



SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY – SHREVEPORT, LA

SU College Connect Program

FALL 2020 – SPRING 2021

Revised: July 23, 2020

MASTER SYLLABUS

SFIA - 101S

UNDERSTANDING THE ARTS

INSTRUCTOR:

OFFICE LOCATION:

OFFICE HOURS:

PHONE:

CLASS TIME(S)/SECTIONS:

EMAIL:

Course Description:

This course is an exploration of visual art forms and their cultural connections for the student with little experience in the visual arts. It includes a brief study of art history, and in-depth studies of the elements, media, and methods used in creative thought and processes. In this course, you will learn how to develop a five-step system for understanding visual art in all forms, based on the following:

1. Description: A work of art from an objective point of view – its physical attributes, and formal construction.
2. Analysis: A detailed look at a work of art that combines physical attributes with subjective statements based on the viewer's reaction to the work.
3. Context: Historical, religious, or environmental information that surrounds a particular work of art and which helps to understand the work's meaning.
4. Meaning: A statement of the work's content. A message or narrative expressed by the subject matter.
5. Judgment: A critical point of view about a work of art concerning its aesthetic or cultural value.

Textbook(s) and Material(s):

Saylor.org Academy



Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

- identify and describe the elements and principles of art;
- compare and contrast different methods, mediums, and materials artists use to create two- and three-dimensional works of visual art;
- interpret examples of visual art using analytical skills;
- identify the processes and materials involved in art and architectural production;
- explain the role and effect of the visual arts in societies, history, and other world cultures;
- list and discuss some of the roles that the visual arts have historically played;
- connect formal attributes of art with their meaning and expression;
- articulate the political, social, cultural, and aesthetic themes and issues that artists examine in their work; and
- utilize information to locate, evaluate, and communicate about visual art in its various forms

Attendance:

Students are required to attend classes regularly and punctually, as a minimum academic obligation. Failure to observe this policy may seriously jeopardize a student's academic standing. Tardiness and excused absences should be brought to the attention of the instructor(s) by the student. The following class attendance policies apply:

A student required to be absent from class because of illness or other unavoidable circumstances should promptly report the reasons to the instructor and, if required present excuses. The instructor should make clear to the student that excuses explain absences, but do not remove them.

Excuses for participation in University sponsored activities will be initiated by the sponsoring unit and approved by the college division chair and the Office of Academic Affairs. Students who wish to be absent from classes for reasons not covered by these regulations must apply to their department for a leave of absence. All excuses or explanation must be submitted in writing to the student's department head within three school days after the student returns to classes.

Make-up Policy:

Students who are absent from a test or pop quiz must present a doctor's note or show death in the immediate family. Illness of girlfriend/boyfriend, early/late vacation, family plans, etc., are not cause for exceptions. With notice, University-sponsored events and religious observances are excused under university policy. Make-up accommodations for documented medical or religious absences will be arranged on a case-by-case basis.



Electronic Devices in Class:

The use of cellular phones, pagers, CD players, radios, and similar devices is prohibited in the classroom and laboratory facilities for PERSONAL use.

Non-Discrimination/Disability Policy:

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

Southern University at Shreveport does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. An ADA/Section 504/Title IX Coordinator has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Linda Hines Title IX Compliance Officer, Fine Arts Building Room C01 and Ruby Scere, Coordinator for 504/ADA, Johnny L. Vance Center, Room 212.

Instructional Techniques:

- Audio and Visual aids
- Discussions

Method(s) of Evaluation:

- Discussions
- Quizzes
- Examination

Grade Scale:

Southern University operates on a 4.0 grading system. Students' academic progress is evaluated according to the following grading system.

GRADE	EXPLANATION	SCALE	QUALITY POINTS
A	Excellent	90-100	4.0
B	Above Average	80-89	3.0
C	Average	70-79	2.0
D	Below Average	60-69	1.0
F	Failure	Below 60	0.0
W	Withdrawal		0.0
AU	Audit		0.0
NC	Non-Credit		0.0
CR	Credit		0.0
P	Pass		0.0

To be in good academic standing, students are required to maintain a cumulative 2.0 average on the 4.0 system. Each grade reported as having been earned by the student at the end of a semester



or summer term will be included in computing the cumulative grade point average. The student should observe that the grade “F” carries zero quality points and will be included in the computation.

Course Outline

Week 1

- Definitions, Artistic Roles, and Visual Thinking

Week 2

- Process and Training

Week 3

- How Art Speaks – Finding Meaning

Week 4

- How Art Works – The Elements and Principles of Visual Language

Week 5

- How Art Works – The Elements and Principles of Visual Language

Week 6

- Artistic Media

Week 7

- Artistic Media

Week 8

- Artistic Media

Week 9

- Architecture

Week 10

- Our World – Nature, the Body, Identity, Sexuality, Politics, and Power

Week 11

- Other Worlds – Mortality, the Spirit, and Fantasy

Week 12

- Course Cumulative Essay

Week 13

- Art in Time and Place – The Western World

Week 14

- Art in Time and Place – The Western World

Week 15

- Art in Time and Place – The Western World

Week 16

- Final Exam