

**The University of Western Ontario  
Department of Visual Arts**

**VAH 2269G Art and Visual Culture of the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Centuries**

(Prerequisite: 1.0 from VAH 1040 History of Art and Visual Culture, or two of VAH 1041A/B VAH 1045A/B, or permission of the department<sup>1</sup>)

**Instructor:** Andrés Villar

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**Office hours:** Thursday 11:30 am 12:30 pm  
(or by appointment)

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**Office:** VAC 242

**Office hours:** Hours

**Course Description and Objectives**

This course will examine art and visual culture produced during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. The material we will encounter will cover much of what has come to be known as the Renaissance, but it will also explore a broader geography of art and visual culture produced during this early modern period. In the process, students will gain a greater appreciation of a dynamic historical period during which the world system began to be consolidated.

**Learning Objectives**

By the end of the course students will have

become acquainted with visual culture produced in different parts of the world during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries

examined issues that have emerged in current and past scholarship of Renaissance arts and culture

demonstrated their ability to analyze the art and visual culture produced in the period examined in this course

**Texts**

**Mandatory:**

Jerry Brotton. *The Renaissance: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 2006.

All material posted on OWL.

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Unless you either have the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

**Grades**

Attendance	15%
Short Essay (February 25)	15%
Quiz 1 (January 21)	10%
Quiz 2 (February 11)	10%
Quiz 3 (March 10)	10%
Quiz 4 (March 31)	10%
Final Exam (Date to be determined)	30%

All assignments **must** be written using the Chicago Manual of Style. You can find a PDF file with examples of Chicago-style citations on the OWL page for this course. OWL plays an important role in the dissemination of information for this course, so make sure you understand how it works.

<https://owl.uwo.ca/portal/site/owldocs>

*Please be aware that extensions will **NOT** be granted unless students have a justified excuse for which they have received official accommodation. Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments regardless of whether these are **worth 10% or more, or less than 10%** of their final grade must apply to the Academic Centre for Disability Services (ACDS) at the University of Waterloo.*

Please be aware that if you miss too many classes you can be debarred from taking the final exam. If you miss more than three (3) classes without a justified excuse, your name may be forwarded to the office of the Dean of Arts and Humanities, as required by university senate regulations. You can find the relevant information in the Academic Calendar by following this link:

<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2015/pg130.html>

**Short Essay** **15% of grade**  
(February 25)

A short essay on a topic to be determined. The text should be approximately 3 pages long (900 words) and must include a bibliography and citations.

**Quiz 1** **10% of grade**  
(January 21)

**Quiz 2** **10% of grade**  
(February 11)

**Quiz 3** **10% of grade**  
(March 10)

**Quiz 4** **10% of grade**  
(March 31)

**Final Exam** **30% of grade**  
(\_\_\_\_\_)

The Final Exam will take place on a date assigned by the Registrar's Office

*Plagiarism and Citation: Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage of text from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. The Department of Visual Arts uses the Chicago style (see attachment). Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).*

*\*Please note that the **syllabus can change**. Any modifications will be announced in class and posted on OWL.*

**VISUAL ARTS Undergraduate Grading Guidelines - Art History**

**90-100 (Outstanding, A+)**

The **writing** shows significant originality and exhibits a high degree of critical engagement. Sophisticated synthesis and analysis of the theoretical and conceptual dimensions of the topic are demonstrated. Mastery of complex material and ideas is immediately evident. The topic is treated with sensitivity and subtlety of thought. The quality of the background research is exemplary.

**50-59 (Marginal, D)**

The **writing** shows less than adequate engagement with the topic and with the material covered by the course. The writing is a less than adequate summary of sources and/or is considerably off-topic. Written facts are stated inaccurately or ambiguously; the writing style is difficult to follow; there is insufficient elaboration to permit reader's comprehension of relations among ideas; little judgment is shown in selecting detail for inclusion in the text. Regarding **research**, few secondary sources pertaining to the topic have been consulted; proper citation may or may not have been used.

**Below 50 (Unacceptable, F)**

The **writing** demonstrates a failure to comprehend the topic. Written material is disorganized and unintelligible. The work clearly does not meet the minimal requirements of the assignment. Regarding **research**, secondary sources pertaining to the topic have not been consulted and proper citation has not been used.

**POLICIES**

**Student Conduct:**

All students will conduct themselves in a manner that will be consistent with the maturity and academic integrity expected of university students. Student conduct shall be consistent with the general laws of the community and with University