



(FA 120)

(Winter 2009)

Instructor: Leanne Erickson

Contacting the Instructor

Office: G2204

Office Phone: 3996

Class Times: Tues./Thurs. 2:30—3:45 **Class Location:** A 2145

Email Address: leanne.erickson@ambrose.edu OR erickson.leanne@gmail.com

Phone: Home Phone: 239-3462 Cell Phone: 540-9780

Course Description

This course is an introduction to three areas of the visual arts: art history of Western civilization, 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:

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

Required Text

Otto G. Ocvirk ed. *Art Fundamentals: Theory and Practice 11th Edition*. McGraw Hill: New York, NY, 2009.
(earlier editions of this text may also be acceptable, please check with me)

Required Materials:

Scissors One regular, one small (such as nail scissors) ruler

On Reserve

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

Course Schedule

Note: Subject to change according to availability of museum and gallery 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 of Western civilization in regards to the historical period and within the context of subject, form and content.

Unit Four: Art Venues

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

Course Requirements

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. **Late assignments will be docked one full letter grade and must not be later than 1 week. Special consideration for late assignments with out penalty must be arranged prior to the due date with the instructor.** Activities include lectures and slide presentations by the instructor, in class assignments, field trips, 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 trips, as well as any **admission costs***.

Mandatory fees: (these costs will automatically be added to your account by the registrar)

materials fee – ~\$15.00 – to be determined

Glenbow Museum ~\$20.00– to be determined

Other gallery/museum entrance - to be determined

TOTAL – to be determined

Course Grade

Grade distribution is as follows:

Mid-term exam (during class time) Date to be determined: it is the students responsibility to available for all scheduled class times	20%
Projects: studio and presentations	50%
Final – last class	30%

Important Notes

Instructor must be informed of any school activities that conflict with our class time/assignments/exams within the first week of classes.

Registration revision period: Jan. 6-16

Last day to enter course without permission and/or voluntarily withdraw from course without financial penalty: Jan. 16.

Last day to voluntarily withdraw from course or change to audit without academic penalty: Mar. 13.

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies of as are stated in the Student Handbook and Academic Calendar.

Extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the Final Portfolio due date. Requests for course extensions must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the appropriate deadline. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond

the student's control."

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar and the Student Handbook that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean.