

Art Appreciation (ARTS 1301 8M2)

CREDIT

3 Semester Credit Hours (3 hours lecture, 0 hours lab)

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Online

PREREQUISITE/CO-REQUISITE:

None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A general introduction to the visual arts designed to create an appreciation of the vocabulary, media, techniques, and purposes of the creative process. Students will critically interpret and evaluate works of art within formal, cultural, and historical contexts.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Apply art terminology as it specifically relates to works of art.
- Demonstrate knowledge of art elements and principles of design.
- Differentiate between the processes and materials used in the production of various works of art.
- Critically interpret and evaluate works of art.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the impact of arts on culture.
- Demonstrate Critical Thinking Skills - creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- Demonstrate Communication Skills - effective development, interpretation and expressions of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.
- Demonstrate Teamwork - ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.
- Demonstrate Social Responsibility - intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

- Instructor: William (Bill) Sizemore
- Email: whsizemore@lit.edu
- Office Phone: NA



**LAMAR INSTITUTE
OF TECHNOLOGY**

- Office Location: TC 242
- Office Hours: To Be Posted in Blackboard

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS

All materials provided via links. There may be some limited video material you need to be able to stream online. Access to that material is up to you (rent, purchase, free service).

ATTENDANCE POLICY

For all online courses be sure to sign in to Blackboard on a regular basis, three times a week at minimum, to check for any assignment openings and to be sure your coursework is being completed and submitted. Additionally, be sure to check your gradebook regularly for missing or inaccurate grades. Bring any grade questions to me immediately upon noticing them. Upon being notified, I will check and resolve any issues as needed.

DROP POLICY

If you wish to drop a course, you are responsible for initiating and completing the drop process by the specified date as listed in the College Calendar on the [Student Success](#) web page. If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an “F” in the course.

COURSE CALENDAR

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS (Due on this Date)	ASSIGNMENTS (Unit Due on this Date)
All units open on Aug 24	Unit One- Course Orientation and Introduction to Art	Assignments vary. See unit for specifics.	Aug 30
All units open on Aug 24	Unit Two: Visual Language of Art	Assignments vary. See unit for specifics.	Sep 06
All units open on Aug 24	Unit Three: Art Analysis & Interpretation	Assignments vary. See unit for specifics.	Sep 13
All units open on Aug 24	Unit Four: Drawing Fundamentals	Assignments vary. See unit for specifics.	Sep 20

All units open on Aug 24	Unit Five: Painting Techniques and Traditions	Assignments vary. See unit for specifics.	Sep 27
All units open on Aug 24	Unit Six: Early Art History	Assignments vary. See unit for specifics.	Oct 04
All units open on Aug 24	Unit Seven: Midterm Project Week	Assignments vary. See unit for specifics.	Oct 11
All units open on Aug 24	Unit Eight: Sculpture and Three-Dimensional Art	Assignments vary. See unit for specifics.	Oct 18
All units open on Aug 24	Unit Nine: Photography	Assignments vary. See unit for specifics.	Oct 25
All units open on Aug 24	Unit Ten: Moving Images and Digital Art	Assignments vary. See unit for specifics.	Nov 01
All units open on Aug 24	Unit Eleven: Printmaking and Graphic Design	Assignments vary. See unit for specifics.	Nov 08
All units open on Aug 24	Unit Twelve: Architecture and Environmental Design	Assignments vary. See unit for specifics.	Nov 08
All units open on Aug 24	Unit Thirteen: Art from 18th- 19th Century	Assignments vary. See unit for specifics.	Nov 15
All units open on Aug 24	Unit Fourteen: Modern and Contemporary Art	Assignments vary. See unit for specifics.	Nov 22
All units open on Aug 24	Unit Fifteen: Final Project and Course Conclusion	Assignments vary. See unit for specifics.	Nov 29

COURSE EVALUATION

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

- Daily Grades - 15%
- Midterm Project - 15%
- Exams - 50%
- Final Project (Core Assessment) - 20%

GRADE SCALE

- 90-100 A
- 80-89 B
- 70-79 C
- 60-69 D
- 0-59 F

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

For the latest technical requirements, including hardware, compatible browsers, operating systems, etc., review the Minimum Computer and Equipment Requirements on the [LIT Online Experience](#) page. A functional broadband internet connection, such as DSL, cable, or WiFi is necessary to maximize the use of online technology and resources.

DISABILITIES STATEMENT

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. LIT provides reasonable accommodations as defined in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, to students with a diagnosed disability. The Special Populations Office is located in the Eagles' Nest Room 129 and helps foster a supportive and inclusive educational environment by maintaining partnerships with faculty and staff, as well as promoting awareness among all members of the Lamar Institute of Technology community. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409)-951-5708 or email specialpopulations@lit.edu. You may also visit the online resource at [Special Populations - Lamar Institute of Technology \(lit.edu\)](#).

