your verification that the completion of the exam constitutes your own work and not the work of another. Violation of this will be penalized in accordance with the ETSU Policy for Academic Integrity and Misconduct. The exam is open book, meaning you may use your study guide while taking the exam BUT the exam will be strictly timed so you should plan to know the material before beginning the exam to ensure successful completion.

If you require specific testing conditions, please contact ETSU's Disability Services (see below) to procure proper documentation which you should then provide to me.

## **Late and Missing Submission Policy**

All assignments, discussion board posts, and exams should be completed by the due date. You will have one week to complete each assignment or exam. Weeks run from Monday to Sunday. 10% will be deducted from the grade for each week (with the first deduction taken on Monday following the initial missed deadline) that the assignment or exam is submitted late. If you have a major emergency that prevents you from submitting by the due date, you should contact me via email to request a pardon or extension on the week's assignments, which may be granted once per student during the semester.

For example, if you typically submit your assignments on Sundays but have a family emergency, personal illness, or other extenuating circumstance that prevents you from submitting that day, you should email me as soon as possible and let me know what happened and request an extension (without penalty) for the set of assignments for that week. An effective method of communication is to let me know what is happening and suggest a date by which you can have the assignments completed, for example, one week late. This is meant for true emergencies and can only be utilized once so please do not simply use this as a means of procrastination. If you have an ongoing family emergency or personal illness related to COVID-19, please communicate with me so that we can work together to ensure your success.

**No late submissions will be accepted for any assignment or exam later than the final submission date for the course listed on the course schedule.** This is a hard deadline as I also have a deadline for submitting final grades. *No exceptions.*

## **Grading Policy**

Grades will be based upon exams, digital sketchbook submissions, and discussion topic submissions.

**40% Exams:** There will be two exams, one midterm and one final, in the course.

**30% Digital Sketchbooks:** There will be six sketchbook assignments in the course.

**30% Discussions Topics:** There will be six discussion topic assignments in the course.

Digital sketchbooks will be graded based on content, care, and level of completion, not on technical artistic ability. Submissions should demonstrate thoughtful responses to the various prompts and assignments given by the instructor. Higher grades are given when students put in extra effort to the assignments, demonstrate creative thinking, etc.

## Grading Scale

	<b>A</b> 100 to 93	<b>A-</b> 92 to 90
<b>B+</b> 89 to 87	<b>B</b> 86 to 83	<b>B-</b> 82 to 80
<b>C+</b> 79 to 77	<b>C</b> 76 to 73	<b>C-</b> 72 to 70
<b>D+</b> 69 to 67	<b>D</b> 66 to 60	
<b>F</b> 59 to 0		

## Attendance Recording

For the purposes of attendance recording for financial aid and grading records, your “attendance” will be based on assignment submission (including digital sketchbooks, discussion posts, and exams), not on simply signing into the course on D2L. Therefore, if you sign into the course regularly but do not submit your coursework or exams, you will be marked as not attending beginning from the date that the most recent assignment or exam was submitted.

## Student Services and Technical Resources

### Student Services

The [ETSU Services webpage](#) includes a comprehensive list of services available to all ETSU students.

### Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

It is the policy of ETSU to accommodate students with disabilities, pursuant to federal law, state law and the University’s commitment to equal educational access. Any student with a disability who needs accommodations, for example arrangement for examinations or seating placement, should inform the instructor at the beginning of the course. Faculty accommodation forms are provided to students through Disability Services in the D.P. Culp Center, Room 326, telephone 423-439-8346. [Visit the Disability Services webpage for more information.](#)

### Technical Resources

## Help Desk

The Information Technology Services (ITS) Help Desk is the best resource for most technical problems. Find answers to common questions on the [Help Desk website](#), call, email, or stop in to see them on the first floor of the Sherrod Library. Phone: 423-439-4648

Email: [itshelp@etsu.edu](mailto:itshelp@etsu.edu).

## Desire2Learn (D2L) Online Help

Many answers to D2L related questions can be found on the [D2L Help Student Home](#). If you are still having trouble finding what you need, contact the Help Desk.

## ETSU Technical Resources

Many other technical resources can be found on the [Online Help webpage](#).

## University Information

### Syllabus Attachment

The [ETSU syllabus attachment](#) includes important material such as permits and overrides, advisement, hours, dates and other ETSU information.

## ETSU Undergraduate Catalog

[Current Undergraduate Catalog](#)

### **\*\*BucsCARE\*\***

The [ETSU BucsCARE](#) page is an excellent resource for locating contact information for a variety of student services, including the most referenced offices and campus resources.