
Art Course Descriptions

Courses are offered each semester unless otherwise designated.

Subject codes: ARTH – Art History; ARTS – Art Studio; ARTM – Museum

195, 295, 395, 495 – Special Topics (1-12)

198, 298, 398, 498 – Tutorial (1-3)

Art History

Note: Prerequisite for courses numbered ARTH 300-498: one 100-level ARTH course or permission of instructor.

ARTH 100 – Idea and Image (3) Introductory course in the appreciation and history of art. Covers painting, sculpture, architecture and other arts. Instruction in analysis or art works including such topics as color theory and perspective. Subjects include the pyramids, the Parthenon, the medieval cathedral, Leonardo, Michelangelo, Rembrandt, and contemporary art. Fall and Spring. Gen Ed: AC credit; 4 credit sections also receive FS credit.

ARTH 101 – Survey of Art: Ancient to Renaissance (3) Major art styles and monuments of pre-Renaissance art; relationship between art and politics, religion, and economics in ancient societies. Course will also include some discussion of non-western art: the art of native peoples and of the east. Fall and Spring. Gen Ed: WC credit.

ARTH 102 – Survey of Art: Renaissance to Modern (3) Movements and classic problems in Renaissance tradition in art, from 14th century to beginning of 20th century. Emphasis on painting, sculpture and architecture. Fall and Spring. Gen Ed: WC credit.

ARTH 103 – Landscape Art (3) Studies origins and development of landscape art, focusing on 19th century American landscape painting, and on Adirondack artists. Includes experiential component, consisting of landscape drawing and watercolor painting. As demand warrants. Gen Ed: AC credit.

ARTH 104 – Great Discoveries in Art and Archeology (3) Examines some great discoveries in the history of art and archeology. Cultures studied include those in Africa and the Americas, and ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome. Topics include discovery of tomb of Tutankhamen, invention of photography, excavation of Teotihuacan Mexico, and Chinese Bronze technology. Prerequisite: an FS course. As demand warrants. Gen Ed: XC and SI.

ARTH 212 – Canadian Art (3) Not currently offered.

ARTH 310 – Greek Art and Architecture (3) Origins and development of the art of ancient Greece, from prehistory through the Hellenistic period. Emphasis on the Golden Age of Greek art, the painting, sculpture and architecture of the fifth and fourth centuries B.C. Fall, alternate years.

ARTH 311 – Roman Art and Architecture (3) Architecture, painting, sculpture and minor arts from their early derivation from the art of Greece and Etruria to their flowering in a powerful and original expression of Roman culture. Spring, alternate years.

ARTH 351 – Late Antique Art (3) Art forms and society of the late Roman Empire as represented by works of both pagan inspiration, based on artistic tradition of the Classical past, and those reflecting a newly evolving Christian iconography. Spring, alternate years.

ARTH 352 – Art and Life in the Middle Ages (3) Evolution of medieval art from late Roman period to Gothic. Special emphasis on influence of religious and cultural developments and on artistic and architectural styles. Fall, alternate years.

ARTH 355 – Art in America (3) Evolution of American art and architecture from Native-American and colonial times to present. Analysis of European

sources and precedents. Major American ideas and attitudes expressed in the visual arts. Major artists discussed with special emphasis on architecture. Spring, alternate years. Gen Ed: AH & WI credit.

ARTH 356 – History of World Architecture (3) Historical analysis of architectural trends from Egyptian times to the present. Special attention given to the concepts of mass, space and structure and their relationship to contemporary social movements. As demand warrants. Gen Ed: WC credit.

ARTH 358 – Cross Cultural Approaches to Art (3) How can the term “art” be applied to a cross-cultural context? This course approaches the changing definitions of this category from both contemporary and historical perspectives. Our study will include material from four broad cultural areas in detail: Native American, Aboriginal Australian, African and Chinese. We will consider how contemporary artists in change. The course will address broad topics such as the ritual use of art, authenticity, aesthetics, tradition and modernity, art education, social memory, politics and creativity. Spring. Gen Ed: AC & XC credit.

