COURSE OVERVIEW

Description:
This class will cover the history of art created between 300 and 1000 CE in Italy, the Byzantine East, Northern Europe, Britain, and Ireland and will examine works of architecture, painting, and sculpture, large and small, famous and obscure. The focus of the class will be the diverse meanings of the visual arts for medieval culture and the social, religious, and aesthetic concerns that form the context of artistic production during the early Middle Ages.

Learning outcomes:
By the end of this course, the engaged student should
• have a sense of historical, philosophical, political, and social contexts of early medieval art:
• be able to recognize and verbalize the stylistic features of the art covered:
• be able to analyze works of art in an informed and logical manner:
• and show a sense of professionalism and an understanding of the expectations of college level work.

Format:
Although each class will vary depending upon the material that needs to be covered that day, typically classes will combine lecture and discussion.

Readings:
Required:
1. Lawrence Nees, Early Medieval Art (Oxford, 2002)
3. You will also be responsible for additional readings, which will be available as PDF files on the class Web site. You will be expected to keep up with all the assigned readings, as they will be vital to class discussion.
Recommended:
Sylvan Barnet, *A Short Guide to writing about Art* (available through Amazon.com, new and used and on reserve in the library).

**Class Web site:**
Readings, handouts, and other information will be available on the course Web site:
http://capone.mtsu.edu/cochrane/Courses.html

**Class Facebook page:**
This is where I will post articles and links and where students can interact with each other to arrange study groups or to discuss topics related to the class. It is optional and you do not need to join the group to see the page (I believe that you do need to join to post, however).
http://www.facebook.com/groups/269603929818206/

**Quizzes:**
There will be quizzes on days that primary source readings are assigned. Their purpose is to make sure that you do the readings and so will ask straightforward questions about the content of the material.

**Exams:**
There will be two exams for this class: a midterm and a final. The exams will include slide identification, terms to define, and essay questions.

**Assignments:**
The writing assignments for this class include one short paper due during the first half of the semester, and a term project due on the last day of class. There will also be a short visual assignment.

**Assessment:**
A standard ten-point grading scale will be used in this class.

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
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<td>B</td>
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<td>C</td>
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<td>59 and below</td>
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A student will earn a C for completing all the assignments on time and sufficiently to fulfill the requirements of the course. To earn a B, one needs to go beyond the minimum requirements and turn in very good, solid work. To earn an A, one must submit excellent work.

**Grading breakdown:**

- Exhibition review: 15%
- Midterm: 15%
- Term project: 20%
- Word and image paper: 5%
- Quizzes: 10%
- Participation: 15%
- Final: 20%
Lottery scholarships
To retain Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship eligibility, you must earn a cumulative TELS GPA of 2.75 after 24 and 48 attempted hours and a cumulative TELS GPA of 3.0 thereafter. You may qualify with a 2.75 cumulative GPA after 72 attempted hours (and subsequent semesters), if you are enrolled full-time and maintain a semester GPA of at least 3.0. A grade of C, D, F, or I in this class may negatively impact TELS eligibility. Dropping a class after 14 days may also impact eligibility; if you withdraw from this class and it results in an enrollment status of less than full time, you may lose eligibility for your lottery scholarship. Lottery recipients are eligible to receive the scholarship for a maximum of five years from the date of initial enrollment, or until a bachelor degree is earned. For additional Lottery rules, please refer to your Lottery Statement of Understanding form, review lottery requirements on the web at http://scholarships.web.mtsu.edu/telsconteligibility.htm, or contact the Financial Aid Office at 898-2830.

EXPECTATIONS

Attendance:
You are expected to attend every class. If you do miss a class, you will still be responsible for the information covered that day and will need to get notes from a fellow classmate.

Tardiness, although sometimes unavoidable, should not become a habit. I structure the lectures and discussions so that the point of the lecture is presented at the beginning of class. Even if you miss only the first ten minutes, you may not fully understand the class.

Behavior:
While you are in class, please be considerate of your fellow classmates and of me. If you do have to come late or leave early, please do so as quietly and unobtrusively as possible. Turn off cell phones before the class begins and do not text during class. I will ask you to leave the class if your behavior is distracting to your classmates or to me. I also do not allow the use of laptop computers during class.

Participation:
Fifteen percent of your grade will come from participation, so you should take this very seriously. Absenteeism and tardiness will count against your participation grade, as will inattentiveness or behavior that distracts your classmates or me. The way that I assess participation is as follows: you will earn an A in participation if you attend class regularly, come to class on time, are attentive and engaged in the class discussion, and offer regular, constructive comments. If you fulfill all of those criteria, but only actively participate in the discussion occasionally, you will earn a grade of B. You will earn a C if you come to class regularly and seem to be engaged, but do not participate in the discussion. You will earn a D or F if you miss numerous classes, are habitually late, and are not engaged in the discussion. If you text during class, do work for another class, sleep, or are otherwise clearly not paying attention, you will receive a 0 for participation that day, just as if you had been absent.
Assignments:
You are expected to hand in your work on time. A hardcopy of your assignment must be handed in at the beginning of class on the due date. Papers sent via email will NOT be accepted. Papers handed in anytime after the beginning of class on the day it is due will be considered late and will be penalized by a half of a letter grade. One half of a grade will be taken off for every additional twenty-four hour period that passes until the paper is turned in.

