

ART K204: *History of Women in the Arts*  
Syllabus, Spring 2015  
Three Rivers Community College  
Room E-206, Mondays 6:30 - 9:15 p.m.

Instructor: Elizabeth E. Cook, MFA  
Office hours: after class and by appointment  
email: [elizabethcook@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethcook@gmail.com)  
email: [ecook@mxcc.commnet.edu](mailto:ecook@mxcc.commnet.edu)

## Course Description

This course will cover a global history of women in the visual arts. Art terminology and visual language will be used to examine varied artworks by women from an assortment of history, social, and political contexts. Because historically women have been underrepresented or excluded from participating in the visual arts, students will develop their abilities to critique and question the art historical tradition through a significant amount of writing, and thereby achieve a general knowledge and appreciation for the contributions of women artists through out history.

## Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students should:

- . Demonstrate an ability to speak and write about visual art using an informed visual vocabulary;
- . Demonstrate familiarity with the basic elements of a work of art;
- . Demonstrate familiarity with many art media;
- . Demonstrate an ability to evaluate works of art objectively, both for their formal qualities and for other qualities such as expression or emotion or communication of ideas;
- . Be able to articulate an appreciation and find merit in challenging works of art that may have been dismissed prior to taking this course;
- . Demonstrate an ability to identify the characteristics of the major periods and movements covered in the course and place a work of art in its appropriate time period and historical context.

## Text

*Women, Art, and Society*, Whitney Chadwick, Thames and Hudson, 5th edition, 2012

## Assignments and Tests

There will be weekly reading assignments in this class. There will be four written assignments. One writing assignment will be a short paragraph response to an additional reading (John Berger, *Ways of Seeing*, chapter 3) which I will provide for you. Two of the writing assignments will be 2-3 page compare-and-contrast papers. The final writing assignment (5-7 pages) will be accompanied by an oral presentation of the independent research project. The final presentation is a requirement for passing this course.

There will be two slide identification tests for this course. There will be no make-up dates for missed exams. If you are absent on an exam date, you will receive an automatic F on that exam.

## Evaluation of Written Assignments

Your written papers should include title page, bibliography, footnotes, and visual references in addition to the written paper itself. All of these materials should be ready to be handed in (printed and stapled) at the beginning of the class at which they are due.

In addition to the quality of the topic, papers will be evaluated on the amount of time and thought that is put into them, as well as neatness, exactitude in grammar and punctuation, and proper bibliography and footnote form.

You should plan to spend two hours in class preparation for every hour of class time. That means six hours per week.

### **Class Discussion**

You are expected to attend class with a positive attitude, eager to participate in discussions. A lively and supportive atmosphere is a good learning environment. Participation with energy and enthusiasm in class exercises and discussions helps everyone learn. Those who participate more will receive a higher grade in this area. One good way to participate is to come to class prepared to share a question or comment based on the week's reading.

### **Course Requirements**

*Attendance* - Please plan to attend all classes. Only extenuating circumstances will be accepted as an excuse for missing class. Attendance on presentation dates is mandatory. An absence at the final presentation will be recorded as an automatic failure, since your final presentation is the cumulative result of your whole semester of learning. If you miss a lecture class, please borrow and copy the notes from a classmate. I DO NOT PROVIDE LECTURE NOTES FOR MISSED CLASSES OR FOR REVIEW CLASSES.

*Tardiness/Leaving Early* - Most class announcements are made either at the beginning or end of class. Students who arrive late or leave early will not only miss hearing important information, but are also disruptive to the rest of the class. Every two partial-class attendances equal one absence.

*Deadlines* - Assignments not completed on time will be lowered one letter grade for each class they are late.

*Completion of all assignments and attendance at final project presentations* - No student will receive a passing grade for this course without completing at minimum the written assignments and final paper. Each student must be present at the project presentations to pass the course.

