Course Descriptions Spring Term 2019

FAH 0002-01 Introduction to World Art II
Major monuments and themes of world art and architecture from 1700 to the present, with emphasis on the function of art in society, politics, technology, and commerce; art and the idea of the modern; nature and abstraction. Tools and approaches to analyze and understand the language of the visual arts and how art affects us today. Includes field trips to local museums. (*Cross-listed as PJS 2*)
Emily Gephart

Note: Students must also register for one recitation.
This course is a requirement for the Art History major.

Lecture E Block MW (10:30-11:20am)

FAH 0007-01 Introduction to Latin American Art
This course offers a critical introduction to U.S. Latinx art and artists (those of Latin American descent born or living in the United States). It traces the contours of this art history in relation to contemporary cultural and socio-political debates and also considers how art by U.S. Latinx artists puts pressure on mainstream paradigms of “American” and “global” contemporary art history. Emphasis will be given to artists associated with particular social movements and communities, e.g. Chicana/o, Nuyorican/mainland Puerto Rican, Cuban-American, and Dominican-American, but throughout we will consider the intersectionality within and between these communities and other historically underrepresented groups. Our study of Latinx visual art will be contextualized in terms of representation across a wide range of fields and media, including literature, cinema, and popular media, as well as shifting demographics and ongoing debates about civil rights, immigration, contemporary politics, and national security. Key topics include the politics of representation and culture-war debates about visual art as a vehicle of resistance and for affirming non-normative identities, the role of race/ethnicity, gender, sexuality, and class in relation to creative expression and art world representation. (*Cross-listed as LAS 7*)
Adriana Zavala

(This course fulfills the post 1700 requirement for the Art History major.)

J+ Block TR (3:00-4:15pm)

FAH 0008-01 Introduction to Architecture
A survey of the history of architecture covering major architects, buildings, theories, and urban and landscape developments from the Renaissance through Postmodernism. Emphasis on European and American architectural history within its social and global contexts. Introduction to basic methods of architectural analysis.
Diana Martinez

I+ Block MW (3:00-4:15pm)

FAH 0015-01 Japanese Architecture
Historical survey of major developments in Japanese religious and secular architecture and gardens from pre-Buddhist times to the modern age.  Ikumi Kaminishi

(This course fulfills the pre 1700 requirement for the Art History major.)

J+ Block TR (3:00-4:15pm)

FAH 0019-01 Classical Archaeology
This course will introduce students to the use of scientific archaeology to interpret the art and artifacts of the complex Greco-Roman world-system, which, at its apogee, interconnected cultures from Britain to China. We will begin with the development and collapse of the Bronze Age civilizations of the Aegean and Italy. We will then examine evidence for the technological and social changes that led to the development of the city-state in archaic Greece and Italy, setting the material culture of Athens and Rome in the context of the cities and sanctuaries that comprised their environments. We will examine evidence of cultural transformations driven by trade, colonization, and territorial expansion. The new level of internationalism set in motion by Alexander III (the Great)
of Macedonia led to competition and conflict between the Greek-speaking kingdoms of the eastern Mediterranean and the expanding Roman state. The ultimate outcome was inclusion of the Greek world within a multicultural Imperium Romanum. We will conclude with the question of how material culture is used to create a shared identity and sense of history for the inhabitants of a world with constantly shifting socio-political topography.

**Matthew Harrington**

*(This course fulfills the pre-1700 requirement for the Art History major.)*

**L+ Block TR (4:30-5:45pm)**

**FAH 0021-01/0121-01 Early Islamic Art**

A survey of the visual arts in Muslim lands from Spain to Central Asia between the seventh and thirteenth centuries, emphasizing the role of visual arts in the formation and expression of cultural identity. Painting, sculpture, architecture and the portable arts of ceramics, ivory, metalwork, and manuscript illustration will be considered. Topics will include the uses of figural and non-figural imagery; calligraphy and ornament; religious and secular art; public and private art; the art of the court and the art of the urban middle class; and the status, use, and meaning of the portable arts.