ARTH 365 – Art and Culture of China (3) The course presents a critical approach to the relationship between art and culture in China. The course goal is to understand the forms, meanings and circulation of the Chinese arts from the perspective of its producers. The traditional arts of Imperial China will be approached chronologically from within several thematic areas. The primary focus in these area will be the relationship between art and culture, with particular attention paid to painting produced in the literati or amateur artist tradition. The course examines issues such as the transnational circulation of Chinese artists, the representation of China’s ethnic minorities, and the Western conceptions of Chinese tradition.

ARTH 381 – Classical Mythology in Art (3) Course studies stories from Ancient Greek mythology and how they are represented in art from ancient times through the present. Course is arranged thematically; each theme will be examined in its original form (as far as can be determined) and then the representation of that theme in art is discussed, moving chronologically up to the present. Emphasis will be placed on the role of myth in each society, and on myth’s contributions to the art of the times. As demand warrants. Gen Ed: SI credit.

ARTH 383 – Classical Mythology in Art (3) This course will study the stories from ancient Greek mythology and how they are represented in art from ancient times through the present. The course is arranged thematically; each theme will be analyzed in its original form (as far as can be determined) and then the representation of that theme in art will be discussed, moving chronologically up to the present. Emphasis will be placed on the role of the myth in each society, and its contributions to the art of the times.

ARTH 385 – Art and Archeology of the Classical World (3) Art and culture of ancient Greece and Rome as reflected in the paintings, sculpture and architecture revealed by archaeological excavations at the great sites of Troy, Knossos, Athens, Delphi, Rome and Pompeii. As demand warrants. Gen Ed: SI credit.

ARTH 390 – Art Travel Seminar (3) The purpose of this field trip is to study art and architecture; to study at first hand works in art galleries; to assess the quality of light and space in specific architectural settings; and to understand where and why patrons commissioned specific works of art. The course is designed to offer the students first-hand experience through travel and research. Independent visual analysis will be stressed in conjunction with memorization of factual material. As demand warrants.

ARTH 451 – Ancient Painting (3) A history of ancient painting techniques (encaustic, fresco, etc.) and styles, beginning with the prehistoric cave paintings of Spain and France and concluding with works created in the eastern Mediterranean during the early Byzantine period. As demand warrants.

ARTH 452 – Medieval Art (3) Not currently offered.

ARTH 453 – Gothic Art (3) Not currently offered.

ARTH 454 – Early Italian Renaissance (3) Proto-Renaissance in Florence and Siena. Style and effects of Black Death period; late 14th century and International style; and Renaissance of the 15th century, from Masaccio to Botticelli. Fall, alternate years.

ARTH 455 – Northern Renaissance Art (3) Development of northern European painting and sculpture in 15th and 16th centuries. Special emphasis on late Gothic masters of Flanders and Germany. Spring, alternate years.

ARTH 457 – Baroque Art (3) Baroque and Rococo art and architecture beginning in early 17th century Rome. Special emphasis on principal masters of Italy, the Lowlands, Spain, France and Germany. Fall, alternate years.

ARTH 458 – Nineteenth Century Painting (3) Development of 19th century European painting from Romanticism through impressionism and symbolism. Fall, alternate years.

ARTH 459 – Modern Architecture (3) Not currently offered.

ARTH 462 – Impressionism (3) Development of Realism and Impressionism in France with an equal emphasis on stylistic innovation and historical context. Fall, alternate years.

ARTH 463 – Italian High Renaissance (3) Italian High Renaissance, especially works of Leonardo, Raphael and Michelangelo; and Age of Mannerism. Emphasis on High Renaissance, particularly in Rome: painting, sculpture and architecture. Spring, alternate years.

ARTH 464 – Foundations of Modern Art (3) Principal stylistic inventions in visual arts beginning with Impressionist movement of 1870s and covering Expressionism, Cubism, Constructivism, Dadaism, Surrealism, Abstract art and related development to World War II. Emphasis on works on influential painters, sculptors and architects. Spring, alternate years. Gen Ed: AC credit.

ARTH 465 – Issues in Contemporary Art (3) Major premises and problems in development of post-modern visual arts since World War II. Emphasis on painting, sculpture and architecture, with attention to important innovations in other visual arts. Prerequisite: ARTH 464. Fall, alternate years. Gen Ed: SI credit.