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT STATEMENT

It is the responsibility of all registered Lamar Institute of Technology students to access, read, understand and abide by all published policies, regulations, and procedures listed in the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook*. The *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* may be accessed at www.lit.edu. Please note that the online version of the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* supersedes all other versions of the same document.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE STATEMENT

Lamar Institute of Technology (LIT) recognizes the recent advances in Artificial Intelligence (AI), such as ChatGPT, have changed the landscape of many career disciplines and will impact many students in and out of the classroom. To prepare students for their selected careers, LIT desires to guide students in the ethical use of these technologies and incorporate AI into classroom instruction and assignments appropriately. Appropriate use of these technologies is at the discretion of the instructor. Students are reminded that all submitted work must be their own original work unless otherwise specified. Students should contact their instructor with any questions as to the acceptable use of ChatGPT in their courses.

STARFISH

LIT utilizes an early alert system called Starfish. Throughout the semester, you may receive emails from Starfish regarding your course grades, attendance, or academic performance. Faculty members record student attendance, raise flags and kudos to express concern or give praise, and you can make an appointment with faculty and staff all through the Starfish home page. You can also login to Blackboard or MyLIT and click on the Starfish link to view academic alerts and detailed information. It is the responsibility of the student to pay attention to these emails and information in Starfish and consider taking the recommended actions. Starfish is used to help you be a successful student at LIT.

ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES/INFORMATION

Course Dates: Aug. 24 – Dec. 09

Format: Fully Online asynchronous (all coursework submitted in Blackboard)

Textbook: No required textbook. Some streaming/viewing materials may need to be located by students.

If there is something in the course you are confused about or have questions about, by all means, email me asap, BUT an immediate self-help alternative is: **SEARCH IT UP!!!**

Anything I have in this course is heavily covered in internet materials. Be curious. Go there. Try and solve the issue! That is the number one skill you should walk away from your higher education experience with: the ability to self-solve problems.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Statement

Lamar Institute of Technology (LIT) recognizes the growing role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in many fields. Students are expected to use these tools ethically and responsibly.

- Use of AI is at the **instructor's discretion**.
- All submitted work must be your own unless otherwise specified.

- In this course, AI may be used **only if credited**. If you use AI (e.g., ChatGPT) to draft or brainstorm, you must:
 - Revise the draft into your own words.
 - Include a note in your submission stating which AI platform was used.
 - For **art projects**, AI-generated or computer-assisted art is not allowed unless the assignment specifically requests it.
-

Instructor Contact

- Email is the best way to reach me. I will respond within 24-48 business hours.
 - **Always include your course and section number** in the subject line.
 - **Do not email assignments.** All work must be submitted through Blackboard.
 - If you correct and resubmit an assignment: you **MUST** email me the specific name(s) of each assignment(s) resubmitted.
-

Technology & Document Creation

- This is a fully online course; you must have reliable computer and internet access.
You are expected to know basic software (e.g., Microsoft Word) and web browsers (Chrome, Firefox, etc.).
 - Microsoft Office Suite is provided at no additional cost to LIT students through MyLIT.
 - **Do not use Google Docs or other platforms that provide links. Actual document must be submitted, unless specifically asked to do otherwise. If you use these platforms, you must “save as” a Microsoft document file format (see directly below).**
 - Use only Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx) for writing assignments.
 - All assignments that require MLA must follow **MLA Style**, using the **provided MLA template**.
Non-MLA submissions = automatic non-recoverable 10% off the total score.
 - Acceptable image formats: .jpg, .png, .gif, .tif, .pdf.
 - **Do not submit .heic (Apple native) files.** Incorrect formats may result in a zero.
-

Discussion Boards

- Each assignment requires **one original post** plus **at least two peer replies**.
- Posts without peer replies = 50% grade. Replies added later may regain points (if still open).
- Peer replies must be thoughtful (more than “I agree”). Add insight or ask a question.

- Reply length: at least 10 words to receive credit.
- If you post early, return before the deadline to add peer replies.

Grading Breakdown:

- Original Post (meeting word count, if listed): 50%
- Each Peer Reply (10+ words): 10% each
- Example: Original post + 2 peer replies = 70/100

Journals

- Informal reflections on prompts or projects.
- **Minimum 100 words** (typed directly into the submission box). **Do not attach** journal entries or submit links.
- A basic 100-word entry = passing grade of 70. Higher word counts with more depth = higher scores.

Journal Grading Scale:

- <100 words = 0
- 100–115 = 70
- 116–130 = 75
- 131–149 = 80
- 150–165 = 85
- 166–182 = 90
- 183–199 = 95
- 200+ = 100

Assignments & Submissions

- All assignments must be uploaded to the correct Blackboard link.
- **Do not email assignments under any circumstances.**
- Assignments are open for the length of the entire semester.
- Submit early to allow time for technical issues.
- Regarding Dual Credit- assignments are submitted and due dates are determined based on the LIT academic calendar, not your school calendar. So, be aware that you might still have submissions due for this course even though you are in an “Off” period for your campus.

