

Course Syllabus

AHST 4342-001 Arts of China • Spring 2013

MW 10:00–11:15

Prof. J. Michael Farmer

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Office Hours: M 1:00–2:00 PM or by appointment

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions:

There are no pre-requisites or other restrictions for this course.

Knowledge of Chinese language is not required.

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to the various forms of artistic expression in China, from the Neolithic era to the 17th century. The media that will be discussed in the course include jade-carving, metalwork, sculpture, ceramics, calligraphy, painting, printmaking, and architecture. We will also read important Chinese texts on art and aesthetics (in English translation). The course lectures are organized chronologically, and equal attention will be given to technique, stylistic analysis, and interpretation in historical and cultural context. Copies of slides will be posted to eLearning each week to facilitate student review.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes:

This course is designed around an extensive collection of primary documents, both visual and written (in English translation), with the pedagogical objective of teaching students both the major forms and works of Chinese art history, as well as how to “do art history” from primary sources.

Required Textbooks and Materials:

Sullivan, Michael. *Arts of China*. 5th ed. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2009. ISBN: 9780520255692.

Ebrey, Patricia. *Cambridge Illustrated History of China*. 2nd ed, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010. ISBN: 0521124336.

Rand McNally Map of China [provided by instructor].

Additional readings to be distributed via eLearning (or whatever it's called this semester).

Assignments & Academic Calendar:

Map assignment:

You will be asked to identify a set of locations on the Rand McNally outline map of China and Japan [available in class]. Grade will be based on completeness and accuracy. [5%]

Write to Learn:

Over the course of the semester you will be required to write several short essays, typically in class. These short essays may ask you to analyze a primary document/image, or write a micro-theme on an assigned topic related to course work. These “crash essays” will be graded. Additional in-class assignments will also be graded under this category. [20%]

Quizzes:

Three quizzes will be administered over the course of the semester. They will include definitions of key terms, slide identification, and short-answer essays. Review sheets will be provided prior to each quiz. [75%]

Guidelines for all assignments will be distributed in class and via eLearning.

Tentative Schedule:

I will make every reasonable effort to follow this reading and discussion schedule, but sometimes changes must be made. Modification to this outline will be announced in class. It is your responsibility to be aware of the schedule and prepare the assigned materials.

KEY:

Arts = Sullivan, *Arts of China*

CIHC = Ebrey, *Cambridge Illustrated History of China*

Items prefaced by a plus sign (+) are available via eLearning.

Items prefaced by an asterisk (*) indicate a due date.

WK	Date	Chinese Art History
1	1/14	Welcome
	1/16	Orientations: Land, Language, and People <i>CIHC</i> , Ch. 1 + Periodization of Chinese History + <i>Look</i>
2	1/21	MLK Holiday
	1/23	Neolithic Cultures of Pottery Sullivan, Ch. 1 + Map Assignment Due
3	1/28	Early Bronze Age
	1/30	Anyang: Ritual Bronze
4	2/4	Beyond Anyang: Hunan & Sanxingdui Sullivan, Ch. 2
	2/6	Western Zhou: Politics of Bronze
5	2/11	Warring States: To the North Sullivan, Ch. 3 <i>CIHC</i> , Ch. 2
	2/13	Warring States: To the South

6	2/18	The Imperial Age: Qin Realism <i>CIHC</i> , Ch. 3
	2/20	Han: Immortality Sullivan, Ch. 4
7	2/25	Han: Confucian Values
	2/27	Quiz 1
8	3/4	Period of Disunion: Early Art Theory, The First Masterpiece of Painting, and the Sage of Calligraphy Sullivan, Ch. 5 <i>CIHC</i> , Ch. 4 + Xie He's "Six Laws" + Xie He
	3/6	Period of Disunion: Arts of the Tomb + Early Art Theory
9	3/11	Spring Break
	3/13	Spring Break
10	3/18	Buddhism
	3/20	Northern Wei: Yungang & Longmen
11	3/25	Tang: Empress Wu & Longmen Sullivan, Ch. 6 <i>CIHC</i> , Ch. 5
	3/27	Tang International & Court Styles + Jing Hao
12	4/1	Quiz 2
	4/3	Northern Song Landscapes Sullivan, Ch. 7 <i>CIHC</i> , Ch. 6 + Guo Xi

