

Saint Louis University- Madrid Campus
Fine and Performing Arts Department

ARTH 2070 M01 - Art and the Body: THE BODY IN WESTERN ART

Semester and Class Time: FALL 2017 Monday-Wednesday 17:30-18:45 p.m.

Credit Hours: 3

Professor: Almudena Cros, PhD crosgutierrez@slu.edu (652576423)

Office hours: Monday, 16:30-17:30 or anytime by appointment.

1. COURSE AND DESCRIPTION:

This course is an in-depth survey of the representation of the human body in Western Art from Prehistoric times to the early 20th century. Works of painting and sculpture are presented in their historical and international context, taking into account issues of iconography and meaning, patronage, gender, the role of the artist and the representation of scientific studies of the human body as well as the interpretation of gestures and body language throughout the centuries.

The course will be complemented by selected readings which will be made available to students via Blackboard or file transfer by email.

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

During the course:

- The student will gain an understanding of the artistic developments that shaped the representation of the human body in Western Art and the significance of scientific advances and research when applied to Art.

By the end of the course:

- The student will have developed critical thinking about Western Art, its role and function and its influence throughout different historical periods and geographical context.

- The student will have acquired a working vocabulary of art terminology and apply it in description and appraisal of paintings or sculptures.

- The student will be able to identify the most important elements of artistic and architectural styles as well as different methods and techniques of production.

- The student will have achieved personal skills and sensibility for visual analysis and interpretation of art works as part of his/her intellectual formation.

- The student will be equipped to appraise representations of the human body within the social, cultural, political and religious context within which they were created.

3. COURSE OUTLINE:

Monday 4 September:

1. Introduction. Brief Chronology of artistic periods and styles.

Prehistoric art: the body as idol and the body in motion.

Wednesday 6 September

2. The Classical Body: Greece

Monday 11 September

3. The Body in pre-Roman cultures: Iberians, Etruscans and Celts

Wednesday 13 September

4. The Roman Body: public image and propaganda.

Monday 18 September

5. The invisible body: representations of the human body in the Early Middle Ages.

Wednesday 20 September

6. The Body of God and the Human Body: pagan idols versus icons

Monday 25 September

7. The Body of the Devil and Heavenly Bodies: Satan, angels and holy anorexia

Wednesday 27 September

8. The Dismembered Body: prized relics, tortured souls and resurrection

Monday 2 October

9. **Quiz.**

Wednesday 4 October

10. **Visit: Museo Arqueologico Nacional**

Monday 9 October

11. The Gothic Body: religious and courtly love

Wednesday 11 October

12. Medieval medicine and science.

Monday 16 October

Mid-Term exam

Wednesday 18 October

13. Renaissance Myth and Reality: idealized versus realistic portraits (the self-portrait)

Monday 23 October

14. Representing Anatomy in the Renaissance: Leonardo, Michelangelo, Vesalius, Durer and Titian.

Wednesday 25 October

15. Visit: Prado Museum

Monday 30 October

16. Images of martyrdom

Last Day to Drop a Class Without a Grade of W and / or Add a Class. Last Day to Choose Audit (AU) or Pass / Not Pass (P/ NP) Options

Wednesday 1 November: SLU closed-Holiday.

Monday 6 November

17. The Baroque Body: Velazquez, Rubens and Rembrandt

Wednesday 8 November

18. Slide Test

Monday 13 November

19. Disability in Western Art

Wednesday 15 November

20. Representing the Ages of Man

Monday 20 November

21. Erotic bodies: the sacred and the profane

Wednesday 22 November

22. From the Victorian Body to Realism in 19th-century Art

Monday 27 November

23. Impressionism: the private and the public body.

Wednesday 29 November

24. **Visit: Prado Museum**

Monday 4 December

25. The sick body: representing physical and mental illness.

Wednesday 6 December: SLU closed-Holiday

Monday 11 December

26. Student presentations I

Wednesday 13 December

27. Student presentations II- Revision session. Last day of class.

Friday 15 December

15:30-18:30: **Final exam**

4. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSESSMENT:

The final grade of the course will be the sum of:

Mid-term exam: 20%

Quiz: 10%

Slide test: 10%

Final Exam: 30%.

Presentation: 20%

Attendance and Class Participation: 10%

Participation entails:

(i) critical thinking and being able to share your opinion with the rest of the class. Merely attending class does not count as participation; (ii) handing in typed assignments on time. Regular attendance is expected.

Success in this course will be highly dependent on participation in class and engagement with the readings. Students will be expected to come to class having read the assigned readings, and present a typed written summary of the required selected readings.

It is mandatory to start promptly as well as to have a justified reason for absence: no more than 2 unexcused absences are acceptable.

Both lateness and absence will result in a lower grade.

