

## Art in World Cultures

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Who is the greatest artist of all time? Is it Leonardo daVinci? Claude Monet? Michelangelo? Pablo Picasso? Is the greatest artist of all time someone whose name has been lost to history? You will learn about some of the greatest artists while also creating art of your own, including digital art. We will explore the basic principles and elements of art, learn how to critique art, and examine some of the traditional art of the Americas, Africa, and Oceania in addition to the development of Western art.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Define "visual art" and distinguish visual arts from other forms of art.
- Identify common forms of visual art.
- Discuss why people create art.
- Discuss art movements and art periods.
- Describe career options related to art history and the study of art.
- Define art concepts such as hue, value, shape, form, and balance.
- Identify the elements of art.
- Identify some of the design principles that artists use.
- Discuss how the elements of art are used within art pieces.
- Discuss how design principles are used to arrange the elements of art.
- Define art critique.
- Identify some of the benefits of doing art critiques.
- Explain how context can influence an art critique.
- Discuss the steps that can be used to complete an art critique.
- Engage in an art critique of the painting *The Raft of the Medusa*.
- Define prehistoric art and discuss why much of this art remains a mystery to archaeologists and art historians.
- Describe cave paintings and discuss some of the theories about why they were created.
- Compare and contrast Paleolithic and Neolithic art.
- Examine prehistoric sculpture and the reasons it may have been created.
- Discuss prehistoric megalith monuments and examine the theories about why these monuments were created.
- Identify some of the common characteristics of ancient art.
- Discuss the art of ancient Sumerians.
- Explain how Ancient Egyptian religion influenced its art.

- Identify and discuss the styles of Ancient Greek architecture.
- Identify the styles of Ancient Greek sculpture and pottery.
- Describe the features used in Roman architecture.
- Examine early Christian art and its influence on later architecture and art.
- Define Byzantine, migration, and insular art and the characteristics of these art periods.
- Discuss the characteristics of Romanesque art.
- Identify the common features of Gothic architecture.
- Identify the characteristics of Renaissance art.
- Discuss Early Netherlandish art and its relationship to Renaissance art.
- Explain how other disciplines of study and social factors influenced Renaissance art.
- Examine some of the most famous works of Renaissance art, including those by Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, and Raphael.
- Define Mannerism and discuss how it differed from the art of the High Renaissance.
- Discuss geoglyphs in North and South America.
- Define pre-Columbian art in the Americas.
- Identify prehistoric painting in the Americas.
- Examine art from major cultural empires in Mesoamerica and South America, including the Olmec, Maya, Aztec, and Inca cultures.
- Discuss indigenous art in North America such as beadwork, baskets, and totem poles.
- Identify the characteristics of Baroque, rococo, neoclassical and Romantic art.
- Discuss the social and political influences on Baroque, rococo, neoclassical, and Romantic art.
- Explain how art from earlier periods influenced Baroque, rococo, neoclassical, and Romantic art.
- Examine some of the important pieces of art from the Baroque, rococo, neoclassical and Romantic periods.
- Compare and contrast Baroque art with Renaissance art.
- Define art movements such as Impressionism, Postimpressionism, Expressionism, and Realism.
- Identify the characteristics of Impressionistic and Postimpressionistic art.
- Describe how modern art movements build on and react to other movements.
- Discuss some of the major artists of Impressionism and Postimpressionism.
- Discuss the beginning of photography and its use as an art form.
- Identify the phases of rock engraving found in Africa.
- Describe the sculptures created by different cultures in Africa.
- Discuss the different types of masks created and what materials were used to make them.
- Identify some of the famous architectural creations in Africa.

- Discuss some of the social and natural factors that influenced the creation of art in Africa.
- Identify some of the characteristics of Oceanic art.
- Describe some of the human sculptures found in Polynesia.
- Discuss how the Pacific Ocean and life on Pacific islands influenced Micronesian art.
- Learn more about Bisj poles and other Melanesian art creations.
- Identify some of the styles of rock art present in Australia.

**PREREQUISITES:** None

**COURSE LENGTH:** One Semester

**REQUIRED TEXT:** No required textbook for this course

**MATERIALS LIST:**

- Digital camera
- Clay or other sculpting material
- Pencil, ink, or other drawing tool
- Paper, canvas, or sketchpad

**COURSE OUTLINE:**

**Unit One: Introduction to the Visual Arts**

**Unit Two: The Elements and Principles of Art**

**Unit Three: Critiquing Art**

**Unit Four: Prehistoric Art**

**Unit Five: Ancient Art**

**Unit Six: Ancient Roman, Early Christian, and Medieval Art**

**Art in World Cultures Midterm Exam**

**Unit Seven: The Renaissance**

**Unit Eight: Art of the Americas**

**Unit Nine: From the Baroque to the Romantics**

**Unit Ten: Modern Art**

**Unit Eleven: African Art**

**Unit Twelve: Oceanic Art**

**Art in World Cultures Final Exam**