13	4/8	Northern Song Court Art
	4/10	Southern Song Court Art
14	4/15	Southern Song: Chan Buddhist Art
	4/17	Yuan: Zhao Mengfu's Theory of Art Sullivan, Ch. 8 <i>CIHC</i> , Ch. 7 + Zhao Mengfu
15	4/22	Yuan: The Four Great Masters + Huang Gongwang
	4/24	Ming: Material Culture Sullivan, Ch. 9 <i>CIHC</i> , Ch. 8
16	4/29	Ming Painting + Dong Qichang
	5/1	Quiz 3

Legal & Administrivia

Course & Instructor Policies:

Grading Policy:

Percentages for the course assignments have been noted above. The following gradescale will be used: 0–59 [F]; 60–62 [D-]; 63–66 [D]; 67–69 [D+]; 70–72 [C-]; 73–76 [C]; 77–79 [C+]; 80–82 [B-]; 83–86 [B]; 87–89 [B+]; 90–92 [A-]; 93–100 [A]. In narrative form, [F]=failing; [D]=below average; [C]=average; [B]=above average; [A]=exceptional.

The professor reserves the right to curve, round, or otherwise adjust grades at his sole discretion.

Attendance, Participation, and Discussion:

Attendance is mandatory! Please consult the university calendar before scheduling vacations, weddings, or other extra-curricular events that may keep you from your responsibilities in this class. You are responsible for the material and any assignments regardless of whether you were in a given class meeting or not. Any extended absence (two or more consecutive sessions) should be reported to me via email as soon as possible. Every student is expected to actively participate in the discussion of the assigned readings. While there may be no set percentage of the course grade dedicated to this requirement category, students who do not regularly attend and actively participate in class will not fare well in the course.

Late work:

Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the assigned date. Late work will not be accepted. For all work not completed by the due date, the student will receive a grade of 0 (zero) for the assignment. Exceptional circumstances may be taken into account. If you feel your circumstances merit special consideration, please notify me via email or in person as soon as possible.

Written Assignments:

All out-of-class written assignments must be typed, double-spaced, in a 10–12 point serif typeface (Times, Palatino, Garamond, Gentium, etc.). Pages must have one-inch margins and contain your name and page number in the upper right-hand corner of each page. Assignments must be printed on white paper in black ink. Multi-page documents must be stapled. Cover sheets are not necessary unless the specific assignment guidelines call for one. Do not submit work in a folder or other type of binder unless the specific assignment guidelines call for it.

Assignments not meeting these basic technical specifications will not be accepted.

Submissions via email or other electronic means will not be accepted.

Personal Electronics:

The use of laptop computers, tablet computers, mp3 players, cell phones, and all other personal electronics is prohibited in this course unless a student has documentation from The Office of Student AccessAbility. Students granted exemptions from the personal electronics policy will be seated in the front row of the classroom. Any non-class related use of personal electronics in the classroom will result in a revocation of exemption, and the immediate confiscation of the device. Confiscated devices will be returned at the end of the class period. Repeat offenses will result in a failing grade in the course.

Audio and Video Recording/Intellectual Property:

Audio or video recording of class lectures and other activities without the express written permission of the professor is strictly prohibited. Students with documented accommodations from The Office of Student AccessAbility also require written permission from the professor. Additionally, while you are encouraged to take handwritten notes during class, these notes reflect the intellectual work and property of the professor and may only be used for the notetaker's personal academic use. Notes may be shared with enrolled members of the class, but may not be distributed outside of the classroom community without the professor's express written permission. Notes (and/or approved or illicit audio and/or video recordings) may not be posted online or distributed to free or for-profit entities outside of the classroom community. Violation of this policy may result in a failing grade in the class and expose the student to potential legal action.

University of Texas at Dallas Policies:

In an effort go green (by cutting back on photocopying) University Policies can now be viewed at the following URL:

<http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>

Course and Instructor Amendments to the University Policies:**Email Use:**

Email is the preferred method of communication for this course. Send email directly to my UTD email address (given above) and NOT through eLearning. I generally reply to messages that require a response (and not all messages require or merit a response from the professor!) within two business days. Messages left on my office voicemail will be retrieved the next time I am on campus, which depending on when the message was left, could be several business days. For queries necessitating a response, email is the best and fastest method of communication.

Your Responsibility:

Students are responsible for all information contained in this syllabus and schedule, as well as any amendments or changes announced by the professor or Teaching Assistant(s) in class. Changes to the course schedule or syllabus will also be announced in class and/or by email. It is your responsibility to regularly check your UTD email account.

Failure to abide by the policies contained in the syllabus and any amendments or changes announced by the professor may result in a failing grade in the course.

These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.

[revised 12 November 2012]