Saint Louis University - Madrid Campus is committed to excellent and innovative educational practices. In order to maintain quality academic offerings and to conform to relevant accreditation requirements, we regularly assess our teaching, services, and programs for evidence of student learning outcomes achievement. For this purpose we keep on file anonymized representative examples of student work from all courses and programs such as: assignments, papers, exams, portfolios, and results from student surveys, focus groups, and reflective exercises. Thus, copies of your work for this course, including _____ (e.g. any exams, oral presentations, assignments, submitted papers and/or portfolios) may be kept on file for institutional research, assessment and accreditation purposes. If you prefer that Saint Louis University-Madrid Campus does not keep your work on file, you will need to communicate your decision in writing to your professor.

Classroom Ethics

Please refrain from using cell phones and eating or drinking in class.

Anyone seen using their cell phone will be asked to leave the class.

Please arrive on time and do not leave the class during session.

Both late arrivals and leaving the class during the lesson are disruptive to your classmates.

The use of Laptops/ Notebooks/ Tablets/ Cell phones is strictly prohibited. Anyone seen using these devices will be asked to leave the class.

Grading Criteria and procedure

The College of Arts & Sciences recognizes the following letter grades: A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D, F, AF (attendance failure), I (incomplete). An incomplete form must be completed for any "I" given.

There will be no extra credit policy.

Grading scale:

A = 94-100;

A- = 90-93: Excellent understanding and mastery of skills

B+ = 87-89; B = 84-86; B- = 80-83: Good understanding and mastery of skills

C+ = 77-79; C = 74-76; C- = 70-73: Minimally satisfactory understanding and mastery of skills

D = 65-69: Less than satisfactory understanding and mastery of skills;

F = 64 and below: Lack of understanding and inability to master skills.

Make up-examination policy

Dates for examinations and presentations will only be rescheduled under exceptional medical or personal circumstances. You must contact me within 48 hours to discuss necessary arrangements. It is your responsibility to attend class and not miss exams or deadlines.

Academic Honesty

Students are expected to be honest in their academic work. The University reserves the right to penalize any student whose academic conduct at any time is, in its judgment, detrimental to the University. Such Conduct shall include cases of plagiarism, collusion, cheating, giving or receiving or offering or soliciting information in examinations, or the use of previously prepared material in examinations or quizzes.

Students should review the College of Arts and Sciences policy on Academic Honesty, which can be accessed online at:

<http://www.slu.edu/colleges/AS/languages/department/files/AcademicHonestyPolicy.pdf>

Title IX Statement

Saint Louis University and its faculty are committed to supporting our students and seeking an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. If you have encountered any form of sexual misconduct (e.g. sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, domestic or dating violence), we encourage you to report this to the University. If you speak with a faculty member about an incident of misconduct, that faculty member must notify SLU's Title IX deputy coordinator, Marta Maruri, whose office is located on the ground floor of Padre Rubio Hall, Avenida del Valle, 28 (mmaruri@slu.edu; [915-54-5858 ext. 213](tel:915-54-5858)) and share the basic fact of your experience with her. The Title IX deputy coordinator will then be available to assist you in understanding all of your options and in connecting you with all possible resources on and off campus.

If you wish to speak with a confidential source, you may contact the counselors at the SLU-Madrid's Counseling Services on the third floor of San Ignacio Hall (counselingcenter-madrid@slu.edu; [915-54-5858](tel:915-54-5858) ext. 230) or Sinews Multipletherapy Institute, the off-campus provider of counseling services for SLU-Madrid (www.sinews.es; [91-700-1979](tel:91-700-1979)) To view SLU-Madrid's sexual misconduct policy and for resources, please visit the following web address: <http://www.slu.edu/Documents/Madrid/campus-life/SLUMadridSexualMisconductPolicy.pdf>.

Accommodation statement

In recognition that people learn in a variety of ways and that learning is influenced by multiple factors (e.g., prior experience, study skills, learning disability), resources to support student success are available on campus. Students who think they might benefit from these resources can find out more about:

- Course-level support (e.g., faculty member, departmental resources, etc.) by asking your course instructor.
- University-level support (e.g., tutoring/writing services, Disability Services) by visiting the Academic Dean's Office (San Ignacio Hall) or by going to http://spain.slu.edu/academics/learning_resources.html.

Students who believe that, due to a disability, they could benefit from academic accommodations are encouraged to contact Disability Services at +34 915 54 58 58, ext. 230, send an e-mail to counselingcenter-madrid@slu.edu, or to visit the Counseling Office (San Ignacio Hall). Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries. Course instructors support student accommodation requests when an approved letter from Disability Services has been received and when students discuss these accommodations with the instructor after receipt of the approved letter.

THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE BY THE INSTRUCTOR TO MEET THE INSTRUCTIONAL NEEDS OF THE STUDENTS, AND TO ACCOMMODATE CLASS ACTIVITIES AND DISCUSSIONS. IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO STAY ABREAST OF ANY CHANGES.
