ART HISTORY AND VISUAL CULTURE

Courses

AHVC 096 - Senior Symposium (0 Credit Hours)

AHVC 101 - The Western World: Ancient to Baroque (4 Credit Hours)
This course is an introduction to selected themes, periods, and sites of visual production and built practice in Europe, the Mediterranean, and the New World. It focuses on a selected series of ‘case studies’ that integrate sites/monuments significant to the flow of Western art with period-specific and general critical issues. The relation of systems of visual and architectural representation to period-specific and current understandings of power, ritual, and the human body, as suggested through the disciplines of Art History and Visual Culture, will be key.

AHVC 131 - Asian Art and Visual Culture (4 Credit Hours)
An introduction to the art and visual culture of India, China, Japan and Southeast Asia focusing on historical, religious and social issues and the function of both art and visual culture.

Crosslisting: EAST 131.

AHVC 141 - Latin American Art and Visual Culture (4 Credit Hours)
This introductory course examines the diverse arts and visual culture of Latin American countries, from Colonial times through the present, via a social art historical perspective. As we move through the history of Latin American art, we will center underrepresented narratives to explore key issues such as history making, uneven development, nation building, decolonization, and transnationalism. Students in the course will learn about the social, political, and historical contexts of Latin American art and become familiar with key theoretical concepts regarding representation and aesthetic practice. Objects and practices of study will include codices, casta paintings, printmaking, muralism, public art, and performance. This course will be broken into four thematic unit sections: (1) Indigenous Ideologies, European Conquest, and Contested Visions; (2) Struggles for Independence and Redefining National Art; (3) Revolutions and Avant-Garde Art; and (4) Contemporary Social Movements and Socially Engaged Art.

AHVC 199 - Introductory Topics in Art (1-4 Credit Hours)
A general category used only in the evaluation of transfer credit.

AHVC 201 - Classical Art and Architecture (4 Credit Hours)
This course is an introduction to the art and architecture of Greece and Rome. Visual and spatial practices of religion and politics will be examined, focusing on Classical Athens and on Rome during the Late Republic and Early Empire. Selected works of art and architecture, and specific urban and exurban sites will be considered. Issues surrounding ‘classical’ forms and their subsequent role in Western art and architecture will be investigated.

AHVC 203 - Early Renaissance Art and Architecture (4 Credit Hours)
This course is an introduction to the art, architecture, and selected patterns of urban development in Italy during the Early Renaissance and the Quattrocento. Focus will be on developments in Siena, Rome, and especially Florence. Issues surrounding ‘classicism’ and the development of new representational systems, new scales and materials in sculpture, new spatial and structural forms in architecture, and new relations to urbanism and centers of power and global expansion will be explored.

AHVC 204 - High Renaissance and Baroque Art & Architecture (4 Credit Hours)
This course provides an introduction to the art, architecture, and selected patterns of urban development Rome during the High Renaissance, Mannerism, and the Baroque era through the papacy of Alexander VII (1655-67). Developments from ca. 1450 on in Rome leading to Julius II and the Roman High Renaissance will be a prime focus. Consideration of Mannerism, the Council of Trent and early Baroque visual and architectural forms (later 16th century) will lead to the second focus on 17th century visual and spatial practices in Counter-Reformation Rome and beyond.

AHVC 210 - Special Topics in Ancient, Medieval, and Early Modern Art in the Mediterranean and Europe (4 Credit Hours)

AHVC 213 - Women Artists in the Movement (4 Credit Hours)
The course will analyze artworks by Latina and Latin American women artists that address power inequalities within the intersections of class, gender, and race. There will be a focus on the often-overlooked role of Latina and Latin American women artists in political, social, and cultural movements. Students will be expected to think critically about feminist theories, particularly intersectional feminism, while visually and socially analyzing various works of art made by Latina and Latin American women in both Latin America and the U.S.

AHVC 220 - Special Topics in Modern Art History (4 Credit Hours)

AHVC 226 - Mexican Art Across Borders (4 Credit Hours)
This course examines the transnational history and exchanges of modern and contemporary Mexican and Mexican-American artists in the United States. Students will be introduced to critical events that have shaped the history and culture of Greater Mexico (such as the Mexican-American War and the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo of 1848) before delving into the relationship between art and social movements, focusing on the post-revolutionary moment in Mexico (1910-1940) and the Chicano Civil Rights Movement (El Movimiento) in the United States (1960s-1990s). The class engages students in an in-depth analysis of works of art in diverse media and relates these to the social and historical conditions of their production. It challenges canonical accounts of Mexican modernism by broadening the traditional field of inquiry to consider mediums and artists traditionally regarded as “minor” and by offering a transnational approach to the art of Mexican-Americans in the United States.

AHVC 230 - Special Topics in Modern and Contemporary Art from Latin America and the U.S. (4 Credit Hours)

AHVC 231 - Art of Japan (4 Credit Hours)
An introduction to Japanese architecture, sculpture, painting and the decorative arts from prehistoric times to the 20th century, with an emphasis on the works in their cultural and religious context.

