

HUMI 07 – Arts & the Human Spirit – 12 wk Online – 4 units
WINTER '17

De Anza College

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- *Imagination is more important than knowledge.* --Albert Einstein
- *It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye.* --Antoine de St. Exupery
- *The world speaks to me in colours, my soul answers in music.* -- Rabindranath Tagore
- *I do not seek. I find. (Je ne cherche pas; je trouve)* --Pablo Picasso
- *The essence of all beautiful art, all great art, is gratitude.* --Friedrich Nietzsche
- *Beauty will save the world.* --Dostoevsky
- *What would it be like if you lived each day, each breath, as a work of art in progress? Imagine that you are a Masterpiece unfolding every second of every day, a work of art taking form with every breath.* --Thomas Crum
- *Where the spirit does not work with the hand there is no art.* --Leonardo da Vinci
- *The goal of life is rapture. Art is the way we experience it. Art is the transforming experience.* --Joseph Campbell
- *Every artist dips his brush in his own soul, and paints his own nature into his pictures.* --Henry Ward Beecher
- *When I am finishing a picture, I hold some God-made object up to it – a rock, a flower, the branch of a tree or my hand – as a final test. If the painting stands up beside a thing man cannot make, the painting is authentic. If there's a clash between the two, it's bad art.* --Marc Chagall
- *Nothing sublimely artistic has ever arisen out of mere art ... There must always be a rich moral soil for any artistic growth.* --G.K. Chesterton

Course Description:

In this course, we will study the ways people have expressed their spiritual and/or religious ideas and feelings through art – over time, and across cultures. Our examination of artistic expression will be critical, comparative, and experiential. This means that we will use various learning methods—including rational thought, emotional and intuitive engagement, and personal experience –to approach our understanding. This variety will give us the opportunity to consider why the arts have been such a consistently used form of spiritual expression throughout human history.

Course Objectives:

The student will demonstrate:

- An historical and aesthetic understanding of major religious art in various media (visual art, architecture, language, music, drama) as an expression of the worldviews, experience, and values of both Western and non-Western cultures;
- Enhanced ability to assess, interpret, analyze, synthesize, and evaluate religious artistic expression (visual, verbal, aural, kinesthetic) and make connections among the religious art of various cultures;
- Increased awareness of the role of women and minorities in religious artistic disciplines;
- Increased critical thinking and creative skills, and increased ability to think independently.

Required Reading:

1) Dunham, Bandhu. (2005). *Creative Life: Spirit, Power and Human Contact in the Practice of Art*. Prescott, AZ: Hohm Press.

2) Plate, S. Brent (Ed.). (2002). *Religion, Art, & Visual Culture: A cross-cultural reader*. New York: Palgrave

Course Requirements:

Weekly Discussion Participation (500 pts): You will need to participate frequently and substantially in all of the weekly online discussions. You will be graded on the quantity, quality, and timeliness of your responses. Expect to post ~300 words per post. For full discussion participation credit, you need to respond substantively and thoughtfully to at least 3 other students per discussion question (~150 words per post). You must post your initial response to each question by Thursday (midnight) each week, leaving the second half of the week (Fri/Sat/Sun) for follow-up discussion (responses to other students).

Midterm essay exam (100 pts): There will be a midterm essay exam due, for which you will write an in-depth analysis of what you have learned from the Dunham book. This midterm paper will be a synthesis of your learning from the Dunham book. This analysis should include the main ideas from the reading, but should also describe how these ideas relate to your previous learning, your own life experience, and your personal thoughts and feelings. The paper should be a total of 5-6 full pages, double-spaced (12 font). You will turn it in on our class Catalyst site AND on turnitin.com.

Final essay exam (100 pts): There will be a final essay exam due, for which you will write an in-depth analysis of what you have learned from the Plate book. This analysis should include the main ideas from the reading, but should also describe how these ideas relate to your previous learning, your own life experience, and your personal thoughts and feelings. The paper should be a total of 5-6 full pages, double-spaced (12 font). You will turn it in on our class Catalyst site AND on turnitin.com.

Course Requirements

Weekly Discussion Responses: 50 points per week x 10 wks = 500 pts

Midterm essay = 100 pts

Final essay exam = 100 pts

Total points = 700

A-=90%;A=93%; A+=98%

B-=80%;B=83%;B+=88%

C=70%; C+=78%

D-=60%;D=63%;D+=68%

F=<60%

Course Outline:

Week 1: Read & Discuss Dunham

Introduction

Ch. 1 –Lascaux

Ch. 2 – Loneliness of the Artist

Week 2: Read & Discuss Dunham -

Ch. 3 –Relevance & Polarization

Ch. 4 – Self-Indulgence

Ch. 5 – Dogmatic Mind

Ch. 6 – Subconscious Sabotage

Week 3: Read & Discuss Dunham

Ch. 7 – On Being & Becoming

Ch. 8 – Community

Ch. 9 – Objective Art

Ch. 10 – Journey Between the Worlds

Week 4: Read & Discuss Dunham –
Ch. 11 – Resistance
Ch. 12 - Hunger
Ch. 13 – Labels
Ch. 14 – Power and Politics
Ch. 15 - Vision

Week 5: Midterm week – Essay due Thursday, Feb. 9th - by 11:55 pm
No readings or discussion this week

Week 6: R & D Plate, sec 1 – Aistheses: Perceiving Between Eye & Mind

Week 7: R & D Plate, sec 2–Icon: Image Jesus Christ Christian Theology

Week 8: R & D Plate, sec 3 -Qalam: Word & Image Islamic Calligraphy

Week 9: R & D Plate, sec 4–Shinjin: Seeing Body-Mind Zen Garden

Week 10: R & D Plate, sec 5-Darshan: Seeing Hindu Divine Image....

