

Medieval Renaissance and Early Modern Studies Program

FALL 2024 COURSE OFFERINGS

ART 101 – Intro to Art History I:

Prof. Sinkevic TR 1:15 – 2:30 pm

Prof. Sinkevic TR 2:45-4:00 pm

A survey of visual culture from prehistoric through the Middle Ages. The course is designed as an introduction to basic problems and terminology of art history, and to methods of analyzing and interpreting individual works of art. Emphasis is placed upon historical and cultural contexts, and upon the development of major styles. Recommended for first-year students and sophomores who are considering art as a major; open to all students. [GM1, H]

ART 102 – Intro to Art History II:

Prof. MWF 10:35 – 11:25 am

Prof. MWF 2:45 - 4:00 pm

A survey of painting, sculpture, and architecture from the Renaissance to the present. The course is organized like ART 101. It is an introduction to basic problems and terminology of art history, and to methods of analyzing and interpreting individual works of art. Emphasis is placed upon historical and cultural contexts, and upon the development of major styles. (1st year students and sophomores who are considering art as a major; open to all students.)

[H] ½ credit

ART 216 – Byzantine Art:

Prof. Sinkevic TR 11:00 am – 12:15 pm

An exploration of the art and architecture of Eastern Europe, Balkan, Asian, and Mediterranean countries during the period of Byzantine rule (343-1453). Works of architecture, sculpture, and painting as well as illuminated manuscripts, icons, and liturgical objects are examined in terms of both their iconography and style. Their significance within the historical, social, religious, and economic context in which they were produced is explored. [W]

ART 223 – Italian Renaissance Art:

Prof. Hupe TR 9:30 – 10:45 am

A study of the art and architecture of Florence, Rome, Siena, and environs from the late thirteenth to the late fifteenth centuries. The works are analyzed in terms of style, technique, function, and patronage. [H, W]

ENG 300 - Chaucer:

Prof. Wadiak MW 2:45 – 4:00 pm

Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* (c. 1386-1400) dramatizes the story-telling competition among a group of travelers thrown together by chance. As the contest evolves from a way of passing the time into a wide-ranging and sometimes heated debate, the question of how we should engage with fictional narratives—whether to laugh, shudder, get mad, get even, or break down in tears—takes center stage in a poem that asks us to think about the ultimate value of the stories we tell each other. We will read (almost) all the tales—from romances and animal fables to tales of seduction and trickery—along with Chaucer's great love poem, *Troilus and Criseyde*, and a selection of his other verse. We'll explore these stories both for themselves and for what they might tell us about Chaucer's evolving sense of himself as a writer doing something unprecedented. Readings are in the Middle English of Chaucer's day, but no prior experience is assumed. This course satisfies the pre-1800 requirement for the English major. [Prerequisite: ENG 205 or perm of the instructor.]

HIST 248 – East Asia's Last Dynasties: Japan, Korea, and China, 1600-1900

Prof. Barclay TR 2:45 – 4:00 pm

A comparative study of institution-building, economic life, and social history in China, Korea and Japan from 1600 to 1900. Themes include: impact of economic growth and urbanization on agrarian societies; the transition from empire to nation-state; and the interactions of China, Japan, Korea and the Western powers on the eve of dynastic collapse. [GM2, SS]

REL 215 – Islam: History, Faith, and Practice

Prof. Patel TR 11:00 am – 12:15 pm

An introduction to Islam, a religion that flowered into a world civilization. It covers the vast and dynamic range of Muslim religious life from Muhammad's time to the present. The broad survey spans the foundational texts of the Quran and prophetic traditions as well as later Islamic thought, including jurisprudence, theology, and mysticism. The course highlights modern debates within and about Islam. Topics include political Islam, religious pluralism, the limits of jihad, and the possibilities of Islamic feminism. [H, V]

SPAN 303 – Texts and Contexts: Iberia (pre-1900):

Prof. Tocado MW 1:15 – 2:30 pm

An interdisciplinary exploration of the Iberian Peninsula's civilizations and cultures as reflected in its history, literature, peoples, politics, and arts. Topics range from Spanish Unification in 1492 through the rise and fall of Spain as an imperial power. Class/laboratory. [H]