

Gulf Coast State College  
**Course Title: Understanding Visual Arts**

Course Number: ARH2000

CRN: 85440, Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: By email Room: N/A, Semester/Year: Fall/2025

Pre-requisites/Co-requisites: Satisfactory reading scores on the Florida College-Level Entry Placement Test or completion of REA22 or REA19 with a minimum grade of "C".

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Division Chair contact information: Dr. Jennifer McAtee | jmcatee@gulfcoast.edu | 850-872-8337

Approved Course Materials & Resources

Textbook Information: *Living With Art* Looseleaf W Connect Getlein ISBN 9781265594855 Edition 13.

Required Materials: The book is now being sold as an online text. You can buy the online text at the Gulf Coast bookstore or online at McGraw Hill. You will need to purchase access to McGraw-Hill's Connect. This will be a resource used throughout the course. It will be part of your grade to log onto Connect and do the quizzes for the chapters.

Curriculum

Course Description: Catalog Description: A study of visual expressions presented through different media. Lectures, slides, and studio activities will introduce the student to the problems and materials of the artist.

Course Content Delivery:

While the flexibility of not having a fixed meeting time is one of the greatest benefits of an online course, that lack of structure often becomes a detriment. To have success in any virtual classroom the student must be self-motivated and self-disciplined. This is particularly true in an eight-week class where the weekly workload is doubled in order to cover all of the material required for the course. To put it bluntly we are trying to fit sixteen weeks of material into an eight week span.

The online section of Understanding Visual Arts closely resembles its on campus cousin. Just like its face-to-face counterpart it consists of three main parts: readings/quizzes, projects and tests.

Readings/Quizzes

Each week the student will be assigned readings from the textbook. These readings must be completed using the Connect Smart Book (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site., an online E-book learning tool designed to help with comprehension and retention. (Once you log in to Connect, you'll see a tutorial on how to use it.) Each reading is connected to a weekly Quiz, you must complete all readings for that week and demonstrate a 90% comprehension level before the weekly quiz becomes available. The readings must be done using the Smart Book in order to demonstrate proficiency. I understand that some of you may prefer to read from an actual textbook, I do too. You may do that but you'll still have to complete the Practice section of your Smart Book to demonstrate proficiency. There are only two grade options for the readings – 100% or 0%. To receive 100% you must complete all assigned readings for that week, anything less that that will result in a grade of 0%. Remember the only way to gain access to the weekly Quiz is to demonstrate 90% proficiency. All readings/quizzes are due on Friday 10:00 p.m., make sure to start your work well in advance so that you have enough time to complete the assignment. Late assignments will not be accepted and will receive zero (0) points.

## Projects

Projects will be assigned on semi-regular basis. These will vary from research assignments, to on site explorations, to hands on projects. All of the projects will be submitted by clicking the Submit Assignment button by the assigned due date. Late projects will not be accepted and will receive zero (0) points. Some of your assignments will require submission of digital images, so you will need access either to a scanner and/or a digital camera — for most of you it will be your phone. If you do not have a smart phone, a scanner is available at the library, or you can have it scanned for you at various commercial locations (Kinko's, Office Max, etc.) )

## Tests

All tests will be given online. These will be timed exams limited to eighty (80) minutes. Access to exams will be limited to a three-day window. Exams will expire by 10:00 p.m. of the last date listed. If the student fails to take the test during the assigned window he/she will receive a grade of zero (0) for that test. In case of extreme circumstance the student may arrange to take the exam at a different time, only if that arrangement is made by the Friday before the assigned exam period. The best way to prepare for exams is by regularly completing the weekly readings, taking the time to learn from your weekly quizzes, and regularly taking notes and highlighting key concepts in your text.

Broad Goals of the Course: Students will learn to analyze works of art created in the past as well as in the present.

## Approved Student Learning Outcomes:

After completing ARH2000, students will be able to:

- Identify and describe terms, concepts, and methods used in the discipline of art history.
- Apply terms, concepts, and methods used in the discipline of art history to works of visual art and material culture.
- Identify and describe works of visual art and material culture in the works' cultural context, including works from or inspired by the Western canon and other cultural traditions.
- Analyze works of visual art and material culture in the works' cultural context, including works from or inspired by the Western canon and other cultural traditions.
- Generate an analytical response to works of visual art and material culture in the works' cultural context.

## Student Expectations of the Instructor

Statement about availability outside of class – office hours: Please email me to set up a meeting

Email/voicemail response time of the instructor: Email is checked M-F, I always try to respond within 48 hours

Learning Management System Usage for this course (required for student evaluations): Canvas and McGraw-Hill Connect.

## Expectations of the Student

### Academic Integrity Policy:

Honest participation in academic endeavors fosters an environment in which optimal learning can take place and is consistent with the college's mission. Academic misconduct, including cheating or plagiarism, is destructive to the spirit of an educational environment and therefore will not be tolerated. "Cheating" includes but is not limited to use of any unauthorized assistance in completing course work. "Plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to, the use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. Sanctions for incidences of academic misconduct, depending on the severity of the incidence and/or its repetition, may range from receiving an F grade (or zero) for the test, assignment, or activity, to failure of the course, to suspension or dismissal from the program or the college. Please see the current Student Handbook for the full College policy on Academic Integrity.

## AI Technology Policy

All work submitted for grading in this course must be original. The use of AI to generate written responses to discussions, essays, or presentations is not permitted. Written submissions will be scanned with advanced AI detection tools. Any submission found to have been generated with AI will receive a grade of zero.

Students may contest positive AI detection. The burden of proof is on the student in the case of a positive AI result. In order to contest a positive AI detection, students will be required to resubmit the assignment while using the proctoring software Respondus LockDown Browser or by writing the assignment in person at the Testing Center. The proctored sample will be compared to the positive AI result and a determination will be made.