ARTH 490 – Seminar: Art History and Criticism (3) Study and research on selected problems in history of art. Limited to art history majors. Registration by permission. As demand warrants.

ARTH 492 – Senior Seminar (3) Study and research on selected problems in history and criticism of art. Limited to senior year art history majors. Registration by permission. As demand warrants.

Museum and Gallery

ARTM 270 – Museum Studies (3) History and purposes of museums; types and varieties; organizations; role in culture and community; study of collections, curation, exhibition, research, grant writing, conservation and education. Gen Ed: AC & XC.

ARTM 420 – Gallery Practices (3) Exhibition design and implementation. Students learn basic theory and methodology related to how a professional art museum functions, then apply this to organizing and installing temporary exhibitions, as assistants, in the Gibson Gallery.

ARTM 470 – Museum Internship (3) Students apply basic museum experience to an internship within the Gibson Gallery or off campus in a nearby gallery, museum or historical agency. Advanced independent study, with academic and experiential learning, is developed with instructor. Specialization may be in registration, curation, preparatory, interpretation, or research. Prerequisites: ARTM 370 or ANTH 370 or ARTM 420 or ANTH 420.

ARTM 495 – Special Topics in Museology (3) Individual students design

and execute advanced projects under advisement as a capstone to their museological studies. This may involve undertaking research on collection objects, carrying out basic research and feasibility studies for future exhibits, writing grants for programmatic funding, or preparing scholarly papers on their work for publication or presentation. Prerequisites: ARTM 370 or ANTH 370 or ARTM 420.

Art Studio

Note: In all studio courses students are required to maintain individually a minimum weekly studio schedule of one hour work per hour of scheduled class meeting.

ARTS 107 – Introduction to Watercolor (3) Introduction to Watercolor provides both art majors and non-majors with a hands-on introductory experience in the art medium of watercolor. Basic drawing, composition and color theory will be introduced. Traditional watercolor techniques and materials will be covered. Master works by major watercolor artists will be analyzed. As demand warrants. Gen Ed: AE credit.

ARTS 109 – Introductory Studio Art (4) Provides non-art majors with hands-on experience in the studio areas of drawing, color and design. Introduces the concepts and processes necessary to make art. Theoretical, critical and historical issues of art majors addressed through regular group critiques and slide presentations of both historical and contemporary art work. Fall. Gen Ed: AE credit.

ARTS 110 – Drawing I (4) Introduces both art majors and non-art majors to the concepts and processes of the medium of drawing. Theoretical, critical and historical issues of art making addressed through regular group critiques and slide presentations of both historical and contemporary art work. Emphasizes perceptual drawing with still life and figure work. Fall and Spring. Gen Ed: AE credit.

ARTS 120 – Color and Design (4) Provides both art and non-art majors with hands-on experience in color and design. Introduces the basic visual elements and design principles used in art making including areas of painting, drawing, printmaking, photography, ceramics and sculpture. Theoretical, critical and historical issues of art making addressed through group critique and slide presentations of both historical and contemporary art work. Fall and Spring. Gen Ed: AE credit.

ARTS 130 – Three Dimensional Design (4) Not currently offered.

ARTS 140 – Ceramic Survey (4) Design and creation of ceramic sculpture and wheel-thrown pottery, including preparation of clays and introduction to glazing and firing of kilns. Students encouraged to realize their personal concepts and express their ideas in effective visual communication. Theoretical, critical and historical issues of art making addressed through group critiques and slide presentations of both historical and contemporary art work. Non-majors only. As demand warrants. Gen Ed: AE credit.

ARTS 141 – Sculpture Survey (4) Non-majors only, no prerequisite. Introduces variety of materials and processes such as clay modeling, woodcarving, assemblage, casting methods and direct plaster work. Students select appropriate methods to pursue the realization of their creative concepts. Historical and theoretical issues addressed through lectures and slide presentations. Exposure to critical thinking and aesthetic analysis during regularly scheduled classroom critiques. As demand warrants. Gen Ed: AE credit.

ARTS 142 – Basic Photography (4) No previous art training required. Creative problems in black-and-white photography. Camera instruction, photographic development and printing techniques introduced. Lectures and slide presentations address relevant theoretical, historical and critical concepts. 35 mm camera required. As demand warrants. Gen Ed: AE credit.