**Eva Hoffman**

*(This course fulfills the pre 1700 requirement for the Art History major.)*

**G+ Block MW (1:30-2:45pm)**

**FAH 0025-01/0125-01 Medieval Architecture**

Social and technological histories of medieval buildings from c. 300-c. 1400 C.E., with particular attention to space, audience and experience. Course themes include: architecture and remembrance in the early Christian period; liturgy and ritual; gendered spaces in medieval monasteries; architects, masons and engineering; castles and the ideology of conquest; late medieval civic architecture; timber/stone construction; symbolism in the Gothic cathedral; and cross-cultural forms. May be taken at the 100 level. 100 level open to senior or graduate standing. Lower-level recommended: FAH 1 or 2 or Architectural Studies major.

**Karen Overbey**

*(This course fulfills the pre 1700 requirement for the Art History major.)*

**H+ Block TR (1:30-2:45pm)**

**FAH 0048-01/0148-01 Nature into Art**

From the Garden of Eden and caves of Lascaux to the present, the natural world has been a constant source of inspiration—and foil—for art. Focusing principally on western visual art of the last five centuries and ranging across media, this course will survey various ways in which nature—the environment, flora and fauna—has been filtered through the artistic imagination for our edification and pleasure. Themes will include: landscape and identity; parks and gardens; environmental art and sustainability; industry and escapism; exploration, tourism and scientific illustration. We will explore famous artists—from Leonardo and the Impressionists to parks by Olmstead and contemporary photographers—but also humbler images like travel brochures and scientific illustration. Assignments will encourage students to respond to art in the Boston area and explore their own relation to nature. No prerequisites.

**Andrew McClellan**

*(This course fulfills the post 1700 requirement for the Art History major.)*

**G+ Block MW (1:30-2:45pm)**

**FAH 0050-01 Impressionism & Post Impressionism**

This course offers an examination of the artists associated with Impressionism and Post-Impressionism in France towards the end of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth. Focusing on key moments in this history, the course aims to recover the real intensity and strangeness of art’s involvement with modernity. In what
ways did artists resist modernity’s traumatic upheavals? How did they help to hurry them along? What kinds of new classed and gendered identities did painters at this time wish to depict and to produce? How did avant-garde practice work to incorporate its supposed others—the “commercial,” the “sentimental,” the “academic,” the “exotic,” the “primitive”? Could the texture of modernity itself be staged in the handling of paint? Investigation of these and other questions will be grounded in close attention to particular works of art. Artists considered include Manet, Monet, Pissarro, Morisot, Degas, Cassatt, Seurat, Cézanne, Van Gogh, Gauguin, and others. Topics include the rise of urbanism; the growth and redevelopment of Paris; landscape painting; the triumph of the bourgeoisie; the gendering of art; the birth of the avant-garde. An effort will be made to highlight works on view nearby in local collections.

Jeremy Melius

(This course fulfills the post 1700 requirement for the Art History major.)

I+ Block MW (3:00-4:15pm)

FAH 0057-01/0157-01 Global Conceptualism?
This lecture course traces the contours of conceptual art through case studies in New York, Amsterdam, Los Angeles, Buenos Aires, Rio De Janeiro, London, Moscow, Sydney, Nova Scotia, and Milan. What were the commonalities and differences that held conceptual art together as a movement? We will focus on the invention and dissemination of the conceptual art through its seminal journals and use of information and new media platforms; the relationship between "dematerialized" art and immaterial labor; the history of the mediums (painting, sculpture, photography, video, dance, film, and poetry) in the movement’s wake, and its legacy in contemporary art. Finally, we will try to figure out whether conceptual art was merely another movement among the neo-avantgardes, or whether – as many of its proponents claimed -- it constituted a radical break with all previous forms of art.

Jacob Stewart-Halevy

(This course fulfills the post 1700 requirement for the Art History major.)

D+ Block TR (10:30-11:45am)

FAH 0070-01 Contemporary Arts of Africa
This course traces the development of modern and contemporary art in Africa and its diaspora. We start in the 1950s with the dawn of independence and will follow the various artistic developments up to the present. In the context of this journey we will learn about the role of art in the process of nation-building, the globalization of African art worlds, and the role of postcolonial theory as a resource for contemporary conceptual art. Prominent artists whose works we will discuss in class include Ibrahim El Salahi, Seydou Keita, Cheri Samba, Yinka Shonibare, El Anatsui, Wangechi Mutu and Njideka Akunyili Crosby. (Cross-listed as AFR 47)

Peter Probst

(This course fulfills the post 1700 requirement for the Art History major.)

