

ART 481 ANCIENT ART HISTORY

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 11:30 am – 12:20 pm

Schmidt Foundation Center for Art and Design, Room 103

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:

Erica S. Bittel, Ph.D.

Instructor, Department of Art and Design

Schmidt Foundation Center for Art and Design, Room 217

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Office Hours:

M / W / F: 8:00 – 10:15 am

T: 9:00 – 10:00 am

Appointments by request.

COURSE INFORMATION:

Pre-requisite: ART 201 Survey of Art History I and ART 202 Survey of Art History II **or** instructor permission.

This course is a survey of major works of ancient art, dating from approximately 30,000 BCE to 400 CE, and will include all forms of art, with a focus architecture, painting, and sculpture, along with the formal analysis of the artwork. As a foundation for interpreting these works, emphasis will be placed on the social, religious, and political contexts of each period.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Recognize the types and styles of art from each period, from Prehistoric art through Etruscan and Roman art.
- Assess the relationship between the development of major art styles and movements and the political, social, religious/spiritual, and intellectual ideas of the ancient civilizations and the associated periods.
- Identify the influences of both past and contemporary art on the evolution of art from each ancient civilization and the associated periods.
- Analyze and evaluate ancient visual material while employing descriptive, conceptual, and appropriate vocabulary.

COURSE RESOURCES:

Art History – Ancient Art

by Marilyn Stokstad and Michael W. Cothren

Publisher: Pearson Education, Inc.

ISBN: 978-0-205-87376-0

0-205-87347-2

Alte Pinakothek (Munich, Germany): <https://www.pinakothek.de/en/visit/alte-pinakothek>

Art Institute of Chicago (Chicago, Illinois): <https://www.artic.edu/>

Khan Academy: <https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/renaissance-reformation>

Louvre (Paris, France): <https://www.louvre.fr/en>

Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York City, New York): <http://www.metmuseum.org>

Museo del Prado (Madrid, Spain): <https://www.museodelprado.es/en>

Museum of Fine Arts (Boston, Massachusetts): <http://www.mfa.org>

Smithsonian: <http://www.si.edu>

UNESCO World Heritage: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/158/>

World Monument Fund: www.wmf.org

EVALUATION AND GRADING:

All grades, including extra credit, will be posted on Blackboard.

Grading will be based on the accuracy of responses to examination questions, 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. A variety of extra credit assignments will also be offered throughout the course of the semester. An Incomplete (or "I") grade will only be given in extreme cases and at the discretion of the instructor.

Grading Breakdown:

Attendance	100 points
Miscellaneous Assignments / Participation	100 points
2 Exams (100 points each)	200 points
Research Project	200 points
Final Exam	200 points

Total:	800 points
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Grading Scale:

100 - 90 = A

89 - 80 = B

79 - 70 = C

69 - 60 = D

59 - 0 = U

ATTENDANCE:

The study of art history requires familiarity with a large number of images and concepts. Excessive absences will therefore jeopardize your final grade. It is your responsibility to make up all materials missed due to absence.

Students will lose 2 attendance points for each absence and 1 attendance point for each tardy, in addition to any points given for participation and/or miscellaneous in-class assignments.

If you miss an exam and/or assignment deadline because of illness or other emergency, you must notify the instructor as soon as possible. **Make-up examinations will ONLY be given for DOCUMENTED reasons involving personal, medical, and / or family emergencies.**

Make-up examinations will not be given for oversleeping, club activities, computer malfunctions, jobs, and/or routine doctor (or other) appointments.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES:

ALL cell phones / electronic devices must be PUT AWAY and SILENCED while students are in class. The use of laptop computers is permitted **ONLY** if students are using the computers to take notes or for purposes related to the class. Attendance and/or participation points may be deducted due to unauthorized use of devices in class.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

All assignments 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/

SPECIAL LEARNING CONDITIONS / ACCOMMODATIONS:

Fort Hays State University, in accordance with The Americans with Disabilities Act, provides assistance and resources for students with disabilities. The Student Accessibility Services office is located within Health and Wellness Services in the Fischli-Wills Center for Student Success, Room 301, 785-628-4401. This is the appropriate office for students, faculty or staff to contact to verify and notify the University of a student's documented disability. After verification of a documented disability, the Student Accessibility Services office will initiate a request for services. Students should contact the instructor within the first two weeks of class if they require special accommodations for test taking, carrying out assignments, or any other need for assistance.

TITLE IX:

FHSU is committed to fostering a safe and productive learning environment. Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex, gender, and gender identity are Civil Rights offenses subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, etc. This includes all types of gender and relationship violence, sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, domestic and dating violence, and stalking. If you wish to report an incident or have questions about school policies and procedures regarding Title IX issues, please contact Laurie Larrick, University Compliance Officer and the FHSU Title IX Coordinator, at lelarrick@fhsu.edu or (785) 628-4175. The Compliance Officer can help connect you to campus and outside resources, discuss all of your reporting options, and assist with any concerns you may have.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES:

- FHSU Tiger Tech: <https://www.fhsu.edu/tigertech/>
- Tebo Library: <http://www.fhsu.edu/library>
- Writing Center: <https://www.fhsu.edu/writingcenter/index>

TIMELINE OF READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS:

Timeline is subject to modification; review and exam dates will be decided as a class.

Week 1 (January 21):

Introduction

Week 2 (January 26):

Chapter 1 – Prehistoric Art

Week 3 (February 2):

Chapter 1 – Prehistoric Art, continued

Week 4 (February 9):

Chapter 2 – Art of the Ancient Near East

Week 5 (February 16):

Chapter 2 – Art of the Ancient Near East, continued

Exhibition Concept and Research Plan assignment due on Blackboard by 11:59 pm on Friday, February 20th, 2026.

SEE BLACKBOARD FOR DETAILS

Week 6 (February 23):

Chapter 3 – Art of Ancient Egypt

Week 7 (March 2):

Chapter 3 – Art of Ancient Egypt, continued

Week 8 (March 9):

Chapter 4 – Art of the Ancient Aegean

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Week 9 (March 16):

SPRING BREAK!

Week 10 (March 23):

Chapter 5 – Art of Ancient Greece, continued

Bibliography and Exhibition Objects assignment due on Blackboard by 11:59 pm on Friday, March 27th, 2026.

SEE BLACKBOARD FOR DETAILS

Week 11 (March 30):

Chapter 5 – Art of Ancient Greece, continued

Week 12 (April 6):

Chapter 5 – Art of Ancient Greece, continued

Week 13 (April 13):

Chapter 6 – Etruscan and Roman Art

Week 14 (April 20):

Chapter 6 – Etruscan and Roman Art, continued

Virtual Exhibition due on Blackboard by 11:59 pm on Friday, April 24th, 2026.

SEE BLACKBOARD FOR DETAILS

Week 15 (April 27):

Chapter 6 – Etruscan and Roman Art, continued

Week 16 (May 4):

Chapter 6 – Etruscan and Roman Art, continued

Wrap-up and conclusion

Week 17 (May 11):

FINALS WEEK