

THE ART INSTITUTE OF FT LAUDERDALE

COURSE SYLLABUS

INSTRUCTOR: Howard T. Katz

PHONE: (954) 308-2306

EMAIL: htkatz@aii.edu

WEBSITE: <http://htkatz.com>

QUARTER: Fall 2009

PRINCIPLES OF AESTHETICS- PHI3800

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Aesthetics is the philosophical study of the nature of art. Students will examine various aspects of “art”, including the relationship between the various arts and concepts of beauty, the creative process, principles of art criticism, style, and symbolism.

COURSE LENGTH

11 weeks

CONTACT/CREDIT HOURS

3 hours/week, 3 credits/quarter

CLOCK HOURS

2 lecture hours, 1 discussion hour

OFFICE HOURS

By appointment

PREREQUISITES

ARH2000 or THE2000

CO-REQUISITES

None

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Define the “aesthetic attitude” as it relates to the perceptual, philosophical and phenomenological aspects of the design process.
- Describe the “aesthetic experience,” explaining how the five senses support the creative process.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the nature of philosophical inquiry as it relates to the students’ thinking and to the thinking, speaking and writing of others.
- Demonstrate an ability to make critical decisions about art utilizing “aesthetic dialog.”
- Differentiate between items and spaces, which function as basic design creations and those that exist with vitality.
- Communicate ideas about art with credibility and precision.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA AND METHODS OF EVALUATING

- Final Grades will be based on Exams and Quizzes. Midterm and Final Exam will be worth 50% of your final grade, and quizzes will be worth 50% of your final grade.
- Lecture, field trips and discussion.
- Completion of readings assigned in class.
- Completion of papers assigned in class.
- Arriving to class on time.
- Participation in class discussions.
- Timely completion of all assignments.

Grades will be given out on the following scale:

A = 100	B- = 83	C- = 73	F = 55
A- = 93	C+ = 78	D+ = 68	
B+ = 88	C = 75	D = 65	
B = 85			

Work not turned in will receive a 0.

INSTRUCTION METHODS

Lecture, small group discussion, class discussion, field trips

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS AND REFERENCES

Required Textbook: *A Reader in Philosophy of the Arts, Second Edition*, by David Goldblatt, Lee B. Brown

Suggested Reading: *A World of Art*, Fourth Edition, Henry M. Sayre

Ways of Seeing, John Berger

A Companion To Aesthetics, edited by Edward Cooper

Key Writers on Art: The Twentieth Century, Edited by Chris Murray

Art Theory: An Historical Introduction, Robert Williams

But is it Art? Cynthia Freeland

EXAMS:

All exams will begin at the start of class. Once the exam has begun, there will be no admittance to class until the exam is over; you will **not** be allowed to make-up the exam at that time. There are no make-up exams unless the absence is an excused absence (car accident, doctor's appointment, etc. - documentation is required). If the absence is excused, you will write a paper on the instructor's choice of subject matter. There is no make-up for the final exam- you must be present for the final or you will receive a zero for it. There will be no exceptions.

PAPERS:

All papers must be typed, using a 12 point font (no script fonts allowed) and double-spaced. There will be a title page with your name, my name, date and time of class, the title of the paper on it, and the pages will be stapled together. Proper citation is **required** for all research papers. **Plagiarism** will not be accepted or tolerated and will result in a failing grade for the course as per the Student Handbook. For opinion papers, you will do a Reaction Paper; the format for this paper will be discussed at the time of the assignment. Papers will be graded on their content as well as their spelling, punctuation and grammar.

FIELD TRIPS:

Attendance at field trips are mandatory- attendance will be taken, and subject matter from field trips will appear on tests. If you have a documented reason for missing a field trip (see Attendance Policy), you may make up the field trip by doing the following: Going to the museum/lecture on your own, writing a 1,000 word Reaction Paper on the exhibition/lecture, and hand it in the very next class session that is held, with a receipt from the museum/lecture attached. Paper specifications will be given on an as needed basis.

LATE WORK:

All students are responsible for any and all information missed in their absence, including handouts, lecture notes, and assignments. It is advised that you obtain a phone number of another student whom you can trust to supply you with any information or materials you miss. There are no make-up exams unless the absence is an excused absence documentation is required same as above. If the absence is excused, you will write a paper on the instructor's choice of subject matter. There is no make-up for the final exam. There will be no exceptions.

COURSE POLICIES:

All policies of the Student Handbook apply to this course. These include, but are not limited to, grading policies, attendance policies, and plagiarism. See also "Student Responsibilities/Classroom Policies."

