

## **Art 480 Undergraduate Readings in Art History Syllabus**

### **Instructor Information:**

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### **Course Information:**

Pre-requisite: Completion of at least six hours of art history coursework, along with instructor permission. Exceptions can be made at the instructor's discretion.

The readings course consists of a collaborative arrangement between the instructor and the student and is geared toward the student's scholarly interests and course of study. The course is comprised of relevant guided readings and culminates in some form of scholarly writing (options outlined below).

### **Instructions:**

Important: Read the course information carefully and entirely. You are responsible for the information it contains. The following information has been formulated to provide instructions regarding the requirements of the formal analysis paper and the critical research paper.

Formal Analysis: approximately 8-10 pages  
topics must be discussed with and approved by the instructor

The student will choose a specific work of art or a series of works related to their interests and/or field of study. The paper will consist of a discussion of the formal aspects of the work of art, including, but not limited to, line, shape, form, color, space, balance, and texture. While content and cultural context of the work of art is not necessarily part of the formal analysis, it certainly may be addressed if it is relevant.

Remember, this is **not** a research paper; rather, it is a demonstration of the student's formal analysis skills. Once the instructor and the student have agreed upon a topic, it may not be changed without instructor approval.

Critical Research: approximately 8-10 pages  
topics must be discussed with and approved by the instructor

The in-depth, critical research paper should be a comprehensive treatment of a particular topic. Unlike the formal analysis paper, it is not a personal commentary on a work of art, nor is it a compilation of other scholars' writings; it is a critical consideration of the artwork, as well as the scholarly research pertaining to the artwork.

**NOTE:** Page length does not include the title page, endnotes, bibliography, or illustration pages. Illustrations should be placed at the end of the paper, not within the written text.

Each paper should be submitted in the Chicago/Turabian style, and typed in Times New Roman, 12-point font. Please use standard one-inch margins for the entire document.

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Students may want to consider combining the formal analysis and research papers into one larger work (15-20 pages; due date is the later of the two); some topics are better suited to a combined paper than others, so please consult with the instructor.

If a student wishes to approach the readings course in a more customized manner, consult with the instructor early in the semester so arrangements can be made.

**Once the instructor and the student have agreed upon a topic, it may not be changed without instructor approval.**

**Academic Honesty:**

All papers must be your own work! Visual and/or written plagiarism will not be tolerated. Students are encouraged to read FHSU's Academic Honesty Policy, which is found in the University Catalog and online at:

[http://www.fhsu.edu/academic/provost/handbook/ch\\_2\\_academic\\_honesty/](http://www.fhsu.edu/academic/provost/handbook/ch_2_academic_honesty/)

Lack of illustrations or identification of artworks, or a lack of sufficient footnotes or bibliography, will be considered plagiarism. Remember, a direct quote from a book or article, or even an explanation or re-wording of another person's idea, requires a source – failure to use citations will also be considered plagiarism.

Please make sure all Internet articles are from a scholarly source. If you have questions regarding the validity of a source, please ask me!

**Tools:**

The Art Index, located in Forsyth Library, is a useful tool for researching articles, as are the online research databases found on the Forsyth Library website.

<http://www.fhsu.edu/library/>

Forsyth Library may not have all the books and articles that you will need in order to fully research your chosen topic – remember, books and articles can be ordered through Interlibrary Loan: <https://fhsu.edu/library/collections/ill>. Be sure to allow yourself sufficient time!

**Evaluation and Grading:**

Formal Analysis	300 points
Research Paper	300 points
Total:	<hr/> 600 points

Grading will be based on the substance, clarity, and quality of written work, and the effort made to learn the material and contribute in a positive way to your personal success in the class. Grading rubrics can be found on Blackboard.

An Incomplete (or "I") grade will only be given in extreme circumstances and at the discretion of the instructor.

### **Grading Scale:**

100-90 = A  
89-80 = B  
79-70 = C  
69-60 = D  
59-0 = U

### **Students with Special Needs:**

FHSU provides assistance to students with disabilities or special needs. Students are encouraged to read the Services for Students with Disabilities section of the University catalog, which is available online at:

<http://www.fhsu.edu/disability/>

### **Student Support Services:**

- FHSU Computing and Telecommunications Center Help Desk  
<http://www.fhsu.edu/tigertech/>
- Forsyth Library  
<http://www.fhsu.edu/library>
- Writing Center  
<http://www.fhsu.edu/english/writingcenter/>
  - The Writing Center is an excellent place to go for feedback on any kind of writing at any stage of the process. Located in Forsyth Library on the main floor, the Writing Center features trained writing consultants who can help you with all aspects of your writing assignments. Drop by or make an appointment online in advance—preferably well before the due date of your paper. The Writing Center is open 9:00am-8:00pm Monday through Thursday and 9:00am-2:00pm on Friday. It's FREE!