

## Welcome to Art 111: Introduction to Art!

### About the Course

*Course description:* This course is designed to give you an introduction to the world history of art and visual culture. We will focus on the "means" of art, the way artists use visual language to communicate, as well as the history and social functions of art in a variety of cultures. This course has no prerequisites and satisfies the requirement for a Breadth Area course in Fine and Performing Arts. The three-week course (**December 18 – January 7**) is taught online through Blackboard.

*Course goals and student learning objectives:* After completing this course, students will be able to:

- Identify the function of art in human society and describe the value of art as a cultural endeavor
- Define basic art terms, processes and media, and identify design principles and elements in a range of artworks
- Recognize and describe key works, periods and styles of art history
- Evaluate the relationship of form to content and context in artworks
- Employ electronic tools and resources to research subjects in art
- Apply critical looking and thinking tools in studying artworks firsthand at a cultural institution
- Produce critical writing that includes description, analysis, interpretation and evaluation of selected artworks

*Course textbook:* Henry M. Sayre, *A World of Art*, ninth edition. The textbook is available as an e-text through REVEL. To access it, go to REVEL Text on the Blackboard menu. Download and read the student registration information and use the code provided there to set up a REVEL account with Pearson and access the textbook.

*Technology requirements:* Since this is an online course, you are expected to have reliable Internet access on a regular basis. It is your responsibility to address any computer problems that might occur. Such problems are not an excuse for delays in meeting expectations or for missing course deadlines.

At a minimum, you will need the following software/hardware to participate in this course:

- Computer with an updated operating system (e.g. Windows, Mac, Linux)
- Updated Internet browsers (Apple Safari, Internet Explorer, Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox)
- DSL or Cable Internet connection or a connection speed no less than 6 Mbps.
- Media player for MP4 files
- Adobe Reader or alternative PDF reader (free):  
<http://get.adobe.com/reader/?promoid=HRZAC>
- Oracle Java plugin (free): <http://java.com/en/download/index.jsp>
- Any other specialized software or basic software (e.g., MS Office, etc.)

*Technical support:* Support for using Blackboard is available by calling **618-650-5500** or by visiting the **Help** link located inside of the Blackboard course shell. Technical assistance is provided 24/7 during this course. Local ITS support will be provided during normal business hours. After hours and holiday support is being provided by Blackboard's Help Desk technicians.

**About the Instructor**

Name: Dr. Ivy Cooper

Email: [icooper@siue.edu](mailto:icooper@siue.edu)

*Bio and Teaching Philosophy:* I received my Ph.D. in art and architectural history from the University of Pittsburgh. In my research, I specialize in contemporary art and art theory, public sculpture, Minimalism, and architecture. I also write freelance art criticism for regional and national art journals and newspapers, and I frequently lecture at the Saint Louis Art Museum and other arts institutions. At SIUE I head the art history program and teach courses including Modern and Contemporary Art, History of Photography, History of Modern Architecture, and Art History Methods, in addition to Introduction to Art and Survey of Western Art History. I believe that the study of art is critical to the understanding of history and culture. My goal as a teacher is to engage every student in an active learning process that will enrich and expand their understanding of the diverse modes of cultural expression the world over.

*Communicating with the instructor:* Prof. Cooper's office is located in ADW 2128, ph. x3107. Email: [icooper@siue.edu](mailto:icooper@siue.edu). As this is an online course, no physical office hours will be maintained. The best way to contact me is via email. There is also a Questions, Comments, and Concerns forum on the course's Discussion Board.

**Course requirements**

*Attendance/Participation:* It is vitally important that our classroom environment promote the respectful exchange of ideas, including being sensitive to the views and beliefs expressed during online discussions. Your success in this course will depend on your communication, consistent engagement and active participation in all course activities. Success in this course requires that adhere to the deadlines given below as you complete assignments, discussions, and other course activities. Timely participation in online discussions is very important and is not optional. You are expected to post and reply to discussions in a timely manner consistent with the requirements contained within the course syllabus and assignment instructions.

*Course Activities and Resources:*

*Blackboard:* This course takes place on Blackboard. All lectures, coursework and tests will be available and submitted on Blackboard at <https://bb.siue.edu/>. The course schedule lists activities to be completed week-by-week. It is critical that you follow this schedule so you do not fall behind on work.

Online courses are extremely labor- and time-intensive. You must be prepared to view up to six hours of lecture per week, in addition to the time spent reading and completing assignments. I have provided an Art 111 Course Tour that students are required to view on the first day of class. The Course Tour will guide the students through the course structure and show students locations of course materials, how to upload assignments and use the Discussion Board, and how to submit tests. For additional instruction in using Blackboard, students are encouraged to view the resources at <http://www.siue.edu/its/students/>. If you are having problems accessing any of the course materials or submitting coursework, call **618-650-5500** or use the **Help** course navigational button in Blackboard. There is also a Questions, Comments, and Concerns forum on the course's Discussion Board.

Lectures: There is a recorded video lecture for the topics in the Sayre textbook. Students are expected both to read the textbook chapters and view the lectures and other material posted in the folders.

Tests: There will be three tests in this class based on the Sayre text and lectures. The tests consist of multiple choice questions, short answer, and comparison essays based on visual prompts. These tests will take place online and must be completed in one sitting, during a 2-hour time slot in the designated test period.

Assignments: Five assignments are due during this class. Assignment #1 is an introductory post and reflection on an art encounter, posted on the Discussion Board. Assignment #2 is a short response paper in which students consider form, content, and context in an artwork. Assignment #3 is a Discussion Board activity on public art. Assignment #4 is a Wiki: Class Art Collection, in which students use art museum websites to select and present a favorite work of art. Assignment #5 focuses on Art in the News—students will respond to current news articles about art and will contribute an article of their own to the Discussion Board. Each assignment is graded with a rubric. The full assignment descriptions are available in the corresponding Weekly Module folders on Blackboard.

