ART HISTORY 105
HISTORY OF WESTERN ART

BULLETIN INFORMATION
ARTH 105: History of Western Art (3 credit hours)
Course Description:
The visual arts from Paleolithic times to the Renaissance

SAMPLE COURSE OVERVIEW
A survey course that examines the history of Prehistoric art (ca. 30,000 BCE) through late Gothic art (ca. 1350 CE). A rich variety of cultural expression, that includes painting, sculpture and architecture, will be used to address some of the ways art historians understand and interpret art. This course will emphasize the historical and social contexts of human-made objects: their historical, ritual or religious significance, as well as the maker, user and patron. It will encourage you to develop your skills of looking at and seeing works of art, and begin to explore ideas of understanding, interpreting and explaining in the field of art history. This syllabus will serve as your guide to reading assignments, test dates, and contact information. Our discussions will be guided by the following definitions of art and art history:
1. Art is the class of man-made objects with an extra-utilitarian function.
2. Art History is informed speculation on the production and reception of artworks, with a focus on how they functioned or were meant to function for their makers and/or users within their original contexts: biographical, social, and/or artistic.

ITEMIZED LEARNING OUTCOMES
Upon successful completion of ARTH 105, students will be able to:
1. Identify artistic monuments and works from the Western art tradition dating from prehistory through the fourteenth century
2. Recognize key elements that identify these works as belonging to specific cultures and specific periods of time
3. Explain and discuss the contexts in which these pieces were created and their relationships to subsequent works.

SAMPLE REQUIRED TEXTS/SUGGESTED READINGS/MATERIALS:
TBA

SAMPLE ASSIGNMENTS AND/OR EXAM
1. Exams: There will be four exams in this class. Each exam will consist of two parts:
   a. Name and term identifications and
   b. An image identifications and discussions.
The names, terms and images for which you will be responsible will be clearly identified in class and listed on Blackboard. For the images you will be expected to know the classification/artist, title, approximate date (period dates are fine), the category or categories to which the work belongs. You will also be expected to discuss the given work’s thematic and stylistic meaning and the function for which it was apparently produced, which is to say: who was it made for and what it was meant to provide for that viewer or those viewers.

2. Students may submit up to 4 critiques of specified exhibitions for extra credit. (Extra credit reports will be accepted only on specific dates, not before or after.)

SAMPLE COURSE OUTLINE WITH TIMELINE OF TOPICS, READINGS/ASSIGNMENTS, EXAMS/PROJECTS

Class 1: Introduction to ARTH 105

Class 2: 1. Prehistoric Art in Europe

Class 3: 2. Art of the Ancient Near East

Class 4: 2. Art of the Ancient Near East

Class 5: 3. Art of Ancient Egypt

Class 6: 3. Art of Ancient Egypt

Class 7: TEST #1

Class 8: 4. Aegean Art

Class 9: 4. Aegean Art

Class 10: 5. Art of Ancient Greece

Class 11: 5. Art of Ancient Greece

Class 12: 5. Art of Ancient Greece

Class 13: 6. Etruscan Art

Class 14: 7. Roman Art

Class 15: 7. Roman Art

Class 16: 7. Roman Art
Class 17: TEST #2

Class 18: 8. Early Christian Art
Class 19: 9. Byzantine Art

Class 20: 9. Byzantine Art

Class 21: 10. Middle Ages

Class 22: 10 Middle Ages & Romanesque

Class 23: 11. Romanesque Art

Class 24: TEST #3


Class 27: 13. 14th Century European Art

Class 28: 13. 14th Century European Art

Class 29: 13. 14th Century European Art

Class 30: Final Exam according to University exam schedule