

ARH 201

ART OF ASIA

Ellie Laughlin, M.L.A.

Course Description:

This course traces the development of artistic expression in China, Japan, India, and Thailand. Tracing the major historic periods and movements, we will identify the basic characteristics of the arts of China and India as well as their respective spheres of influence, Japan and Thailand. We will analyze individual works of art within each cultural tradition and discuss how each work reflects aesthetic, philosophical, religious, and social ideals of the artist or culture that produced the work. In addition, we will explore cross-cultural influences and adaptations of styles/movements between major cultural traditions.

In this course, the student should acquire an understanding of:

- § the richness of the Asian artistic tradition, its roots and developments;
- § the significance and relevance of Asian art to contemporary North Americans.

Course Requirements:

There will be two examinations: a midterm and a final exam. In addition, two papers will be assigned: a visual analysis and a short research paper. The student will be required to make a brief presentation of the topic of his/her final paper. Specific guidelines for papers will be discussed in class.

Students are expected to attend class regularly and participate in discussions of assigned readings. Papers must be submitted on time. Papers will lose ½ of a letter grade each week or half of a week they are late. Anyone absent from an exam without a prior excuse discussed with me will be required to write a 10 page, typed take-home exam.

Required Readings: Available in your bookstore!

Craig Clunas, Art in China.

Joan Stanley-Baker, Japanese Art.

Roy C. Craven, Indian Art.

Philip S. Rawson, The Art of Southeast Asia.

Additional Handouts T. B. A.

Grading Scale:

90% = A

80% = B

70% = C

60% = D

The course grade will be based on the following criteria:

1. 10% = Alertness, participation, attendance (maximum of three absences without a written excuse in order to receive an “A” for this 10%)
2. 20% = Midterm Exam
3. 20% = Visual Analysis Paper
4. 10% = In class presentation on research paper topic
5. 20% = Research Paper
6. 20% = Final Exam

Important Dates:

Visual Analysis Paper: Due February 20th

Midterm Exam: March 13th

NO CLASS: March 20th

Short in-class presentation: April 17th

Research Paper: Due April 24th

Final Exam: May 15th

Contact Information:

You may reach me via email: theartofcompassion@hotmail.com

I will give my phone number upon request.