K+ Block MW (4:30-5:45pm)

FAH 0086-01/0186-01 Latino Art & Visual Culture
This course offers a critical introduction to U.S. Latinx art and artists (those of Latin American descent born or living in the United States). It traces the contours of this art history in relation to contemporary cultural and socio-political debates and also considers how art by U.S. Latinx artists puts pressure on mainstream paradigms of “American” and “global” contemporary art history. Emphasis will be given to artists associated with particular social movements and communities, e.g. Chicana/o, Nuyorican/mainland Puerto Rican, Cuban-American, and Dominican-American, but throughout we will consider the intersectionality within and between these communities and other historically underrepresented groups. Our study of Latinx visual art will be contextualized in terms of representation across a wide range of fields and media, including literature, cinema, and popular media, as well as shifting demographics and ongoing debates about civil rights, immigration, contemporary politics, and national security. Key topics include the politics of representation and culture-war debates about visual art as a vehicle of resistance and for affirming non-normative identities, the role of race/ethnicity, gender, sexuality, and class in relation to creative expression and art world representation.
Adriana Zavala

(This course fulfills the post 1700 requirement for the Art History major.)

F+ TR Block TR (12:00-1:15pm)
FAH 0092-01/0192-01 The Behavioral Image
How do we visualize our behaviors and what do we do with these images? This course takes place at the intersection of two major traditions during the Cold War period: The attempt by artists, critics, and historians to locate styles of comportment within artworks broadly defined; and the creation of images of behavior across the social sciences. Although we will consider many traditions and media, we will draw most extensively on the large corpus of video art from Electronic Arts Intermix, an exciting new service to which Tisch Library has recently subscribed. The course should be of interest to those interested in connections between aesthetic and scientific approaches to conduct, the history of video art, and media theory.

Jacob Stewart-Halevy

(This course fulfills the post 1700 requirement for the Art History major.)

4 Block Fridays (9:00-11:30am)
FAH 0092-03 Medieval Books
In the Middle Ages, books were rare, treasured, and often luxuriously artistic objects. In this class, we’ll explore the history of books, from handwritten scrolls to the introduction of printing in the fifteenth century, using the historical books in the Rare Book collection of Tisch Library as primary material. Focus will be on western European manuscripts from c. 700-c. 1500, with some discussion of other, global traditions. Course topics include: manuscript materiality; the history of production, design, and layout; sacred and secular manuscripts and how they were used; women as authors, illuminators, and readers; medical and scientific texts; varied formats and physical manipulation; book breaking and book collecting; and digital tools for the study of medieval manuscripts.

Karen Overbey

(This course fulfills the pre 1700 requirement for the Art History major.)

D+ Block TR (10:30-11:45am)
FAH 0092-04/0192-04 Introduction to U.S. Art 1770-1962
Eric M Rosenberg
This class examines the history of art in the United States from the American Revolution to World War II. Essential artists to be discussed include Copley, Cole, Homer, Cassatt, Stieglitz, O'Keeffe, Pollock and Rothko. Wherever and whenever possible we will look at works of art in area collections, such as the Museum of Fine Arts and the Harvard Art Museums that contain material germane to our interests.

(This course fulfills the post 1700 requirement for the Art History major.)

J+ Block TR (3:00-4:15pm)
FAH 0092-05 Aesthetics
This course introduces the major aesthetic theories and examines their pros and cons. Its aim is to understand the value of art in order to assess its significance in our lives. We begin by introducing the main questions in the field of aesthetics. Focusing on the question of the value of art, we continue by examining the various answers Western theorists have given to this question from Ancient Greece to this day. The alternative values of art we address are the cognitive value of art, the emotive value of art, the aesthetic value of art, the metaphysical value of art, the naturalistic-psychological value of art, and the cultural-political value of art.