- Please do not email me and request extra assignment time for anything not documented as a medical emergency or similar issue (allowable only with official documentation). Vacation, work, and other school “stuff” does not take precedence over the course requirements here. Anything submitted after the official due date and time will result in a minimum 10% point deduction from the assignment score.

If you are going to be away or unavailable from the course for any reason (work, vacation, etc. You are still responsible for submitting assignments by the due dates. You can always submit early! Please do not email me and ask if it’s okay if you miss submission dated to go on vacation. You are still responsible for your on-time submissions.

Late Work & Resubmissions

- **Penalty:** Automatic 10 points off for any assignment not submitted by the assignment due date. 10 points off for each additional week past due. Late work deductions will be stringently enforced. Late work submissions are treated the same as resubmissions for grading priority.
- **Resubmission After Grading:** Resubmission of already graded assignments is by permission only. If you want to resubmit an assignment for rescoring, simply email me and ask. I will only allow resubmissions of assignments that have been initially submitted on time. Once I've allowed a resubmission, **you must email me** and tell me you have resubmitted the assignment by its specific name, so I'll know to look for it. Otherwise, it may not receive a grade. Any assignment resubmitted without my permission via email exchange with the student directly will receive a score of zero.
- **Once an assignment has received a grade, I will consider allowing one resubmission only.**
- **Incorrectly submitted assignments or assignments with errors but submitted on time are subject to a 10% point deduction if they are resubmitted.**
- **Timeline:** Late work or resubmissions will not be graded right away. **They will be graded within two weeks after the next unit closes following resubmission.**

Technical issues (internet down, device crash, etc.) are **not valid excuses**. Only documented Blackboard outages are considered.

Art Projects

- Unless otherwise specified, all art must be created by hand with traditional media (pencil, paint, etc.).
- Each project must include (unless otherwise stated in the instructions):
 - At least **three progress pictures (DO NOT** include pictures of your materials).
 - A journal entry if part of the assignment.

- o Possible discussion board critiques or artist statement.
- Work must be **new**, created for the assignment.
- Do not submit lined paper drawings (automatic zero).
- Projects are graded on effort, understanding of **art elements & principles**, and ability to explain your work—not on artistic mastery.
- Flat, minimal-effort drawings will fail (yes, it is simple to tell).

Written Work & MLA Policy

- All writing assignments (**not including journals and discussions**) must follow MLA style. Please use the provided template. Do not try to reinvent the wheel here.
- Minimum of **3 paragraphs** unless otherwise specified (this **does not include journals and discussion posts**). One-paragraph submissions = automatic 50%.
- Writing must use academic voice. No second person (“you, your”) unless specified.
- Do not use outside sources unless explicitly required.
- Tutor.com (linked in Blackboard) is available for free writing help.

Quizzes, Tests, and Readings

- Complete readings, quizzes, and tests by each unit’s closing date.
- Once a unit closes, late work will be accepted according to the late work policy.
- **No individual extra credit.** If any extra credit is offered, it will be announced to the entire class.

Academic Integrity

- Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated.
All papers are checked with SafeAssign. Revise if needed before final submission.
- Plagiarized work = 0 on the assignment and possibly failure for the course.
- Resubmitting a previously submitted assignment on a new assignment is never allowed. Fresh materials always.

Final Project

- The final project is required to pass the course.
- It is a research-based project with multiple components. Follow all assignment instructions carefully.

Content Advisory / Mature Content Notice

- This is a **college-level Humanities/Arts course**. As such, it includes required engagement with historical and contemporary works that address complex, and at times controversial, aspects of human culture and expression. Course materials **will include content that some students may find objectionable**, including but not limited to **nudity, sexuality, violence, political ideology, religious critique, AI use, and other mature themes**.
- All materials are assigned **for legitimate academic purposes** related to critical analysis, historical understanding, and artistic literacy. The presence of such content is **an expected and integral part of the course**, not optional, and not subject to modification based on individual preferences, personal beliefs, or comfort levels.
- **Students—particularly those enrolled for dual credit—should understand that college courses are not designed to conform to high school standards, parental expectations, or individual definitions of appropriateness.** By remaining enrolled in this course, students acknowledge and accept that exposure to challenging material is a normal requirement of college-level study.
- Students may discuss concerns with the instructor; however, **alternative assignments, content substitutions, or exemptions will not be provided solely on the basis of discomfort or personal objection.** Students who feel they cannot engage with mature or controversial material in an academic context should reconsider enrollment prior to the course add/drop deadline.
- Professional conduct, respectful discourse, and academic maturity are required at all times.

Incomplete Policy

In addition to LIT's policy, you must meet these conditions to qualify for an incomplete:

1. Final drop date has passed.
2. You have been participating as required.
3. Work completed to date is at a passing level.
4. A doctor/mental health note verifies your inability to complete the course.
5. You agree to finish within the first month of the following semester.

Final Notes

- Be respectful in all critiques and discussions. Controversy is acceptable; hate speech and derogatory content are not.
- All course materials, policies, and dates are subject to revision as needed. Students will be notified via course announcement and email regarding any substantive changes.