

ARTH 201 Arts of Asia: India, China, Japan

Mary Baldwin University

Department of Art & Art History

Professor Jenny Ramirez

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Summer 2020, May 26 - August 14 (12-Week Course)

Class meeting times and Location: online/asynchronous course

COURSE DESCRIPTION: ARTH 201 is designed as an introduction to the art and architecture of India, China, and Japan. Covering nearly 4,000 years of art and history produced by a massive area of the world—Southeast and East Asia—the course will present the main lines of development of these cultures and their arts. Emphasis will be placed on recognition and identification of major works of art, including sculpture, ceramics, painting, and architecture, and associated styles from each period/dynasty. A focus on religion and regional philosophy will be a strong component as well.

Learning Objectives:

- To identify, discuss, research, and write effectively about Indian, Chinese, and Japanese art and architecture
- To apply concepts surrounding issues of aesthetics, function, and use in critical interpretations of cultural traditions and the objects that form them
- To connect Asian art effectively to religious, social, political, historical, and literary contexts
- To gain a greater understanding and sensitivity to Asian art and culture in general

Required textbook:

Asian Art, Dorinda Neave, Lara Blanchard, and Marika Sardar, Pearson, 2014

(ISBN-13: 978-0205837632)

Supplemental readings will be provided by the instructor.

Other Helpful Sources:

- *Asian Art*, John LaPlante, McGraw-Hill, 1992
- *History of Far Eastern Art*, Sherman Lee, Harry Abrams, 2003
- *Art Beyond the West*, Michael Kampen-O'Riley, Pearson, 2012
- *A Short Guide to Writing About Art*, Sylvan Barnet, Pearson, 2014

Course requirements:

1) **Art Museum Project** (250 points)

This project requires the student to visit an art museum* with a significant collection of Asian art and examine three specific artworks, one from India, China, and Japan. Students will research the artworks, comparing them to ones in the textbook/video lectures and developing their form, content, and context into a typed 750-word minimum paper.

2) **Discussion** (7 discussions at 50 points each)

The Discussion Board is the main meeting place for communication and discussion. In summary, students will respond to seven discussions with original answers and ideas and then 2 (minimum) reposts or responses to other students for each discussion.

3) **Quizzes** (5 quizzes at 40 points each)

There will be 5 quizzes. These are timed, multiple choice quizzes that test on the material covered in the textbook as well as video lectures. They are open book; however, there is not enough time to look everything up so the content in the book must have been read and comprehended to successfully take the quiz within the allotted time.

4) **Final Exam** (200 points)

The cumulative exam will be comprised of artwork identification, multiple choice, and short essay. A study guide will be made available. The exam is taken on the student’s own in Canvas without the assistance of the textbook, notes, websites, or any other sources. MBU Honor Code is in effect.

The Final Grade will be calculated using the following percentages and points:

Art Museum Project.....	25%	(250 points)
Discussions.....	35%	(350 points)
Quizzes.....	20%	(200 points)
Final Exam.....	20%	(200 points)
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	100%	(1000 points)

GRADING SCALE: A = 100-93%; A- = 92-90%; B+ = 89-87%; B = 86-83%; B- = 82-80%; C+ = 79-77%; C = 76-73%; C- = 72-70%; D+ = 69-67%; D = 66-63%; D- = 62-60%; F = 59% and below

General Course Guidelines:

As an online class, you will be required to actively participate on multiple levels. In each module, the course material will be presented as video lectures, textbook readings, discussions, quizzes, and assignments. Each of the 4 Modules covers 2-4 weeks of class. You will be required to participate on the Discussions to demonstrate your comprehension of the material and to show participation/engagement. You will also be taking quizzes, a Final Exam, and have one written assignment (Art Museum Project).

There are no real time meetings required in this course. However, do note that the Art Museum Project requires you to go to an art museum that has a collection of Asian art. * Options for this include: The Virginia Museum of Art (Richmond) or The National Museum of Asian Art (DC).

*If museums are not open by this summer, the paper will be adjusted to virtual visits to museums - TBA.