The cognitive value of art is further divided into the view of art as imitation (Plato, Aristotle) and representation (Goodman, Gombrich). The emotive value of art is further divided into art as emotional expression (Tolstoy, Poe, Beardsley) and intuition (Croce, Collingwood). Immanuel Kant grants aesthetic value to art and Friedrich Nietzsche represents the view granting metaphysical value to art. Through Sigmund Freud’s thought, we will explain the naturalistic-psychological value of art; finally, Walter Benjamin’s view exemplifies the cultural-political value of art.
As the value of art cannot be assessed without understanding the nature of art, a second question this course addresses all along is, “what is art?” Moreover, as philosophic understanding of art needs some acquaintance with art itself, the course introduces various art forms, such as music, drama, dance, literature, painting, and sculpture, follows their historical developments and highlights their masterpieces. *(Cross-listed as PHIL 52)*

Lydia Amir

K+ Block MW (4:30- 5:45pm)

**FAH 0096-01 Design: Architectural**

This course offers an introduction to architectural design through an intensive studio experience. In the design studio, work is advanced primarily by independent student exploration and guided by critical discussions with the instructor, guest critics, and the studio at large. A number of lecture presentations and demonstrations introduce key topics, but much of the learning and growth relies on active discussions of the collective body of studio work. You will learn how to abstractly analyze, represent, and create space through a series of design projects that increase in complexity and duration throughout the semester. Your work will incorporate drawing and modeling techniques, concept development, spatial thinking, multi-scalar awareness, program analysis, context analysis, and many other layers of the architectural design process. The studio takes advantage of Boston as a primary resource by visiting relevant local works of architecture, attending local lectures in architecture, and accessing local architecture libraries, all of which open the studio’s boundaries to the broader contemporary design world.

Aaron White

**Recommendations:** Students are strongly encouraged to take at least one college level architectural history or art history course, as well as a studio art course.

**Mondays and Wednesdays (6:00-9:00pm)**

**FAH 0097-01 Design: Architectural Advanced**

This course builds upon the foundational knowledge that is covered in the introductory level and aims to achieve a higher degree of architectural design sophistication through a series of projects. These design challenges increase in complexity and duration over the course of the semester. You are expected to have advanced skills in drawing and model making, which enable you to devote your time to developing and critiquing your own design process. You will delve deeper into issues of context, form, and space, and you will be expected to draw upon previous design work from related courses such as architectural history, architectural engineering, urban planning, sculpture, drawing, and others. The studio takes advantage of Boston as a primary resource by visiting relevant local works of architecture, attending local lectures in architecture, and accessing local architecture libraries, all of which open the studio’s boundaries to the broader contemporary design world. This course is intended for students who have already taken FAH 96 or its equivalent at another institution.

Aaron White

This is a high-demand course: applications are available in the Dept. of Art History, 11 Talbot Ave.

**Mondays and Wednesdays (6:00-9:00pm)**

**FAH 0098-01 Integrative Senior Project**

A required spring semester seminar for all senior Architectural Studies majors, through which each student individually completes the major’s culminating integrative project either as an internship, independent study, or honors thesis. The seminar meets as a group to consult about individual ongoing work, to take field trips, to listen to invited speakers, to discuss selected readings, and for the public presentation of the integrative projects at the end of the semester.

Proposals for the integrative project must be submitted and approved the previous semester.

Diana Martinez

4 Block Fridays (9:00-11:30am)

**FAH 0122-01 Iconoclasm & Iconophobia**
Explores the fear, removal, attack and destruction of visual images at various times in history up to the present moment. Topics include the proscription of representational images in Jewish, Christian, and Islamic ideologies; Byzantine "iconoclasm"; Protestantism; the French Revolution; Modernism; "Degenerate Art". We will also consider more recent acts of violence, controversy, and censorship, such as, the Bamiyan Buddhas, Iraqi cultural heritage, the Charlie Hebdo Cartoons, controversial museum exhibitions, removal/replacement of monuments, the American Flag.

Eva Hoffman
(This course fulfills the pre 1700 requirement for the Art History major.)

K+ Block MW (4:30-5:45pm)

FAH 0192-03 Who Owns the Past?
Increasingly, heritage sites are flash points in cultural, economic, and religious conflicts around the globe. Clearly history matters, but how do structures become symbols of identity? How Why do certain histories matter in particular ways, and to whom? Through a close study of concepts and important art historical and archaeological sites, students will learn to analyze landscapes, architecture, and objects, as well as reflect on the scholarly and public debates about history and heritage around the world. Far from being geared towards the study of beauty, art history today is often deeply embedded in heated debates about heritage and present-day conflicts.