ARTS 143 – Desktop Publishing Design (3) Desktop Publishing Design is intended to introduce basic techniques and principles of producing

computer generated publication design. This is accomplished by an introduction to a variety of software packages, lectures, and by creating publishing projects with the computer. The primary focus of instruction will be on functional applications such as brochures, posters, and presentations. Further investigation is achieved by the criticism, presentation, and analysis of these projects. As demand warrants.

ARTS 144 – Art of Handmade Paper (3) This course is an introduction to the fundamentals of hand papermaking. In this course students will learn about the materials, skills, and techniques for making paper as well as the many creative possibilities for its use. Through hands-on experience, students will learn to make paper from both natural and recycled fibers using a technology that can be duplicated outside of the classroom. This course is valuable for both art majors and non-majors, both beginning students and students with some experience in the visual arts.

ARTS 311 – Drawing II (4) Continues to develop and broaden students' technical and material drawing skills. Expands the concept of drawing. Will explore multiple formal and conceptual approaches to drawing using both abstract and representational modes. Will introduce color. Development of personal image vocabulary. Lectures and slide presentations address relevant theoretical, historical and critical concepts. Prerequisite: ARTS 110. Fall and Spring.

ARTS 312 – Drawing III (4) Further refines technical and material skills of drawing while exploring personal content. Development of multiple series of drawing work. Development of intellectual capacity and ability to conceive, initiate and complete original work. In depth exploration of techniques, themes and concepts. Lectures and slide presentations address relevant theoretical, historical and critical concepts. Prerequisite: ARTS 311. Fall and Spring.

ARTS 319 – Digital Design 1 (3) Digital Design 1 introduces basic techniques and principles of producing computer generated design. This is accomplished by an introduction to a variety of software packages, lectures, and by creating visual images. The primary focus of instruction will be on functional applications of the digital medium with criticism, presentation, and analysis of projects. Fall and Spring.

ARTS 320 – Digital Design 2 (4) Digital Design II introduces intermediate techniques and principles of producing computer generated design. A variety of software packages, lectures, and creating visual images are used for instruction. The focus of instruction is on vector drawing, photo manipulation, Web design, and advanced page design with criticism, presentation, analysis of projects and portfolio development. Prerequisite: ARTS 319. Spring.

ARTS 329 – Painting I (4) Materials, theories, and techniques of oil painting, with limited exploration of mixed media possible. Emphasis on perceptual painting will still life and figure work. Emphasis on color and composition. Lectures and slide presentations address relevant theoretical, historical and critical concepts. Prerequisites: ARTS 110 and 120. Fall and Spring.

ARTS 330 – Painting II (4) Open media painting course. Multiple approaches, both abstract and representational, are explored. Development of personal image vocabulary while refining technical and material skills. Development of intellectual capacity and ability to conceive, initiate and complete original work. Movement towards increasingly complex and mature work. Lectures and slide presentations address relevant theoretical, historical and critical concepts. Prerequisite: ARTS 329. Fall and Spring.

ARTS 339 – Printmaking I (4) Materials, theories and techniques of intaglio printmaking. Emphasis on special qualities of intaglio and printmaking aesthetics. Lectures and slide presentations address relevant theoretical, historical and critical concepts. Prerequisites: ARTS 110 and 120. Fall and Spring.

ARTS 340 – Printmaking II (4) Extension and elaboration of ARTS 339 with increasingly more complex and mature individual projects. Continued development of individual aesthetic philosophy. Lectures and slide pre-

sentations address relevant theoretical, historical and critical concepts. Prerequisite: ARTS 339. Fall and Spring.

ARTS 349 – Sculpture I (4) Introduces the use of sculptural form as a vehicle for a creative expression of personal ideas and contemporary concepts. Examines variety of transitional as well as modern materials and processes. Emphasizes an awareness of the qualities of materials and how they can be employed to support aesthetic and conceptual objectives. Lectures and slide presentations to address historical and theoretical concerns. Regular formal classroom critiques students to develop critical thinking skills and strengthen their abilities in aesthetic analysis. Prerequisites: ARTS 110 and 120. Fall and Spring.

