1. COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GOALS:

   a. Course Prerequisite:

      This course is open to any student, from any department, who has taken AH 291 and AH 292 or the equivalent (as determined by the Registrar’s office).

   b. Course Description and Content:

      After two introductory class sessions, this upper-level course proceeds chronologically, from Neolithic through modern times, and topically. Among the topics to be examined are: the role of art in death practices, the influence of religion, philosophy, politics and foreign trade on artistic practice, distinctions between workshop and individual arts, and the relationship of language and visual symbolism.

      The course opens with an overview of the time frames, techniques, materials and geographical features of importance throughout the history of Chinese art and culture. It next examines rituals governing life and death, and their link to classical Chinese art. The course then explores the establishment of major artistic conventions, the impact of Buddhism, the rise of internationally important ceramic types, and the significance behind the rise of landscape as a central subject in painting. Concluding topics include the role of the West and internal strife on later Chinese art and the division between tradition and innovation in modern and contemporary art.

   c. Course Goals:

      There are two course goals for “Chinese Art and Culture”. The first goal is to introduce the student to an ancient culture with contemporary vitality. The student will learn to identify and discuss some of the most famous works of Chinese art and define factors that make “Chinese art” Chinese. The second goal is that of appropriation. In the future, years after the dates and names introduced in this course fade from memory, the student’s visual vocabulary will retain Chinese art images which can be helpful and inspirational in his or her artistic career.

      Writing competencies, global perspectives and critical thinking will be addressed through a combination of class work and external assignments.
2. WRITING AT RINGLING:

In Liberal Arts Program courses at the Ringling School of Art and Design, all writing assignments (reports, quizzes, response papers, essays, essay questions on exams, research papers, etc.) are expected to be appropriately organized and coherent, and demonstrate a command of Standard English. Research should be consistently and appropriately documented in accordance with a prescribed format. For clarification of Standard English issues, and documentation formats, see *Keys for Writers* (Fourth Edition), by Ann Raimes.

3. COURSE CAUTIONS AND ACCOMMODATIONS:

a. Course Cautions:

During the semester, there may be material discussed and/or illustrated which might be considered by some to have controversial, adult, or otherwise “politically incorrect” content. Art and ideas perceived as containing such content, however, are presented for their educational value, not for reasons of exploitation or confrontation.

b. Plagiarism Policy:

The intentional and/or unintentional use of another writer’s words, ideas, intellectual property or research, without showing proper credit (documentation of the source), is called plagiarism. Plagiarism is dishonest and illegal. Plagiarized assignments receive an F, and the guilty student could receive an F for the course. Writing Studio will cover the proper ways to document your work, giving credit where it is required, so you can avoid the crime (inadvertent or otherwise) of plagiarism.

c. Course Accommodations:

The Ringling School makes reasonable accommodations for qualified people with documented disabilities. If you have a learning disability, a chronic illness, or a physical or psychiatric disability that may have some impact on your work for this class and for which you may need accommodations, please notify the Director of Academic Resource Center (Virginia DeMers, Goldstein 3, 359-7627) preferably before the end of the drop/add period so that appropriate adjustments can be made. The specific document guidelines essential to complete this process appear at [www.arc.rsad.edu](http://www.arc.rsad.edu). Ms. DeMers will examine the documentation provided and, as indicated therein, write a letter listing the accommodation(s) needed, for you to give your instructors.

4. HEALTH AND SAFETY:

Ringling School of Art and Design is committed to providing students, faculty, and staff with a safe and healthful learning and work environment and to comply with all applicable safety laws and regulations and safe work practices.

5. COURSE TEXT AND MATERIALS:

a. The required text is in paperback and available in the campus bookstore. Please bring the text to each class.

   *NOTE: Examinations and all assigned reading will be based on this text.*


Copies of the required text are on reserve in the Library.
b. Other Materials:

Many books have been placed on Open Reserve in the Library; and selected DVDs and videos are located on Reserve behind the checkout desk in the Library. There will also be class hand-outs and websites to be explored for certain class meetings.

6. COURSE WORK AND GRADING POLICY:

a. Attendance:

Regular and timely class attendance is MANDATORY. Continual lateness will affect grade. Pick up your folder from the box when you enter the classroom, and hand it back at the end of class.

There is only ONE unexcused absence allowed in this advanced class. A note from a doctor or the office of the Dean of Students is required to gain excused absences. Each additional unexcused absence may lower your final grade by one-half of a letter grade. Students are responsible for material presented in each class as well as any outside work required for each class.

b. Required Work:

1) Completion of all required readings, and meaningful class participation based on the readings and on websites which will be introduced in certain classes.

