

**University of Arkansas - Fort Smith**  
**5210 Grand Avenue**  
**P. O. Box 3649**  
**Fort Smith, AR 72913-3649**  
**479-788-7000**

### **General Syllabus**

### **AHIS 3903 Special Topics in the History of Art**

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisite(s): Six hours of art history coursework and consent of instructor.

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

#### **I. Course Information**

##### **A. Catalog Description**

Provides an opportunity for individual students or groups to pursue in-depth research on a specific topic under the direction of an art historian. May be repeated for a total of nine hours when topics differ.

##### **B. Additional Information**

This course will both fulfill one of the required upper-level courses in art history for Studio Art and Graphic Design majors, as well as elective upper-level courses. In addition, it will count towards the Minor in Art History.

#### **II. Student Learning Outcomes**

##### **A. Subject Matter**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Critically read and analyze a variety of secondary and primary source materials on a focused art-historical topic.
2. Cogently discuss the progress of their research with their instructor and/or fellow students.
3. Produce an in-depth project on a focused topic.
4. Conduct research in a topic of interest.
5. Develop time-management skills.

##### **B. University Learning Outcomes**

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

**Analytical Skills****Critical Thinking Skills**

Students will identify and evaluate works of art, and use this information in tandem with historical, religious, economic, sociological, anthropological, political, and geographical factors in order to interpret and analyze the artwork's meaning and value to its makers/patrons/audiences.

**Communication Skills (written and oral)**

Students will effectively convey their analysis and interpretation of works of art through a variety of written forms. Students will acquire and use appropriate art historical vocabulary and will be able to successfully articulate their ideas and pertinent information through class discussion and oral presentations.

**Ethical Decision Making**

Students will model ethical-decision making processes. Students will explore ethical issues in art history, including art acquisition, sale, theft, restoration/conservation and installation, as well as art repatriation.

**Global and Cultural Perspectives**

Reflecting upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures, students will analyze how works of art both reflect and influence the cultures that created them, including cultures outside the Western canon.

**III. Major Course Topics**

Topics will vary. In general, this course allows for special-topic study for groups of students or for individual students to develop their own course of study in conjunction with the guidance of the instructor.