



RART300 – Art in
American
Master Course Syllabus

Course Overview (QM Standards 1.2)

Course description: An in depth overview of American artistic production from the late 17th through the mid-20th centuries with a focus on the cultural, social, and political meanings of the seminal American achievements in paintings, sculpture, photography, and some architecture.

Expanded description: This course will probe how the history of ideas in America profoundly intersects with the history of American art. As we analyze the key artistic achievements of American visual culture we will examine the changing attitudes regarding the role of art in society and the impact on culture of such extraordinary events as the American Revolution, the expansion westward, slavery and separatism, the Civil War, technological revolutions in transportation and communication, the influx of immigrants, and changing economic factors.

Course Goals and Objectives:

- Identify the artists, dates, sites, and basic terms, as well as the work of major artists from the perspective of their artistic concerns, styles, media, and principal influences.
- Identify and discuss specific art forms, techniques, styles, periods, or movements as they are expressed in individual works of art.
- Describe and analyze specific works, artists, periods, and movements through such elements as media, form, technique, and iconography.
- Analyze the concerns of important religious concepts, philosophical movements, historical and cultural events, and discuss their relation to the art history of the period.

Pre-Requisites (QM Standard 1.6)

No pre-requisites are required for this course.

Minimum Technical Requirements and Online Resources (QM Standards 1.5 & 1.7)

In addition to a web browser (preferable Firefox) that is Blackboard compatible, you will need the following software in order to complete the activities in this class:

1. Word processing package capable of reading and creating .doc, .doc x or rich text formatted (rtf) documents. Test your computer by trying to download and open the following file: [RTF Document](#)
2. *Adobe Acrobat Reader*: Test your computer by trying to open this file: [PDF File](#) . If you do not have *Adobe Acrobat Reader*, you can download it free from <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep.html>
3. PDF Creator Software: If you are using a MAC or do not have software capable of saving a file as a .doc or .docx file and do not have the capability on your campus to print files to PDF, you can download a free version of *CutePDF* at <http://www.cutepdf.com/Products/CutePDF/writer.asp> This software installs a virtual printer on your PC that allows you to print files to the PDF format.
4. Virus Protection Software: This course requires you to download and upload files from your PC. Virus protection software protects your computer and my computer.

Online Resources: This course makes use of many online resources. I have made every effort to make sure the links I have are up-to-date. However, due to the changing nature of the web, you may find that a resource is temporarily unavailable or has been removed. If this should happen, please send me an email and I will find an alternative resource or modify the assignment accordingly.

Instructor Information (QM Standards 1.8 & 5.3)

Individual instructors complete this information.

Virtual Office Hours

I am available in my virtual office by appointment only. Send me an email to set up an appointment.

Personal Commitment

My personal commitments to you as a participant include:

I will reply to course mail messages within 24 hours;

I will read all discussion postings and will reply where appropriate within 3 days

I will acknowledge my receipt of every course mail message immediately upon reading it. If I am unable to respond to the request or concern at the time of initial reply, I will give you an estimated time for my next reply.

If I am going to be away from the course space for more than a day or two, I will send a message to you indicating the length of my absence.

I will regularly update information regarding due dates in the course announcements.

Optional/Required Course Materials (QM Standard 4.6)

You will find your required textbook information in the course catalog at <http://ilearn-wv.rocks.wvnet.edu>. All other required readings and videos are included in each of the modules.

Grading Policy (QM Standard 3.2)

Each module consists of a series of assignments, discussions and/or quizzes, each having specific point values. For each assignment or discussion you will be given the rubric or grading criteria from which you will be evaluated.

Discussions (4*25 points) and (1*5 points)	105
Papers (2*30 points)	60
Essays (2*15 points) and (3*22)	96
Quizzes (3*20 points)	60
Total:	321

The grading scale is as follows:

- A = 288-321 pts.
- B = 257-287 pts.
- C = 225 -256 pts.
- D = 193 -224 pts.
- F = < 193 pts.

Module Objectives and Assessments (QM Standard 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 3.4, 3.5, 5.1)

Module 1

After you have complete the readings and content for this module you will be able to:

- **Navigate** the online classroom. [M1A1: **Course Introduction Discussion**]
- **Compare** and **contrast** portrayal of Native American's in early American Art. [M1A2: **Artist Portrayal of Native Americans**]
- **Discuss** the symbolic aesthetics portrayed in early American Art portraiture [M1A3: **God's Word in New England Portraits**]
- **Identify** the artists, dates, sites, and basic terms, as well as the work of major artists from the perspective of their artistic concerns, styles, media, and principal influences. Chapters 1 and 2. [M1A4: **Quiz Chapters 1-2**]

Module 2

After you have complete the readings and content for this module you will be able to:

- **Describe** the depictions and representations of Natives in the Caribbean and Latin Americas. [M2A1: **Representations of Native Americans of the Caribbean and Latin America in the 16th Century Essay Paper**]
- **Identify** the importance and history of artists who portrayed Native Americans. [M2A2: **A White Artist Living with the Native American People: George Catlin Essay**]

- **Discuss** the European portrayal of Native Americans in the Art World. [M2A3: **European portrayal of Native Americans in the Art World Discussion**]
- **Assess** the major works of Native Americans by artists discussed in this module. [M2A1: **Representations of Native Americans of the Caribbean and Latin America in the 16th Century Essay Paper**, M2A2: **A White Artist Living with the Native American People: George Catlin Essay** M2A3: **European portrayal of Native Americans in the Art World Discussion.**]

Module 3

After you have complete the readings and content for this module you will be able to:

- **Research and discuss** the way artists depict Economic Modernization in the Arts.. [M3A1: **Economic Modernization in the Arts Discussion**]
- **Summarize** the life of an artist in 18th Century America. [M3A3: **John Singleton Copley's: Boy with Flying Squirrel Essay**]
- **Identify** ways middle class families used portraiture to improve their social status. [M3A2: **Portraiture and Middle Class Aspirations Essay**]
- **Recognize** symbolism used in artwork to improve the prospects for future marriages. [M3A2: **Portraiture and Middle Class Aspirations Essay**]
- **Identify** the artists, dates, sites, and basic terms, as well as the work of major artists from the perspective of their artistic concerns, styles, media, and principal influences. [M3A4: **Chapters 3, 4, and 5 Quiz**]

Module 4

After you have complete the readings and content for this module you will be able to:

- **Recognize** the importance of artwork from the Gilded Age and Modern Era. [M4A4: **Famout Artist Final Research Paper**]
- **Compare and contrast** images of family in the aftermath of the war. [M4A2: **Images of Renewal and Families in the Aftermath of War Essay**]
- **Explain** the importance of the anti-slavery sentiment portrayed in artwork from this time period. [M4A2: **Images of Renewal and Families in the Aftermath of War Essay**]
- **Identify** basic terms, as well as work of major artists, from the perspective of their artistic concerns, styles, media, and principal influences. [M3A3 **Chapters 6 and 7 Quiz**]
- **Discuss** the significance of Marcel Duchamp and the New York Dada scene. [M4A1: **Duchamp and the NY Dada Scene Discussion**]