

Location: UPPER IOWA UNIVERSITY -- MADISON CENTER

Course: SURVEY OF AMERICAN ART ~ART 372

Term Information: Term II ~ October 26- December 19, 2009

Instructor: Rick Oehling

Phone: (608) 257-7674

Email: oeblingr@uww.edu

oeblingr@peacocks.uiu.edu

Biography:

BA Dickinson College (English, Studio Art)

MA College of William & Mary (English)

I teach Freshman English (“Introduction to Literature”) at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. Here at Upper Iowa University, I teach: “Public Speaking”; “Literature of the American Midwest”; “Shakespeare”; “The Movies”; “Women in Literature” and “Best Sellers”.

I. Text: Wayne Craven, American Art: History & Culture, First Revised Edition.

II. Description: An introduction to understanding the art of our past so that we may better understand our culture of the present. Study includes the architecture, painting, sculpture and decorative arts from the colonial era to the present.

III. **Objectives:** To develop our appreciation of each area of art by studying the history of American art. To develop our ability to articulate our thoughts and feelings about art.

IV. Skills: The papers to be written for this class are designed to improve our writing skills, specifically the ability to write across the curriculum. Other key skills to be emphasized in this class include: the ability to communicate clearly, to be able to distinguish between fact and opinion, to defend conclusions rationally, and to formal written assignments effectively. We will also learn how to find and research art on the Internet. Although our focus is on American art, we will address global and national diversity as well as issues of social responsibility. Finally, we will work hard on developing a “cultivated sense of imagination and

creativity” and an integration of ethical awareness as these arise in our study of American art.

V. Readings: See Calendar below for weekly reading assignments

VI. Assignments

1. Two Art Historical Assignments
2. Three two-page response papers to an art exhibit
3. Final (last night)

VII: Grading Criteria

25%: Attendance and participation in discussion

45%: Exhibit Response papers

15%: Final

15% Art Historical assignments

VIII. Citations: Encyclopedia of any kind, including the very popular Wikipedia, are not primary sources and should not be cited or used in constructing academic papers at the graduate or undergraduate level. They can, however, be useful to help gather some background information and to point the way to more reliable sources.

IX: Exams: A Final

X: Calendar

Reading and Assignments

Monday, October 26: Introduction

Monday, November 2: “Colonial America” (Part 1) ~ Read Chapters 3, 4, 6 & 7

Saturday November 6/ Monday, November 9: 1st Field Trip to State Capitol & State Street Galleries

“The Federal Period” (Part 2) ~ Read Chapters 8, 10 and 11

***** First Art Historical Assignment due. Edward Hopper assignment.**

Saturday, November 14/ Monday, November 16: Second Field Trip to Chasen

Museum “The Romantic Period” Part 3 ~ Read first half of Part III

******* FIRST EXHIBIT PAPER DUE *******

Monday, November 23 : Read second half of Part 3 “The Romantic Period”

******* SECOND EXHIBIT PAPER DUE *******

Monday, November 30: Third Field Trip to Milwaukee

“The American Renaissance” (Part 4) ~ Read Chapters 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27

******* Second Art Historical Assignment Due *******

Monday, December 7: “The Early Modern Period”

Part 5 ~ Please read Chapters 29, 30, 31, 32 AND 35 and 36

******* THIRD EXHIBIT PAPER DUE *******

Monday, December 14: “Postwar Modern, Postmodern Art”

Part 6 ~ Please read Chapters 37, 39 and 40

*****FINAL*****

X: Attendance: Class participation is absolutely critical to do well in this class.

XI: Missed Assignments: It is possible to make up for missed assignments. Talk to me about this if you miss an assignment.

Arts & Humanities Tasks ~ Task One

FIRST ASSIGNMENT: DUE SATURDAY

RESEARCH A SINGLE EDWARD HOOPER PAINTING ON THE INTERNET and

- 1. WRITE A TWO-PARAGRAPH ESSAY DESCRIBING THE PAINTING'S 'FORMAL' AND 'EXPRESSIVE' VALUES – *AS YOU PERCEIVE THEM***
- 2. CONVERT THE PAINTING INTO AN ABSTRACT VERSION. BREAK IT DOWN INTO ITS BASIC SHAPES. You can use any medium – pencil, pastel, marker, crayon, colored paper, watercolor, oil – or a computer-generated image.**