



**FA120 *Fine Arts* (3)
Winter 2004
Instructor: Leanne Erickson**

Contacting the Instructor

Office:

Class Times: T/R 1:00 – 2:15

Email Address: ericksonle@nuc.edu

Home Phone: 239-3462

Class Location: 517

Course Description

This course is an introduction to three areas of the visual arts: art history of Western civilization (pre-historic to present day), art fundamentals and art criticism. These aspects will be explored through a combination of lectures by the instructor, student presentations, simple hands on studio activities and exposure to art and art venues through visits to a variety of galleries and museums.

Course Objectives

The goal of this course is to expand the awareness and understanding of art around us in a contemporary climate as well as in a historical context. Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will demonstrate understanding of the course by being able to do the following:

1. Discuss subject, form and content in regards to art.
2. Realize and be able to manipulate compositions according to the principles of Organization (harmony, variety, balance and proportion).
3. Recognize, define and create examples of line, shape value, texture, color, texture and spatial indicators.
4. Identify key artists and movements in the Western tradition and be able to analyze and discuss related works.
5. Define and differentiate various art venues.

Required Texts

Otto G. Ocvirk ed. *Art Fundamentals: Theory and Practice 9th Edition*. McGraw Hill: New York, NY, 2002.

On Reserve

H. W. Janson. *History of Art*. Harry N. Abrams: New York, NY, 1969, 1986 and 1997 printings .

Course Schedule

Note: Subject to change according to availability of venues.

Unit One: An Introduction to the Visual Arts

This section introduces the concept of discussing and defining what art is, terminology of materials, development towards abstraction as well as an introduction to subject, form and content.

Unit Two: Form

Section One: Composition

Creating, dissecting and evaluating compositions according to the Principles of Organization.

Section Two: Value Relationships: Descriptive and Expressive

Value Scales and low contrast versus high contrast.

Section Three: Line

Use and variety of Line

Section Four: Texture and Pattern

Section Five: Spatial indicators

Ways of seeing, linear perspective versus other techniques.

Section Six: Color Theory

Color systems, compositions and color, perception of color.

Section Seven: Sculpture

Unit Three: Art History

A survey of artists and styles from pre-historic to present day in regards to the historical period and within the context of subject, form and content.

Unit Four: Art Venues

Visits Artist Run Centers, Commercial Galleries, Public galleries and Museums in order to define, contrast and compare the each of the venues.

Course Requirements and Grading

Students are responsible for making themselves aware of all assignments, activities, required materials and due dates announced in class. Absences do not excuse students from this responsibility. **No late assignments will be accepted without prior arrangement with the instructor.** Activities include lectures and slide presentations by the instructor, in class assignments, field trips, student presentations and a possibility of guest lectures. As required, students will be expected to assume responsibility for their own transportation to and from any such field tips, as well as any admission costs which may apply.

Grade distribution is as follows:

Art History paper and Presentation	40%
Projects	40%
Final Exam	20%

Important Notes

- A mandatory \$20 materials fee will be charged for this course. This fee covers a basic package of art supplies. Additional materials required will be the responsibility of the student.
- Last day to enter course without permission is January 19th, 2003.
- Last day to voluntarily withdraw from course without financial penalty is 2 weeks after the beginning of class.

- Last day to voluntarily withdraw from course or change to audit without academic penalty is March 12, 2003.
- It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to NUC Academic Policies, such as the policy on Academic Dishonesty, which are stated in the current Catalogue.