

KAP ART HISTORY COURSE SYLLABUS 2016-2017

Survey of Art, Part I

(Kenyon College course ARHS 110 for 4 credit hours)

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:

KAP Art History is a survey of Ancient and Medieval Art and comprises the first part of a two-semester survey of the history of western art. The objective of the course is to familiarize students with the major monuments of painting, sculpture and architecture in Europe and the Near East from their beginnings in the Stone Age through the Gothic era. KAP Art History will examine not only the monuments themselves, but also the historical context in which they were produced. There will be a strong emphasis on questions of analysis and interpretation—including, in some cases, the changing history of a work's reception. The goal is to impart not only a body of knowledge but also a set of critical tools that students should be able to apply to works of art not specifically covered in the course.

TEXT: Gardner's Art through the Ages: The Western Perspective vol. I. (Fourteenth Edition 2014). PowerPoint images and additional readings will be posted on school-specific websites.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

EXAMS: There will be major tests and a final exam. In addition, quizzes will be given on a regular basis throughout the semester.

PAPER: Students are required to write a 2-4 page paper that centers on one the following themes: the human body, religious sites and spaces, narrative, class and gender, power and authority. Students will choose 2 artworks from 2 different cultures (one must be a work not discussed in class) and explain why the theme is important and how the work conveys specific ideas regarding each particular culture.

PROJECTS: Students will be asked to complete various projects throughout the year, showcasing their ability to look at and discuss art.

CONTRIBUTION: Students will be given a grade, each quarter, based on in class contribution to discussion.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

WEEK ONE:	Introduction/Stone Age
WEEK TWO:	Ancient Near East: Sumer, Akkad, and Babylon
WEEK THREE:	Ancient Near East: Assyria, Neo-Babylonia, Persia Ancient Egypt: Old Kingdom
WEEK FOUR:	Ancient Egypt: New Kingdom
WEEK FIVE:	Prehistoric Aegean TEST I
WEEK SIX:	Ancient Greece: Geometric through Archaic
WEEK SEVEN:	Ancient Greece: Classical through Hellenistic
WEEK EIGHT:	Etruscan Art Roman Art: Republic through Early Empire
WEEK NINE:	Roman Art: High and Late Empire
WEEK TEN:	Late Antiquity TEST II
WEEK ELEVEN:	Byzantine Art
WEEK TWELVE:	Islamic Art
WEEK THIRTEEN:	Early Medieval Art in the west
WEEK FOURTEEN:	Romanesque Art
WEEK FIFTEEN:	Romanesque Art TEST III
WEEK SIXTEEN:	Gothic Art
WEEK SEVENTEEN:	Gothic Art
WEEK EIGHTEEN:	Late Medieval Italy FINAL EXAM (comprehensive)