AHVC 232 - Art of China (4 Credit Hours)
This course is an introduction to Chinese visual culture from prehistoric times through the Mao era. Organized around a selection of key objects and images, this course explores a variety of art forms from China through diverse contexts such as ritual, gender, imperial patronage, literati ideals, and political icons.

Crosslisting: EAST 232.
AHVC 240 - Special Topics in Art History and Visual Culture (4 Credit Hours)
AHVC 260 - Special Topics in Pre-modern to Modern and Contemporary Art from China, Japan, and South Asia (4 Credit Hours)
AHVC 262 - Special Topics in Art History and Museum Studies (4 Credit Hours)
AHVC 263 - World Views: Spatial Imagination in East Asia (4 Credit Hours)

This course engages the question: ‘How are images used to imagine our place in the world?’ Students are invited to study fascinating practices of spatial image-making in East Asia from the inside out, by exploring these world-views from the perspective of their makers. You will be asked to pay special attention to how social and economic power structures inflect these representations: to envision and decode spatial imagery as a site of imagination, control and resistance. Artists and patrons in China, Japan, and Korea have for centuries produced elaborate maps and landscape imagery, photographs and film to imagine the world in a variety of ways. This course invites you to approach modern and contemporary representations of space in East Asia both in theoretically and historically informed ways. In the first part of the course, students build a frame of reference for their analysis of post-war case studies, by reading core texts in spatial theory, and exploring important visual representations of space from pre-modern East Asia. In the second part of the course, students apply these theoretical and historical approaches to select cases that exemplify more recent struggles over space and its imagination in East Asia.

AHVC 299 - Intermediate Topics in Art (1-4 Credit Hours)
AHVC 302 - Medieval Art and Architecture (4 Credit Hours)

This course is an advanced investigation of art and architectural developments in the Latin West and Byzantine East during the medieval period. Selective foci include western monastic art, building, and lay patronage in Spain, France, and Burgundy during the Romanesque and early Gothic periods, as well as eastern monasticism in Constantinople, Greece, and Asia Minor in the Middle Byzantine period. Issues unique to each cultural sphere will be considered, such as feudalism in the West, and the icon and the role of the Imperial family and Constantinopolitan aristocracy in the East.

AHVC 310 - History of Radical Printmaking (4 Credit Hours)

The course analyzes the creation, history, and continual legacy of radical printmaking via transnational and multiracial social movements. Therefore, the course takes a global art historical approach to the materials, analyzing the influence of transnational art and political networks. The course is influenced by postcolonial theory, transnationalism, and critical race theory. Through visual, textual, and social analysis via close readings, critical discussions, and a comprehensive research project, students will find connections, networks, and contact zones between distinct graphic art movements. Throughout the course, we will explore specific networks created among Mexican, Black, and Chicana/o printmakers, but students will be encouraged to find similar transnational and multiracial solidarity movements among other printmakers.

AHVC 333 - Art and Revolution in 20th Century China (4 Credit Hours)

This advanced-level course examines the complicated relationship between art and politics in China through key debates and developments in Chinese visual culture during the 20th century. The class explores competing narratives that negotiate the tensions between "tradition and modernity," "East and West," "local and global" and their implications for revolutions in art. Particular attention will be paid to interrogating the ideological underpinnings of artistic mediums and formats, the historiographical stakes of modernity, and the assertion of cultural memory in art and text.

Crosslisting: EAST 333.

AHVC 361 - Directed Study (1-4 Credit Hours)
AHVC 362 - Directed Study (1-4 Credit Hours)
AHVC 363 - Independent Study (1-4 Credit Hours)
AHVC 364 - Independent Study (1-4 Credit Hours)
AHVC 380 - Methods of Art History and Visual Culture (4 Credit Hours)

This class is required for Art History and Visual Culture majors. This class is the first of the three-part capstone experience for the Art History and Visual Culture major. It introduces students to the theoretical and methodological platforms of Art History and Visual Culture and examines the historical development of the fields of both Art History and Visual Culture. It introduces students to the methods and theoretical approaches of practicing scholars in the field and asks students to formulate their own platforms, which they will translate into active research in the second and third capstone courses (AHVC 408 and AHVC 409).

AHVC 399 - Advanced Topics in Art (1-4 Credit Hours)

A general category used only in the evaluation of transfer credit.

AHVC 408 - Art History and Visual Culture Senior Seminar: Research (4 Credit Hours)

In this required course, senior majors will research and prepare the senior thesis.

AHVC 409 - Art History and Visual Culture Senior Seminar: Writing (1 Credit Hour)

In this required course, senior majors will present their senior thesis during our annual senior symposium.

AHVC 451 - Senior Research (4 Credit Hours)
AHVC 452 - Senior Research (4 Credit Hours)