### **Explanation of Final Grade Components**

Projects - the average of all project presentations, papers, and tests comprises 55% of the final grade

Class Participation and Attendance - 30% of the final grade

Effort/Improvement - 15% of the final grade

### **Grading System**

Papers and Exams: A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D-, F

## **Numerical Equivalencies**

A	93-100
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
F	0-59

## **Academic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty shall in general mean conduct which has in its intent or effect the false representation of a student's academic performance, including but not limited to:

- a cheating on an examination;
- b collaborating with others in work to be presented, contrary to the stated rules of the course;
- c plagiarizing, including the submission of others' ideas or papers (whether purchased, borrowed, or otherwise obtained) as one's own;
- d stealing or having unauthorized access to examination or course materials;
- e falsifying records of laboratory or other data;
- f submitting, if contrary to the rules of a course, work previously presented in another course;
- g knowingly and intentionally assisting another student in any of the above, including assistance in an arrangement whereby any work, classroom performance, examination, or other activity is submitted or performed by a person other than the student under whose name the work is submitted or performed.

## **Inclement Weather**

In the event of inclement weather, students should call the college's main number at 860-886-0177. There will be a recorded message indicating whether or not classes are being held.

## **Electronic Devices**

Cell phones and other electronic devices must be turned off (not just silenced) during class. Under no circumstances may phones be answered or text messages read or sent in class. When there are extenuating circumstances that require a student be available by electronic device, the student should speak to the instructor prior to class, so that together they arrive at an agreement.

## Revisions to Syllabus

The information in this syllabus is subject to revision at the discretion of the instructor. Students will be notified of any changes. Please BRING YOUR SYLLABUS TO EACH CLASS so that changes may be noted on it.

## College Withdrawal Policy

A student who finds it necessary to discontinue a course once class has met must provide written notice to the registrar. Withdrawal forms are available at the Registrars' offices on all campuses. Non-punitive "W" grades are assigned to any withdrawal requested before the various unrestricted withdrawal deadlines listed in the calendars published in front of each session's course listings. Withdrawal requests received after these deadlines must bear instructor signatures. No withdrawals are permitted after the last class preceding the final exam. Students who do not obtain an official withdrawal, but simply stop attending classes, run the risk of receiving an "F" for the course.

## Disabilities Statement

If you have a hidden or visible disability which may require class modifications, please notify me as soon as possible. Students with Learning Disabilities should contact the Learning Specialist, Chris Scarborough, at 860.892.5751 or at [cscarborough@trcc.commnet.edu](mailto:cscarborough@trcc.commnet.edu) as soon as possible to ensure timely accommodations. Students with Physical Disabilities should contact Judy Hilburger at 860.892.5744 ([jhilburger@trcc.commnet.edu](mailto:jhilburger@trcc.commnet.edu)) or Matt Liscum at 860.383.5420 ([mliscum@trcc.commnet.edu](mailto:mliscum@trcc.commnet.edu)) to facilitate accommodations.

## Digication

All students are required to maintain a learning portfolio in Digication that uses the (Three Rivers) College Template.

## CLASS SCHEDULE

January 26	Introduction to class The Middle Ages
February 2	Chapter 2 – The Renaissance Ideal Chapter 3 – <i>A Short Guide to Writing about Art</i> – “Writing a Comparison” – by Sylvan Barnet
February 9	Chapter 3 – The Other Renaissance
February 16	President's Day – NO CLASS
February 23	Chapter 4 – Domestic Genres and Women Painters in Northern Europe

March 2	Chapter 5 – Amateurs and Academics: A New ideology of Femininity in France and England
March 9	Chapter 6 – Sex, Class, and Power in Victorian England Chapter 3 – <i>Ways of Seeing</i> by John Berger
March 16	Spring Break – NO CLASS
March 23 Century	Chapter 7 – Toward Utopia: Moral Reform and American Art in the 19 <sup>th</sup> Paragraph Due: “Naked versus Nude”
March 30	Chapters 8 and 9 – Separate but Unequal: Women’s Sphere and the New Art <i>and</i> Modernism, Abstraction, and the New Woman Review for Exam I
April 6	Paper 1 Due - Compare and Contrast Slide Identification Exam 1
April 13	Chapters 10 and 11 – Modernist Representation: The Female Body <i>and</i> Gender, Race, and Modernism after the Second World War
April 20	Chapters 12 and 13 – Feminist Art in North America and Great Britain <i>and</i> New Directions: A Partial Overview Review for Exam II
April 27	Paper 2 Due - Compare and Contrast (submit to Digication Portfolio) Slide Identification Exam II
May 4	Chapters 14 and 15 – Worlds Together, Worlds Apart <i>and</i> A Place to Grow: Personal Visions, Global Concerns
May 11	Final Presentations - part one Final Papers Due
May 18	Final Presentations - part two Final Papers Returned Bring snacks!