Northern Renaissance Art
June term; M/T/W/Th 3:30-5:50
Todd 212

Instructor: Dr. Laura E. Cochrane
Office: Todd 215
Laura.Cochrane@mtsu.edu
Office Hours: after class or by appointment

COURSE OVERVIEW

Description:
This class will examine the art and architecture of Northern Europe from about 1400 until about 1600 and will cover the late Middle Ages until the rise of modern cities. We shall study the works of major figures, such as Jan van Eyck, Rogier van der Weyden, Albrecht Dürer, Hieronymus Bosch, Hans Holbein, and Peter Bruegel, among others, within the context of the cultural and political conditions of the period.

Learning outcomes:
By the end of this course, the engaged student should
• have a sense of historical, philosophical, political, and social contexts of Northern Renaissance art;
• be able to recognize and verbalize the stylistic features of the art covered;
• demonstrate analytical thought processes in writing and in class presentations;
• have acquired knowledge of tools for researching art historical objects and topics.

Class Format:
Although each class will vary depending upon the material that needs to be covered that day, typically classes will combine lecture and discussion. We shall have two lectures per meeting, with a ten-minute break between them.

Text book:
Jeffrey Chipps Smith, The Northern Renaissance (Art and Ideas Series), Phaidon Press, 2004 (available in the book store and also on-line).

Quizzes:
Because of the time constraints of the summer term, we will have three quizzes in lieu of a midterm. The quizzes will occur on Mondays and will cover the materials and readings from the previous week. Quizzes will include slide identification and terms to define. A forth quiz will occur on the last day of lecture.

Exam:
There will be a final on the Friday after the end of the term. It will include slide identification, terms to define, and an essay question.
Term Projects:
You will have to turn in a final writing project on the last day of class. The requirements for of the project will be given during the first week of classes. You will also present an aspect of your work to the class on the last day of lecture.

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

90-100 = A  
70-79 = C  
59 and below = F

80-89 = B  
60-69 = D

A student will earn a C for completing all assignments on time and in a satisfactory manner, sufficient to fulfill the requirements of the course. To earn a B, one must go beyond the minimum requirements of the course and turn in very good work. To earn an A, one must submit excellent work.

Grading breakdown:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes (4)</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term project</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

ADA statement:
If you have a disability that may require assistance or accommodation, or if you have any questions related to any accommodation for testing, note taking, reading, etc., please speak with me as soon as possible and contact the Office of Disabled Student Services (898-2783) for information about such services.

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. Do NOT ask me for notes or to recap the lecture for you. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to get the information you missed.

Tardiness should also be avoided. Class lectures and discussions are structured so that the point of the lecture is presented at the beginning of the class. Even if you miss only the first ten minutes, you may not fully understand that day’s material.
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. Also, turn off cell phones before the class begins and do not text during class. I also do not allow the use of laptop computers in class. I will ask you to leave the class if your behavior is distracting to your classmates or to me.

Behaviors that are not allowed in class:
- Texting or using cell phones
- Using a laptop or tablet computers during lecture (if you have reason that you must take notes on a computer, you need to discuss this with me. I shall deal with such requests on a case-by-case basis)
- Eating loud or smelly foods
- Wearing sunglasses
- Reading or doing work for another class

Participation:
Your participation grade will be determined on the basis of your attendance, attentiveness, and participation in class discussion. Your grade will be detrimentally affected if you are continually disruptive. You will receive a 0 in participation of you miss 3 or more classes. See attached sheet for a detailed explanation of how I determine the participation grades. Excused absences will be determined on a case-by-case basis. However, even if an absence is excused, it does not change the fact that you have missed pertinent material and that it is your responsibility to get that information.

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 (5%). One half of a letter grade will be taken off for every additional twenty-four hour period that passes until the paper is turned in.

Exams and quizzes:
I expect you to be present for quizzes and exams at the times that they are scheduled. I will not offer makeup exams 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 will need to provide documentation of such a situation).

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. Do not use email to ask a question that can be answered by referring to the syllabus.

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/judaff/integrity.shtml). 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 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 will not discuss grades or how I assessed your work over email.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Week 1

Monday 6/4—Reading: Smith, pp. 4-12
  1. Course overview
  2. The Renaissance and other renaissances

Tuesday 6/5—Reading: Smith, pp. 15-57
  1. Guilds and workshops
  2. Making a Manuscript

Wednesday 6/6—Reading: Smith, pp. 57-66
  1. Visit to Special collections; meet on the fourth floor of the library
  2. Court Arts and the *ars nova*

Thursday 6/7
  1. Realism
  2. Symbolism

Week 2

Monday 6/11—Reading: Smith, pp. 69-92
  1. QUIZ
  2. Civic patronage

Tuesday 6/12—Reading: Smith, pp. 95-118
  1. The Rise of Portraiture
  2. The Arnolfini Portrait

Wednesday 6/13—Reading: Smith, pp. 120-146
  1. Personal Devotion
  2. The Merode Altarpiece

Thursday 6/14—Reading: Smith, pp. 149-196
  1. Decorating the Church
  2. Altarpieces
Week 3

Monday 6/18—Reading: Smith, pp. 199-238
   1. QUIZ
   2. The art of Dying

Tuesday 6/19—Reading: Smith, pp. 239-272
   1. Bosch, *The Seven Deadly Sins*
   2. Bosch, *The Garden of Earthly Delights*

Wednesday 6/20—Reading: Smith, pp. 239-272
   1. Prints and Printmaking
   2. Albrecht Dürer

Thursday 6/21
   Visit to Special collections; meet on the fourth floor of the library

Week 4

Monday 6/25—Reading: Smith, pp. 274-308
   1. QUIZ
   2. Northern Artists in Italy

Tuesday 6/26—Reading: Smith, pp. 309-350
   1. Exploring Nature and the Supernatural
   2. Bruegel and the Exploration of Human Nature

Wednesday 6/27—Reading: Smith, pp. 351-408
   1. The Crisis of the Image
   2. Collectors and Connoisseurs

Thursday 6/28—Reading: Smith, pp. 411-420 | PAPER DUE
   1. *The Seventh Seal*
   2. QUIZ

Friday 6/29—FINAL