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES/CLASS POLICIES:

- Cell phones will be placed on the silent mode during class time; they are disruptive to both the instructor and other students.
- There will be no text messaging during lectures, discussions, videos, or exams. If you text message during class, you will be asked to leave and marked absent for that day.
- If you are disruptive in class, and/or disrespectful of other students or the instructor, you will be asked to leave and marked absent for that day.
- Bring your textbook and a notebook to take notes in to every class.
- Any work (paper or test) turned in without a name on it will receive a 0.
- If you are caught cheating or plagiarizing you will automatically fail the class.
- In case of any special circumstances where class is canceled, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor to inquire about work/projects missed during that time.
- Any papers handed in must be written this quarter, for this class- no papers will be accepted or graded that were done in/for another class or another quarter.
- Any paper on assigned readings turned in without use of proper citation will automatically receive an F.
- Students are responsible for submitting all work on the syllabi regardless of if they are reminded in class. Reading the syllabi is the student's responsibility.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Students are expected to be present for every class, arriving on time, and staying until the class is over or dismissed. Since each class represents an entire weeks worth of work it will be very difficult to pass this class with absences. You may not be absent from class for more than three class sessions or the equivalent, 9 hours. As soon as you hit the 9th hour of absence or have three complete absences you will automatically fail the class. School policy states that students who are absent for 9 or more hours may fail a class unless the instructor determines that there were extenuating circumstances. Rarely is this type of exception made and only with documented proof of the reason for the absences, i.e. a doctor's note, judge's note, etc. If you are absent from class, it is your responsibility to be prepared for the next class session. Students who have been absent from class are fully responsible for any and all material covered during class (lectures, notes, etc.). Absence is no excuse for not being prepared. Any student who does not attend classes for ten consecutive calendar days will be withdrawn from school.

VOICE MAIL AND EMAIL:

In the event that a student needs to contact the instructor by voice mail, please state your name, class you are in, and phone number (where you may be reached at), slowly and clearly. My voice mail is **954-308-2306**. If the student wishes to contact the instructor by email, in the body of the message please include your name, class you are in, and the email address you wish the answer to your question to be returned to. My email address is **htkatz@aii.edu**.

ADA STATEMENT:

It is AiFL's policy not to discriminate against qualified students with a documented disability in its educational programs, activities or services. If you have a disability-related need for reasonable accommodations in this class, contact AiFL's Counseling Department located at Harbor Walk Suite 101.

TOPICAL OUTLINE

This is an outline subject to change due to school holidays or special circumstances during class time.

- Week 1:** Introduction to Aesthetics, Philosophy of Art; Overview. Read Syllabus. Discussion: What is Art? Homework for week 2: research aesthetic theories of Plato, Aristotle, and Thomas Aquinas.
- Week 2:** Discuss homework. Homework for week 3: Research aesthetic theories of Hegel (*The Philosophy of Fine Art*), Hume (*Of the Standard of Taste*) and Kant (*Judgments About the Beautiful*). Reading selection will be assigned in class.
- Week 3:** Discuss homework. Homework for week 4: Read *Why Are There No Great Women Artists?*, *Works of Art and Mere Real Things*, or *On Modernist Painting*. Reading selection will be assigned in class.
- Week 4:** Quiz # 1. Discuss homework. Homework for week 5: Read *Are Art Museums Racist?* *The War on Culture* or *Art and Taxes*. Reading selection will be assigned in class.
- Week 5:** Discuss homework. Homework for week 6: Study for Midterm exam.
- Week 6:** Midterm exam. View "Points in Space". Homework for week 7: *Why is Rock Music So Noisy?* *Can White People Sing the Blues?*, or *A Wealth of Wordless Knowledge*. Reading selection will be assigned in class.
- Week 7:** Possible Field Trip: TBA
- Week 8:** Quiz #2. Discuss homework. Homework for week 8: *The Power of Movies*, *Woman as Image*, *Man as Bearer of the Look*, *Audience*, *Actor*, and *Star*. Reading selection will be assigned in class.
- Week 9:** Discuss homework. View film for aesthetic purposes (film TBA). Homework for week 10: *The Postmodern Condition*, *Television and Aesthetics*, or *Kitsch*. Reading selection will be assigned in class.
- Week 10:** Quiz #3. Discuss homework. Homework for week 11. Study for final exam.
- Week 11:** Final exam.

*This syllabus and weekly schedule are subject to change and/or modifications that may be deemed necessary by the instructor. This may also include changes in the homework, readings, class assignments, tests and/or field trips.

IMPORTANT DATES

FALL 2009 QUARTER

Fall 2009 Classes Start	Monday, October 5, 2009	Week 1
Add/Drop Period	October 5 – October 12, 2009	Week 1
Graduation App Period for WI10 Grads Monday	October 26– 30, 2009	Week 4
Online Course Withdraw Deadline <u>1st Session</u>	Wednesday, November 4, 2009	Week 5
Registration Advisement	November 2 - 6, 2009	Week 5
Veterans Day Holiday	Monday, November 9, 2009	Week 6
Fall II 2009 Mid-Term Quarter	Thursday, November 12, 2009	Week 6
EREG (Online) Registration Period	November 9 – November 22, 2009	Week 6 & 7
Thanksgiving Holiday	Thursday & Friday, Nov 26 & 27, 2009	Week 8
No Classes- Thanksgiving Weekend	Saturday, November 28, 2009	Week 8
Course Withdraw Deadline <u>onground</u>	Friday, December 4, 2009	Week 9
Online Course Withdraw Deadline <u>2nd Session</u>	Friday, December 11, 2009	Week 10
Graduate Candidacy Clearance	Monday, December 14, 2009	Week 11
Winter 2010 Schedules Available	Monday, December 14, 2009	Week 11
Portfolio Review & Graduation	Thursday, December 17, 2009	Week 11
Last Day of Classes	Saturday, December 19, 2009	Week 11
Fall Break	December 20, 2009 – January 11, 2010	