Week 11: R & D Zakhor: Modern Jewish Memory

Finals week – Essay due Wednesday, March 29th - by 11:55 pm

GETTING STARTED: REQUIREMENTS FOR FIRST WEEK OF CLASS:
COMPLETE DISTANCE LEARNING ORIENTATION (online). This is REQUIRED, no later than noon on Friday, first week of classes. Access to the Online Orientation is available during the 2 weeks prior to first day of classes.

Complete the entire Orientation, even if you have taken distance learning classes in the past. The last part contains critical information you need: how to login to CATALYST, how to obtain your user name and password, and more. The instructor does not assign user names or passwords, or respond to inquiries that are answered in Orientation.

PURCHASE REQUIRED BOOKS and begin reading. Discussion will begin immediately during the first week.

LOGIN TO CATALYST. BECOME FAMILIAR WITH SITE & FEATURES. Access to CATALYST will not be available until first day of classes.

Surf your classroom web site: Check out all the links, notice how information is organized, where to find it. Note that the first block of information is general information about the class. Each subsequent block includes the assignments, resources and readings, activities and discussions for that week. Locate and review/read the following important links:

REVIEW THE STUDENT GUIDE-

Become familiar with the site and the terminology for the CATALYST features. This is important information and it is not the same as Distance Learning Online Orientation. Learn recommended web browser. This guide will explain what features must be enabled and disabled on your own computer, or any computer you use to access the class.

NOTE APPEARANCE OF HELP LINK on every page. The link is context sensitive. You can also choose HELP INDEX from the Help link.

BRIEFLY INTRODUCE YOURSELF IN THE STUDENT INTRODUCTION FORUM. (Forum is the same thing as an online Discussion, or a bulletin board. All students can access this discussion forum and get to know a little more about their classmates.

ONGOING COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Be prepared to spend approximately 12-15 hours a week studying the materials during the quarter. This course is worth 4 quarter units, so, obviously, it requires effort equivalent to a 4 unit campus-based class. Some students are under the mistaken impression that distance learning requires less work because students do not have to attend class. In fact, most students need to plan additional time for online courses, as compared to classroom courses.

The most important factor with regard to success in college is the student's ability to organize and realistically schedule their time in accordance with their own abilities: consider other college classes, employment obligations, family obligations, and personal study skills. There are still only 24 hours in a day, and you must sleep, eat, and have at least some time for relaxation and fun to refresh your mind.

Participate WEEKLY in ONLINE DISCUSSIONS.

Login to CATALYST at least 4 times per week to receive news, updates, announcements, and messages and to participate in online discussions with other class members.

Re: DROPS

Be considerate of other students. If you intend to drop the class, please email instructor as early as possible so that waitlisted students can be added.

It is the responsibility of the student (not the instructor), to officially drop a class via phone, Internet or registrar's office up until the last day to drop a class. After that date, student will be graded on points accumulated, even if grade is D or F. However, Instructor reserves the right to drop a student who does not appear to be participating or is not keeping up with scheduled tests and assignments. See Syllabus for details.

DAC College drops students from classes if they do not pay fees by deadline. To make arrangements for deferred payments (described in Schedule of Classes or on college

website), contact registrar. If you think you might qualify for assistance, contact Financial Aid Office: <http://www.deanza.edu/financialaid>

The instructor reserves the right to drop any enrolled student who does not login to Catalyst by Friday of the first week of classes, in order to add a student from the waitlist. (This is equivalent to 'No Show' for the first week of class for an on-campus class.) If you encounter a problem with login, refer to Distance Learning Tech Support.

Re: WAITLIST .

Add codes will be distributed starting on first day of classes as space becomes available. Students on official waitlist must email instructor to obtain add code. Read the following carefully. Students on official waitlist have first priority for vacant seats for the first 4 days of the quarter: those students must email the instructor to request an ADD code. (No phone calls.) Instructor does not email students to ask if they want add codes. If there are more requests than seats, add codes are distributed in order according to waitlist.

Students who are not on the official waitlist can email add request to the instructor, who will add their name at end of official waitlist in order, according to time/date of request. If there is any space remaining, add codes will be distributed by email until seats are filled. Very often, the instructor will not know if seats are filled until the second week. (Voice mail requests are not accepted. This is an online class.)

Re: ADDS

Instructor will email add codes to students in response to their email request (explained above). Students must register by phone, Internet or at registrar's office within 24 hours of receiving add code, or instructor may reassign add code to the next student on the list. Students must complete the Distance Learning Online Orientation or they will be dropped from the class.

Students must pay all fees according to college policy or other agreements, or the registrar will drop them from all classes and/or block student add codes.