Peter Probst
(This course fulfills the post 1700 requirement for the Art History major.)

8 Block Thursdays (1:30-4:00pm)

FAH 0200-01/0198-01 Japan's Floating World
This course will look at Japan’s early modern art and culture from the “floating world,” or ukiyo. Interpreting orthodox Buddhist worldview of impermanence as much more hedonistic worldview of fleeting earthly pleasure, people of Edo city (present-day Tokyo) indulged their lives in pleasure quarters and theaters. Urban lifestyle helped create such visual arts including colorful woodblock prints that depicted courtesans and actors and also performing arts including kabuki and puppet theaters. Their vision of “floating world,” or the world of entertainment and pleasure, reveals sophisticated and dynamic exchange between samurai intellectuals and leading artists. Focusing on visual, literary, and performing arts, we will explore the matrix of Edo culture, especially the ideas of classicism, hedonism, eroticism, and satire, and also the government’s response and censorship to parodies and erotica. We will explore modern theaters, film, and manga, which stem from early modern arts in the floating world. Artists we study include Suzuki Harunobu (ukiyo-e designer), Ihara Saikaku (writer), Chikamatsu Monzaemon (playwright), and Mizoguchi Kenji (film director).

Ikumi Kaminishi
Undergraduates register at the 198-01 level.
(This course fulfills the pre 1700 requirement for the Art History major.)

5 Block Mondays (1:30-4:00pm)

FAH 0210-01/0198-02 Armenian Architecture
How do you shelter a holy space? How do you make a holy space? This seminar explores the medieval architecture of Armenia and neighboring regions, with particular focus on issues of the liturgy performed within and around the buildings. It will survey Armenian church architecture from the 4th to 17th centuries, exploring design and structure, planning, wall painting, sculptural decoration, and inscriptions. We will look at a variety of primary sources in translation, including chronicles, commentaries, and liturgical texts. The city of Ani and its tenth-eleventh century monuments will receive sustained consideration.

Christina Maranci
Undergraduates register at the 198-02 level.
(This course fulfills the pre 1700 requirement for the Art History major.)
7 Block Wednesdays (1:30-4:00pm)

FAH 0260-01/0198-03 WWII Art’s Death & Birth
Eric M Rosenberg
We will be concerned with discourses that articulate the death and birth of art around the time of World War II and its immediate aftermath, between say the discovery of the cave paintings of Lascaux in 1940, and Theodor Adorno’s 1951 declaration that after Auschwitz, there could be no poetry (art.) A varied spectrum of art will be of concern, as well as relevant works of literature and philosophy.

Undergraduates register at the 198-03 level.
(This course fulfills the post 1700 requirement for the Art History major.)

1 Block Tuesdays (9:00-11:30am)

FAH 0288-01 Collections Care and Preventative Conservation
Ingrid Newman
The preservation of materials found in museums and other cultural and historic institutions is the focus of this course. Topics include the chemical and physical nature of material culture, the agents of deterioration, preventive conservation strategies and protocol, proper care and handling of artifacts, and the appropriate cleaning and maintenance of art objects and historic artifacts. The role of science within the field of conservation is explored. Students learn how to survey an art collection, establish a basic Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program, prepare for and respond to an emergency, execute a written examination and condition report, and propose an artifact reservation plan. Practical knowledge of safe exhibition and storage techniques and materials is emphasized. The course includes trips to museums and conservation laboratories, and hands-on opportunities to learn about tools and equipment essential for photo-documenting artifacts and monitoring the museum environment. Cross-listed as HIS 291

Prerequisite: Museum Studies and graduate students.

12+ Block Wednesdays (6:00-9:00pm)

FAH 0289-01 Museum Studies Practicum
Cara Iacobucci
Once a student has examined the administrative and financial operations of museums, discovered the multitude of ways to present educational information, and gained an understanding of collections management, the next step is applying this knowledge. The internship gives a student firsthand experience in museum work. It is generally a one-to-two semester, 200-hour intensive experience with specific projects and responsibilities arranged by the student, in collaboration with the internship supervisor, and the site supervisor. Most internships take place during the work week; evening and weekend internships can be difficult to arrange.

Prerequisites: A minimum of three Museum Studies courses, one of which must be FAH 285, must be completed before beginning the internship. ARR