ART 1301  CRN 30010
History of Art: Paleolithic to the Renaissance

Professor and Office Hours:
Dr. Susan J. Baker
MTWR 2:45-3:45, or by appointment: 713-226-5298; E-Mail: Bakers@uhd.edu;
website: www.uhd.edu/~baker.; Office number: S1009 E.

Class times and credit hours: MTWR 12:30-2:30, Room A413; three credit hours.

Course Description:
In this course students learn to identify art works and to discuss artistic cultural styles dating
from prehistoric times to c.1500 CE. Students analyze the variety of contexts and circumstances
under which works of art were created and explore both the relationships and differences
between cultural and artistic periods. Students are not required to make art works in this class.
Prerequisites: Enrollment in or completion of ENG 1301.

Learning Objectives:
After completing this class students will be able to
• Identify monuments and known artists from prehistoric times to c.1500 CE.
• Describe the various cultural circumstances under which works of art were created and
discuss the effect of cultural values on aesthetic values.
• Describe the similarities and differences between stylistic periods.
• Outline the various definitions of art.
• Locate area museums and describe the role of museums in preserving art work.

Textbook: Gardner’s Art Through The Ages, Thirteenth Edition Volume I. Boston:
Thomason/Wadsworth, 2009.

Notes: Art 1301 History of Art course packet, UHD Copy Center (also on website)

Grading: (also see below: Grading Methodology)
Students’ grades are based on the number of points that they earn. A student earns points by
successfully completing at least four identification quizzes, at least two tests, two museum
assignments and a final exam. No term papers or other written assignments are required.

Identification quizzes are graded on the student’s ability to recognize art works from the
textbook (required art works are listed in the course packet). Tests also include identification as
well as multiple choice and short answer questions based on class discussion and notes. NO
MAKEUPS FOR TESTS ARE GIVEN!! There is a third test scheduled for those who miss one.
Those taking all three tests may use the third to make up points from the earlier two.

The final exam includes identification of art works, along with multiple choice and short
answer/essay questions based on the three tests. A makeup for the final exam requires a
documented excuse from an appropriate authority.

Museum assignments are in a short answer format and can be completed at two area museums
as indicated in the assignment, the Menil and the MFAH.

UHD adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with
respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. Students with
disabilities should register with Disabled Student Services and contact the professor in a timely
manner (preferably before the first ID quiz) to arrange for appropriate accommodations.
June
2 Introduction: The Formal Elements of Style.
3 Class discussion after quiz: Paleolithic, Neolithic and Sumerian. (pages 15-24, 28, 31-33, 35, 41-43, 45-48 in textbook)
4 Class discussion: Egypt. (pages 53-64 to Middle Kingdom)
5 **ID quiz:** Paleolithic through Egyptian. (*Identify works of art by title, style, and date of style as indicated on the syllabus. Do not use the titles in the book, but rather use those on the syllabus. A spelling sheet will be provided for each quiz, test and for the final exam.*) Class discussion: The Aegean (Cycladic, Minoan, and Mycenaean). (pages 81-96)
9 Class discussion: Greece. (pages 100-154)
10 **ID quiz:** Paleolithic through Classical Greek. Greece, cont.; Ancient India, China, and Japan (pages 161, 163, 168, 183, 186, 190-191, 196, 201, 211)
11 **Meet at the Menil Museum:** [www.menil.org](http://www.menil.org).
12 **Test 1:** Identification Paleolithic through Etruscan, all film guides and class notes since the first day of class.
16 Class discussion: Etruscan and Roman. (pages 223-227, 231, 237-286)
17 **ID quiz:** Paleolithic through Early Medieval. Class discussion: Roman.
19 **Test 2:** Identification Paleolithic through Romanesque and all film guides and class notes since Test 1.
23 Class discussion: Romanesque (pages 431-442, 450-456)
24 Class discussion: Gothic. (pages 461-478)
25 **ID quiz:** Paleolithic through Gothic. Class discussion: Proto- and Early Renaissance. (pages 497-506, 541-565)
26 **Meet at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston:** [www.mfah.org](http://www.mfah.org).
30 **Test 3** (bonus or makeup test): Identification Paleolithic through Proto-Renaissance and all film guides and class notes since Test 2.

July
1 **ID quiz:** Paleolithic through Early Renaissance. Class discussion: Early Renaissance, cont.
2 **Final Exam:** Identification Paleolithic through Early Renaissance, all three tests and any class notes since Test 3.
Grading Methodology

840 points available (excluding bonus points):  775 = A   670 = B   585 = C   505 = D

Identification quizzes:  40 points (5 given, 10 points each, 40 point limit)

Tests:  200 points  (3 given, each worth 100 points, 200 point limit)
    Each test consists of identification, multiple choice and short answer essays. See calendar
    for specific material covered on each test.  
    There are no makeups for tests. There is a third test scheduled for any student who
    misses one. Any student who takes all three tests may use the points from the third test to
    make up points lost on earlier ones up to 200 total test points.

Museum assignments:  200 points (two assigned, 100 points each)

Final Exam:  400 points
    Exam consists of identification, multiple choice, and short answer essays based on the three
    tests given during the semester, as well as material on the Early Renaissance.

Grade Record and Worksheet:  Please keep track of your grades using the worksheet below.

Identification Quizzes  (limit 40 points)
    _____ ID 1       _____ ID 4
    _____ ID 2       _____ ID 5
    _____ ID 3       _____ Total IDs
        (limit 40 points)

Tests  (limit 200 points)
    _____ Test 1      _____ Test 2      _____ Test 3
    _____ Total Test
        (limit 200 points)

Museum Assignments  (100 points each, 200 total)
    _____ Museum 1    _____ Museum 2
    _____ Total MUS

Final Exam  (400 points)
    _____ Final Exam
    _____ Grand Total