ARTS 350 – Sculpture II (4) Exploring the design potential of welded metals as a medium for creative expression. An introduction to the lost wax metal castings process with the option for students to realize concepts in finished bronze casting. Additional options for materials, processes and concepts discussed. Theoretical and historical concerns addressed through lectures and slide presentations. Critical thinking and aesthetic analysis stressed in regular formal classroom critiques. Fall and Spring.

ARTS 359 – Ceramics I (4) Design and creations of ceramic sculpture and well-thrown pottery, including preparation of clays, and introduction of glazing and firing of kilns. Lectures and slide presentations address theoretical, historical and critical concepts. Prerequisites: ARTS 110 and either ARTS 111 or 120. Fall and Spring

ARTS 360 – Ceramics II (4) Emphasis on creation of ceramic sculpture, sculptural pottery, and combined forms and techniques. Aesthetic and conceptual issues addressed in the context of assigned projects with subsequent critiques. Continued development of building, throwing, and glazing skills. Studio management skills including clay and glaze formulation, firing electric and gas kilns. Lectures and slide presentations, illuminate theoretical, historical and critical concepts. Prerequisite: ARTS 359. Fall and Spring.

ARTS 369 – Video I (4) Video I is intended to introduce basic techniques and principles of producing creative video projects. This is accomplished by an introduction to a/the use of video cameras, digital editing work stations, and by creating time based visual images with tape and computer. The primary focus of instruction will be on the functional application of script development, camera use, and editing suite generating video tape presentations. Further investigation is achieved by the criticism, presentation, and analysis of these projects.

ARTS 379 – Photography 1 (4) Creative problems in photocomposition, using a diversity of photographic techniques. Camera instruction, photographic development and printing techniques introduced. Lectures and slide presentations address relevant theoretical, historical and critical concepts. 35 mm camera required. Prerequisites: ARTS 110 and 120. Fall and Spring

ARTS 380 – Photography Processes and Techniques (4) Alternative photographic processes are introduced. Emphasis is placed upon technical expertise and creation of a body of work using these various processes. Prerequisite: ARTS 379. Fall and Spring.

ARTS 419 – Digital Design 3 (4) Digital Design 3 introduces advanced techniques and theories of producing computer generated design. A variety of software packages, lectures, and creating visual images are used for instruction. The focus of instruction is on advanced theory, 3-D modeling and animation, and independent projects with criticism, presentation, and analysis of projects and portfolio development. Prerequisite: ARTS 320. Spring.

ARTS 420 – Digital Design 4 (4) Digital Design 4 is intended to advance the conceptual and production skills of digital students. Advanced techniques and principles of producing digital art and design are used for instruction. Students develop individualized projects that incorporate a variety of techniques, software and methodologies. Students participate in the criticism, presentation, and analysis of projects and portfolio development. Prerequisite: ARTS 419. Spring.

ARTS 431 – Painting III (4) Explores multiple formal and conceptual approaches to painting on one individual theme or idea chosen by the student. Development of intellectual capacity and ability to conceive, initiate and complete original work. Movement towards increasingly complex and mature work. Broad exploration of the chosen theme. Lectures and slide presentations address relevant theoretical, historical and critical concepts. Prerequisite: ARTS 330. Fall and Spring.

ARTS 432 – Painting IV (4) In depth development of one theme or idea determined by the student. Creation of a coherent body of work is emphasized. Movement towards increasingly complex and mature work. Development of intellectual capacity and ability to conceive, initiate and complete original work. Lectures and slide presentations address relevant theoretical, historical and critical concepts. Prerequisite: ARTS 431. Fall and Spring.

ARTS 441 – Printmaking III (4) Comprehensive investigation of individual processes introduced in ARTS 339 and ARTS 340. Emphasis on thematic and individual approaches to printmaking. Prerequisite: ARTS 330 or ARTS 340. Fall and Spring.

ARTS 442 – Printmaking IV (4) Advanced level investigation of problems and materials dealt with in ARTS 441. Prerequisite: ARTS 441. Fall and Spring

ARTS 451 – Sculpture III (4) Advanced welding and metal-casting techniques taught along with experimentation with various mold-making techniques. Personal imagery and more emphasis on student-initiated concepts encouraged. Any and all materials and processes can be explored. Historical and theoretical issues addressed through lectures and slide presentations. Critical thinking and aesthetic analysis stressed in regular formal classroom critiques. Prerequisite: ARTS 350. Fall and Spring.