Paper: There are two options for the paper. Option A: Students in the course will select a work of art on display that they can view firsthand and write about. This may be a work of art in a museum, gallery, or other public place of display; or it may be a work of public art. Students will write a visual and conceptual analysis of the work. Please turn in a photograph of the site if possible. Option B: Select two works from the textbook and propose and answer a comparison question about the works. Additional guidelines are available in the Paper folder on Blackboard.

### **Assessment/Grading**

*Grade elements:*

Test 1: 10%

Test 2: 10%

Test 3: 10%

Five Assignments: 50%  
Paper: 20%

*Grading scale:*

90-100%=A; 80-89%=B; 70-79%=C; 60-69%=D; 59% and below=F

## **Course Schedule (subject to modification):**

### ***Week 1: December 18 – December 24***

Topic: The Visual World

Reading & Lectures: Sayre Chapters 1-2

Assignment #1: Discussion Board Introduction and Reflection on Art Encounter, due Wednesday, December 20

Topic: The Formal Elements and Their Design

Reading & Lectures: Sayre Chapters 3-7

Test 1, available starting Saturday, 12/23

### ***Week 2: December 25 – December 31***

Topic: The Fine Arts Media

Reading & Lectures: Sayre Chapters 8-16

Assignment #2: Short Response Paper

Assignment #3: Discussion Board Assignment on Public Art

Test 2, available starting Thursday, December 27

### ***Week 3: January 1 – January 7***

Topic: The Visual Record I

Reading & Lectures: Sayre Chapters 17-19

Topic: The Visual Record II

Reading & Lectures: Sayre Chapters 19-21

Assignment #4: Wiki Class Art Collection

Assignment #5: Art in the News

Paper: due Friday, January 4

Test 3, available starting Monday, January 1

**Course and University policies**

*Subject to change notice:* All material, assignments, and deadlines may change with prior notice. It is your responsibility to stay in touch with your instructor, review the course site regularly, or communicate with other students, to adjust as needed if assignments or due dates change.

*Academic integrity/ plagiarism:* Plagiarism is not tolerated in this class and will result in an automatic F for the course. The following is taken from SIUE's Plagiarism Policy:

*The University recognizes plagiarism as a serious academic offense. Plagiarism, the act of representing the work of another as one's own, may take two forms. It may consist of copying, paraphrasing or otherwise using the written or oral work of another without acknowledging the source, or it may consist of presenting oral or written course work prepared by another as one's own. Normally a student who plagiarizes shall receive a grade of F in the course in which the act occurs.*

Read the full statement at:

<http://www.siue.edu/lovejoylibrary/services/instruction/plagiarism.shtml>

Students are responsible for complying with University policies about academic honesty as stated in the University's [Student Conduct Code](#).

*Netiquette:* As this is an online course, all of our communications happen via email or on Blackboard. It is therefore critical that we follow some "netiquette" rules to maintain a high degree of civility in our class communications. Guidelines for communication in this class are as follows:

- In all communication, address me as Prof. Cooper or Dr. Cooper. Emails must begin with a salutation ("Dear Prof. Cooper,..." or just "Prof. Cooper,...") and close with your full name as signature.
- Posts on the Discussion Board are graded for content as well as grammar, spelling, punctuation, and clarity. Therefore refrain from using text messaging shortcuts and acronyms.
- Maintain civility in all exchanges. Profanity and "flaming" (attacking or insulting) will not be tolerated.
- Don't use all capital letters as this is the equivalent of shouting on the Internet.
- Avoid slang, as it can often be misunderstood or misinterpreted.
- Understand that a class is a collection of individuals from different cultural and linguistic backgrounds. Maintain a respectful, civil tone in all exchanges.

ACCESS: *Students needing accommodations because of medical diagnosis or major life impairment will need to register with **Accessible Campus Community &***

***Equitable Student Support (ACCESS)*** and complete an intake process before accommodations will be given. Students who believe they have a diagnosis but do not have documentation should contact ACCESS for assistance and/or appropriate referral. The ACCESS office is located in the Student Success Center, Room 1270. You can also reach the office by e-mail at [myaccess@siue.edu](mailto:myaccess@siue.edu) or by calling 618.650.3726. For more information on policies, procedures, or necessary forms, please visit the ACCESS website at [www.siue.edu/access](http://www.siue.edu/access).

### Diversity and Inclusion

SIUE is committed to respecting everyone's dignity at all times. In order to learn, exchange ideas, and support one another, our virtual and physical classrooms must be places where students and teachers feel safe and supported. Systems of oppression permeate our institutions and our classrooms. All students and faculty have the responsibility to co-create a classroom that affirms inclusion, equity, and social justice, where racism, sexism, classism, ableism, heterosexism, xenophobia, and other social pathologies are not tolerated. Violations of this policy will be enforced in line with the SIUE Student Conduct Code.

The Center for Student Diversity & Inclusion <https://www.siue.edu/csdi> is an excellent resource for students for support and community. Any person who believes they have experienced or witnessed discrimination or harassment can contact Ms. Jamie Ball, Director in the Office of Equal Opportunity, Access and Title IX Coordination at (618) 650-2333 or [jball@siue.edu](mailto:jball@siue.edu). There is also an online form for reporting bias incidents at [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?SIUEdwardsville&layout\\_id=10](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?SIUEdwardsville&layout_id=10)

Additional information about Winter Session policies is available from the site at: <http://www.siue.edu/wintersession/>