2) There will be two exams. These are non-cumulative, and are in the form of standard art history exams. They may include identification of selected works of art and term and form identification from your MS text. SLD students may have tests read to them. The two exams are scheduled as follows:

   First exam (Mid-Term): week six  
   Second exam: week eleven

3) One project, outlined at the end of the Syllabus.

   Project Due Date: week fourteen, or before

c. Course Grade:

   1) Regular and timely class attendance and participation [10% of grade].
   2) Two exams [30% each, total of 60% of grade].
   3) Project [30% of grade].

d. Class Effort:

CLASS PARTICIPATION is essential and expected of every student. Preparation for each class is therefore important.

Eating will not be allowed in the classroom. Please replace chairs to tables at the end of each class.
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<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC AND PRE-CLASS WORK</th>
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| 1    | 8/28 | IN CLASS WORK:  
a) Go over book, syllabus and class list.  
b) About China: geography, dates, arts and other background material. |
| 2    | 9/11 | FROM PRE-HISTORY TO EARLY HISTORY  
PRE-CLASS WORK:  
a) Bring to class a Chinese version of your non-Chinese personal first name; if you already have a Chinese or Chinese character first name, write it out and bring to class. Find Chinese sound-alike names at www.chineseculture.about.com under “Chinese names”. Print yours out using the “printer-friendly” version.  
b) Read in advance and be prepared to discuss textbook Chapters 1 – 3. |
| 3    | 9/18 | TRADITIONAL CHINA  
PRE-CLASS WORK:  
a) Find your Chinese zodiac animal and bring information about it to class. (At www.chinatoday.com/culture/zodiac or any other Chinese zodiac site.)  
b) Read in advance and be prepared to discuss textbook Chapter 4. |
| 4    | 9/25 | EMPIRES  
PRE-CLASS WORK:  
a) Begin a list of major characteristics of traditional Chinese art and culture. The complete list will be turned in with your mid-term.  
b) Read in advance and be prepared to discuss textbook Chapter 5. |
| 5    | 10/2 | DEITIES AND NATURE  
PRE-CLASS WORK:  
a) Keep working on your list of major characteristics of traditional Chinese art and culture.  
b) Read in advance and be prepared to discuss textbook Chapter 5. |
| 6    | 10/9 | MID-TERM EXAM (Chapter 1 - 6)  
a) Hand in your compiled list (major characteristics of traditional Chinese art and culture).  
b) Know required terms.  
c) Be able to give the assigned title, dynasty and special characteristics of required works. Each chapter’s required terms and works of art will be assigned at the end of relevant class.  
d) Be able to write about the visual impact made by Daoism or Confucianism. |
| 7    | 10/16 | IN CLASS WORK  
a) Summary of Tang, Sung, and Yuan Dynasty arts.  
PRE-CLASS WORK  
a) Begin a list of major characteristics of “medieval” Chinese art and culture. The complete list will be turned in with your second exam.  
b) Read in advance and be prepared to discuss textbook Chapters 7 and the beginning of 8. |
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<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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| 8    | 10/23| **MASTERPIECES OF CLASSIC CHINESE PAINTING**  
PRE-CLASS WORK  
a) Log on to National Palace Museum (Taiwan) website (www.npm.gov.tw) and click on “Paintings”.  
b) Keep working on your list of major characteristics of “medieval” Chinese art and culture.  
c) Read in advance and be prepared to discuss in class textbook Chapters 8 – 9. |
| 9    | 10/30| **CHANGES IN LATER CHINESE ART**  
PRE-CLASS WORK  
a) Websites to be announced.  
b) Keep working on your list of major characteristics of “medieval” Chinese art and culture.  
c) Read in advance and be prepared to discuss textbook Chapters 10 – 11. |
| 10   | 11/6 | **CHINA AND THE WEST**  
PRE-CLASS WORK  
a) Websites to be announced.  
b) Keep working on your list of major characteristics of “medieval” Chinese art and culture.  
c) Review Chapters 7 – 11. |
| 11   | 11/13| **SECOND EXAM (Chapter 7 - 11)**  
a) Hand in your compiled list (major characteristics of “medieval” Chinese art and culture).  
b) Know required terms.  
c) Be able to give the assigned title, dynasty and special characteristics of required works. Each chapter’s required terms and works of art will be assigned at the end of relevant class. |
| 12   | 11/20| **IN CLASS WORK DAY**  
Bring drawing materials to class. |
| 13   | 11/27| **EARLY MODERN CHINESE ART**  
PRE-CLASS WORK  
a) Websites to be announced.  
b) Read in advance and be prepared to discuss textbook Chapter 12. |
| 14   | 12/4 | **MODERN – CONTEMPORARY CHINESE ART**  
Final day to turn in class project.  
PRE-CLASS WORK  
a) Websites to be announced. |
| 15   | 12/11| **CONTEMPORARY CHINESE ART**  
In class discussion. |