ARTS 452 – Sculpture IV (4) Selected area of interest chosen for an in-depth exploration for a concentration on the sculptural possibilities of a particular process or material. Historical and theoretical issues addressed through lectures and slide presentations. Critical thinking and aesthetic analysis stressed in regular formal classroom critiques. Prerequisite: ARTS 451. Fall and Spring.

ARTS 461 – Ceramics III (4) A continuation of ARTS 360 with an emphasis on the development of a personal vocabulary of forms and stylistic concerns. Glaze formulation and firing of electric and gas kilns. Prerequisite: ARTS 360. Fall and Spring

ARTS 462 – Ceramics IV (4) Progressively more advanced problems in the conception and execution of original ceramic forms. Ceramic formulae, empirical methods, and oxidation and reduction firing of gas and electric kilns. Prerequisite: ARTS 461. Fall and Spring

ARTS 481 – Digital Photography (4) Students will edit, manipulate and print their photographically derived images through the use of current image editing software. Lectures and slide presentations address historical and critical concepts. Prerequisite: ARTS 379. Fall

ARTS 482 – Photography IV (4) Advanced level investigation of individual photographic creative ideas. Selected area of interest, black-and-white, color or alternative processes, with an emphasis on thematic projects. Lectures and slide presentations address relevant theoretical, historical and critical concepts. 35 mm camera required. Prerequisite: ARTS 481. Fall and Spring.

ARTS 484 – @Kiln Building (1-4) Building and firing of Raku kiln, to be undertaken jointly by two or more students (2); individual construction and firing of a kiln of proven design (3); individual design, construction and firing of a kiln experimental in configuration (4). Prerequisite: ARTS 461. As demand warrants. Non-liberal arts credit.

ARTS 485 – Special Problems (1-4) Individual program of work in student's area of concentration, to be approved and supervised by a member of the art faculty. Prerequisite: successful completion of at least three semesters

in chosen field. As demand warrants.

ARTS 486 – @Special Problems: Technical (1-4) Individual program of work in student's area of concentration, emphasizing technical problems and skills. Program must be approved and supervised by member of art faculty. Prerequisite: successful completion of at least three semesters in chosen field. As demand warrants. Non-liberal arts credit.

ARTS 490 – Senior Art Internship (3) The Senior Art Internship is a culmination experience available for each Bachelor of Fine Art. The course is designed to allow a student to explore opportunities in the allied professional fields of art. Students will become acquainted with the roles and responsibilities of art professionals in the student's chosen field. This will also allow them to make more informed choices concerning their future.

ARTS 491 – Senior Art Thesis (3) The Senior Art Thesis is the beginning course toward the culmination of each Bachelor of Fine Art student's experience at this institution. The course is designed to allow students to begin developing their individual creative personalities and begin research for the written thesis. The end product of this experience in the second semester is the showing of a body of work developed during the thesis process and shown in the Senior Honors Show or the delivery of another approved project. The Senior Art Thesis is the beginning of this process that will continue with Senior Art Thesis 2.

ARTS 492 – Senior Art Thesis 2 (3) The Senior Art Thesis 2 is the culmination of each Bachelor of Fine Art student's senior experience at this institution. The course is designed to allow students to fully develop their individual creative personalities and complete research and writing of the thesis. The end product of this experience in the exhibition of a body of work produced during the thesis process and shown in the Senior Honors Show or the delivery of another approved project. The Senior Art Thesis 2 is the conclusion of this process begun with Senior Art Thesis. Spring.

ARTS 493 – Senior Exhibition Seminar (1) The Senior Exhibition Seminar is a component of the Senior Art Thesis. The purpose of the Senior Exhibition seminar is to expose graduating Studio Art Majors to basic professional practices of exhibition preparation. The Art Faculty and Gibson Gallery staff will present Seminars on topics such as object preparation, care and handling of works of art, exhibition planning, interpretation and statement writing, publication planning, publicity, lighting and installation. Spring.