Late Policy: I accept the Art Museum Project past deadline, but I will drop the grade by 10 points per day late. Discussions are penalized by 5 points per day past deadline. Quizzes and the Final Exam must be taken by deadline. If you miss a deadline due to an excused reason (illness, hospitalization, family emergencies, death in family), I will waive the late penalty IF you provide documentation.

Academic Integrity: Mary Baldwin students pledge to uphold the Honor Code. They pledge to refrain from cheating on assignments, papers, and tests, to refrain from plagiarism, and to be honest in their dealings with faculty, staff, and other students. To maintain the integrity of the system, students, faculty, and staff who witness Honor Code infractions are expected to report them. Please be familiar with Mary Baldwin's Honor Code: <https://www.marybaldwin.edu/catalog/inclusivity-honor/> (Links to an external site.)

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: Mary Baldwin University is sensitive to the needs of students with disabilities and is committed to providing appropriate support. If the student has a disability and need special accommodations to succeed in this course, please talk to the instructor or the director of the Learning Skills Center as soon as possible.

Course Schedule:

Our class will be divided into four modules, 2-4 weeks per module. You should check the Modules for the readings, video lectures, quizzes, discussion questions, and assignments for that specific week.

Module 1: Introduction to Art & Art History

Week 1 (5/26 - 5/29):

Topic: Introduction to Art

View: Video Lectures

Complete: Discussion 1: Introduce Yourself (Artistically)

Week 2 (5/30 - 6/5):

Topic: Introduction to Art History

View: Video Lectures

Read: *Asian Art*, Introduction

Complete: Discussion 2: Eastern vs. Western Views of the World

Module 2: Ancient Civilizations - India, China, Japan

Week 3 (6/6 - 6/12):

Topic: India - Indus Valley and China - Yellow River Valley, Shang & Zhou Dynasties

View: Video Lectures

Read: *Asian Art*, Chapter 1, pages 3-8; Chapter 6, pages 124-138

Complete: Quiz 1

Week 4 (6/13 - 6/19):

Topic: China - Qin & Han Dynasties

View: Video Lectures

Read: *Asian Art*, Chapter 6, pages 138-145

Complete: Discussion 3: Confucianism and Daoism

Week 5 (6/20 - 6/26):

Topic: Japan - Neolithic, Yayoi, and Kofun Periods

View: Video Lectures

Read: *Asian Art*, Chapter 12, pages 240-241, 277-288

Complete: Discussion 4: Shintoism

Module 3: Asian Religions and Art: Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam**Week 6 (6/27 - 7/3):**

Topic: Introduction to Buddhism; Early Buddhist Indian art; Spread of Buddhism to China and Japan

View: Video Lectures

Read: *Asian Art*, Chapter 1, pages 9-23; Chapter 7, pages 147-157; Chapter 12, pages 288-297; Chapter 13, pages 299-307

Complete: Quiz 2

Week 7 (7/4 - 7/10):

Topic: Introduction to Hinduism; Hindu Art in India

View: Video Lectures

Read: *Asian Art*, Chapter 2

Complete: Discussion 5: Buddhist & Hindu Temples

Week 8 (7/11 - 7/17):

Topic: Islam and the Mughal Dynasty in India

View: Video Lectures

Read: *Asian Art*, Chapter 3

Complete: Quiz 3

Module 4: Traditional China and Japan

Week 9 (7/18 - 7/24):

Topic: China - Rise of secular painting; Tang & Song Dynasties

View: Video Lectures

Read: *Asian Art*, Chapter 7, pages 157-169; Chapter 8, pages 171-186

Complete: Discussion 6: Traditional Chinese & Japanese Painting/Printmaking

Complete: Art Museum Project

Week 10 (7/25 - 7/31):

Topic: China - Yuan & Ming Dynasties

View: Video Lectures

Read: *Asian Art*, Chapter 8, pages 186-193; Chapter 9

Complete: Quiz 4

Week 11 (8/1 - 8/7):

Topic: Japan - Heian, Kamakura, Muromachi, & Edo Periods

View: Video Lectures

Read: *Asian Art*, Chapter 13, pages 307-323; Chapter 14, Chapter 15

Complete: Discussion 7: Exploring Ukiyo-e, Manga, & Anime

Week 12 (8/8 - 8/14):

Complete: Quiz 5

Complete: Final Exam