Quizzes and Presentations:
I expect you to be present for the quizzes and presentations at the times that they are scheduled. I will not offer makeup quizzes unless you have a very good and verifiable reason for having to miss (this would be along the lines of serious illness or a family emergency and you would need to provide documentation of such a situation). The same will be true of presentations. If you are absent on a day that you were assigned to present, you will not be able to make it up and you will receive a 0 for that presentation.

Communication:
I shall communicate with the class via email, using MTSU email addresses only. I expect everyone in the class to check their email regularly. The easiest way to contact me is through my MTSU email.

Academic honesty:
I do not tolerate any form of plagiarism or cheating on papers or exams. Assignments or exams on which a student has cheated or plagiarized will receive a failing grade and will be reported to the Office of Judicial Affairs. Please read and understand the University policy on academic integrity and misconduct (http://www.mtsu.edu/advising/pdfs/academic_integrity_brochure_handout.pdf). I will give a “plagiarism quiz” on the first day of class. I will not accept any assignments until the quiz has been taken and passed.

For my part …
I am available to students who would like to discuss any matter related to the class. I have office hours, which are posted, but I am also happy to meet at other times. Please come to see me to discuss how to go about an assignment, or if you have any other questions. I shall also do my best to get exams and papers back to you in a reasonable amount of time and I am happy to explain grades and elaborate on comments, if you come to see me. I cannot discuss grades or how I assessed your work over email.
CLASS SCHEDULE

Week 1

1/17 (Th) Introduction

Week 2

1/22 (T) Romans and Barbarians | QUIZ on Caesar
Reading: Nees, Intro and Chapter 1; Handout: Passages from Caesar, The Gallic Wars

1/24 (Th) Art of the Early Christianity
Reading: Nees, Chapters 2

Week 3

1/29 (T) Constantinople: A New Rome
Reading: Cormack: Preface and Chapter 1

1/31 (Th) Rome: A Papal Capital
Reading: Nees, Chapter 3

Week 4

2/5 (T) Illuminated manuscripts
Reading: Nees, Chapters 4

2/7 (Th) Ravenna: Arians and Barbarians
Reading: Nees, Chapters 5

Week 5

2/12 (T) Justinian and Theodora | QUIZ on Procopius
Reading: Cormack: Chapter 2 (to page 65); PDF: Passages from Procopius

2/14 (Th) Hagia Sophia
Reading: PDF: Hagia Sophia article; PDF: Procopius on Hagia Sophia
Week 6

2/19 (T) The Cult of Images
Reading: Cormack: Chapter 2 (pp. 65-73);

2/21 (Th) Encaustic Demo
Reading: PDF: Holy Image, Hallowed Ground: Icons from Sinai

Week 7

2/26 (T) Iconomachy: An image Controversy
Reading: Cormack: Chapter 3

2/28 (Th) A Macedonian Renaissance
Reading: Cormack: Chapter 4

Week 8

3/5 (T) Research methods: Meet in the library lobby

3/7 (Th) MIDTERM

SPRING BREAK

Week 9

3/19 (T) Roman Britain | QUIZ on Agricola | EXHIBITION REVIEW DUE
Reading: Nees, Chapters 6; PDF: Passages from Tacitus, Agricola

3/21 (Th) Invasion and Conversion | QUIZ on Bede
Reading: Nees, Chapters 7; PDF: Passages from Bede

Week 10

3/26 (T) Early Monasteries | QUIZ on The Rule of St. Benedict
Reading: PDF: Rule of St. Benedict

3/28 (Th) Illuminated Gospel Books
Reading: Nees, Chapters 8
Week 11

4/2 (T) The Manuscripts of Wearmouth-Jarrow
Reading: Nees, Chapters 9

4/4 (Th) RESEARCH DAY

Week 12

4/9 (T) Pictish Art
Reading: PDF: Selections from Henderson, Pictish Art

4/11 (Th) Art and the Carolingians | QUIZ on Einhart
Reading: Nees, Chapters 10; PDF: Passages from Einhart

Week 13

4/16 (T) An Image Debate
Reading: Nees, Chapters 11

4/18 (Th) Words and Images | WORD AND IMAGE ASSIGNMENT DUE
Reading: PDF: Diebold, “Art in Service of the Word”

Week 14

4/23 (T) Library Visit: Special Collections (Meet on the 4th floor)
Reading: PDF: Diebold, “Books for the Illiterate?”

4/25 (Th) Vikings!
Reading: PDFs: Selections from: Viking World and The Saga of Erik the Red

Week 15

4/30 (T) Toward a New Millennium | TERM PROJECT DUE
Reading: Nees, Chapters 11

FINAL: Thursday, May 6, 10:30-12:30