### Accessibility Statement:

Gulf Coast State College supports an inclusive learning environment for all students. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that hinder your full participation, reasonable accommodations can be arranged. Prior to receiving accommodations, you must register with Student Accessibility Resources. Appropriate academic accommodations will be determined based on the documented needs of the student. For information regarding the registration process, email [sar@gulfcoast.edu](mailto:sar@gulfcoast.edu) or call 850-747-3243.

### Recording of Lectures:

In accordance with federal and state privacy laws, students may record class lectures for their own personal educational use, in connection with a complaint to the college, or as evidence in internal or external legal proceedings. Students may not publish or upload the recordings or any components thereof without the knowledge and written permission of the faculty member. Failure to obtain permission to publish could lead to the students' having to pay damages, attorney fees, and court costs. For more information about what can be recorded, please see the guidelines in the GCSC Student Handbook

### Attendance Policy:

Regular class attendance and participation are significant factors that help to promote success in college. Students are expected to attend all class meetings of all courses for which they are registered. You are expected to know the instructor's specific attendance policy, as stated in the syllabus for each course. In the event of absence, you should contact your instructor as soon as possible to indicate the reason and to inquire whether make-up work is possible. (Make-up work is offered solely at the discretion of your professor.)

If your absences in a class become excessive, as stated in the course syllabus, your professor may contact you, indicating that further absence may result in your withdrawal from the course. (See entry on Withdrawal in this catalog section.) Your professor can withdraw you from a course for excessive absences without your permission.

Instructors will monitor attendance at the beginning of each semester. If you are not in attendance during this period, you may be withdrawn from the course. You will be financially responsible for the course and a "W or NS" will appear on your transcript. Withdrawal from a course may also have implications for financial aid.

### Withdrawal Policy:

Two withdrawals are permitted per credit course. After that, a grade will be assigned. Please be concerned about withdrawals. When admitting students into certain programs, universities may calculate withdrawals as grades. It is your responsibility to verify the effects of enrollment and/or withdrawal upon your financial assistance (financial aid, scholarships, grants, etc.). There are two kinds of

withdrawals---student and administrative.

- **Student Withdrawal** – Students wishing to withdraw must complete a withdrawal form and submit the form to the Office of Enrollment Services before the scheduled withdrawal deadline as published in the college catalog. Student withdrawals initiated prior to the scheduled withdrawal deadline will be recorded as a grade of “W”. The withdrawal deadline for an off-term or condensed term is one week after the midterm.

- **Administrative Withdrawal** – A faculty member may withdraw a student up to the published withdrawal deadline for violation of the class attendance policy in which case the student will receive a grade of “W”. The withdrawal deadline for an off-term or condensed term is one week after the midterm. Please see the Withdrawal policy in the GCSC Catalog for more information.

Art serves as a reflection of society. The classroom dynamic for this course is at times conversational in nature. That is, you will be asked to share your thoughts on a work of art or the context surrounding it. You are encouraged to share your unique perspective during these moments of conversation in class.

However, intentionally offensive or threatening comments about others’ beliefs or experiences will not be tolerated. If such comments are made, you will be asked to leave the class immediately. Your opportunity to rejoin the class and complete the semester will be solely up to the professor’s discretion.

Final Grades will be determined in the following manner:

GCSC grading scale: A: 90 – 100%, B: 80 – 89%, C: 70 – 79%, D: 60 – 69%, F: 59% and below

### Summary of Graded Work

**Chapter Readings & Quizzes:** Each week the student will be assigned readings from the textbook. These readings must be completed using the Connect Smart Book, an online E-book learning tool designed to help with comprehension and retention. (Once you log in to Connect, you’ll see a tutorial on how to use it.) Each reading is connected to a weekly Quiz, you must complete all readings for that week and demonstrate a 90% comprehension level before the weekly quiz becomes available. The readings must be done using the Smart Book in order to demonstrate proficiency. I understand that some of you may prefer to read from an actual textbook, I do too. You may do that but you’ll still have to complete the Practice section of your Smart Book to demonstrate proficiency. There are only two grade options for the readings – 100% or 0%. To receive 100% you must complete all assigned readings for that week, anything less that that will result in a grade of 0%. **Remember the only way to gain access to the weekly Quiz is to demonstrate 90% proficiency. All readings/quizzes are due on Friday 10:00p.m.,** make sure to start your work well in advance so that you have enough time to complete the assignment. **Late assignments will not be accepted and will receive zero (0) points.**

**Event Attendance:** You are required to attend one GCSC Visual Arts event during the semester. To receive 100% credit, you must attend the posted reception for the art show event, sign the attendance sheet there, and take an image of your favorite artwork. Afterward please submit your image on Canvas along with five or more sentences with your thoughts and observations on this artwork. There are three opportunities to fulfill this requirement. All events listed below are at the Amelia G Tapper Visual and Performing Arts building on Gulf Coast State College campus in Panama City, FL.

**Projects:** This course is divided into three sections with each section focusing on a different context required to better understand visual art. You will have one to two projects this term. The projects will be smaller studio-based projects, and more in-depth works that require both written and studio components.

**Tests:** Tests will include multiple choice, short answer, and true or false questions. Prior to each test, you will be given a study guide that will include a list of vocabulary terms for which you will be responsible. All in-class work (in-class assignments etc) is subject to testing.

<b>Assignments Points (or weight)</b>
<b>Event Attendance 5%</b>
<b>Chapter Readings 15%</b>
<b>Quizzes 20%</b>
<b>Projects 25%</b>
<b>Tests 35%</b>