

FINE ARTS (FA)

FA-1100 Introduction to Glassblowing (3 Credits)

The aim of this class is to introduce you to fundamental technical and aesthetic aspects of glass as a material and glassblowing as a process. Through a series of hands-on projects and demonstrations students will develop the skill to work confidently at the furnace. We will explore basic color applications as well as cold-working and finishing techniques.

Typically offered: All Sessions

FA-1101 Illuminated Manuscript: Neon in Art (3 Credits)

Introduced to the US in 1923, neon signage radically transformed our urban landscape for the next 70 years. As neon has faded from prominence in the signage industry it has increasing found a home in the fine art world. Although artists have historically been fascinated with the use and depiction of light, prominent conceptual artists such as Bruce Nauman and Dan Flavin revolutionized the use of artificial light sources as material. This class will introduce students to the techniques of bending and illuminating gas filled glass tubes and discuss their application to concepts.

Typically offered: All Sessions

FA-1200 Introduction to the Keyboard Contemporary (3 Credits)

This class is designed for the student with no prior music reading experience. It also is taught with the presumption that the student has never played the keyboard. Thus students will be introduced to basic concepts of notation, hand placement, keyboard technique, and musicianship. Every music student needs familiarity with the keyboard, particularly with regard to effectively participating in the music theory class. The course provides students with an additional class with which to fulfill credits in the music minor.

Typically offered: Fall Only

FA-1401 Music of the Western World (3 Credits)

A survey of important music and musicians of the Western World from the beginning of the Christian era to the present. Lectures are supplemented by recordings, films, slides, and concerts.

Fulfills General Education Requirement: HCE

Typically offered: All Sessions

FA-1402 Orientation in Art (3 Credits)

A survey of major movements in art and artists from ancient times to the present. Outstanding examples of painting, sculpture, and architecture are included. Lectures and class discussion are supplemented by visual presentations and museum assignments.

Fulfills General Education Requirement: HCE

Typically offered: All Sessions

FA-1403 Music of Many Cultures (3 Credits)

An introduction to the music of cultures such as those of India, Indonesia, Japan, Europe, and Sub-Saharan Africa. The music of African-Americans and Native Americans will also be studied. Lectures are supplemented by recordings, films, slides, and concerts.

Fulfills General Education Requirement: HCE, WHG

Typically offered: Spring Only

FA-1404 American Music (3 Credits)

The course is an introductory, one-semester survey of American music, presented as three distinct yet parallel streams—folk, popular, and classical—that reflect the diverse character of the United States. Comparing and contrasting musical styles across regions and time that arise out of the history and musical traditions of the many immigrants to America will lead to a better understanding of both the diversity and the inter-relationships of the cultures that are a part of the American experience. This will be accomplished through a combination of reading, lecture, guided listening, projects, assignments, and class discussion.

Fulfills General Education Requirement: HCE

FA-1405 Fundamentals of Music Theory (3 Credits)

Fundamentals of Music Theory is a general course in learning to read and write musical notation, incorporating elementary work in writing melodies, rhythms, scales, and harmony

FA-1408 Italian Fine Arts (3 Credits)

Requisite(s): Take FA-1402 or FA-1420;

This survey of art and architecture in Italy since 1200 focuses on major styles and movements as well as on principal figures and personalities in the arts. Outstanding cities that served as centers for artists are also studied. Lectures, slide presentations, films, and museum visits. Oral and written reports.

Typically offered: Fall Only

FA-1410 Popular World Music (3 Credits)

This course is an introductory, one semester survey of popular music genres and artists from around the globe that developed and exist outside the dominant American/Western European popular music mainstream. While some familiar international styles such as Reggae, Salsa, K-Pop, and others will be covered, the student will also be exposed to many lesser-known styles and genres. Each chapter focuses on a specific region and culture, its unique popular music (including its historical-cultural origins), and the best-known representative artists. This will foster a deeper understanding of the way popular music developed and is used by various world cultures, leading to a better understanding of the cultures themselves. We will examine not just the music, but also how music is related to and interacts with literature, dance, art, religion, and culture in general, including gender, race, and socio-economic issues. This will be accomplished through a combination of reading, lecture, guided listening, projects and assignments.

Fulfills General Education Requirement: HCE, WHG

Typically offered: Fall Only

FA-1420 American Art (3 Credits)

This course focuses upon the major American painters, sculptors, and architects since the colonial era with emphasis on their artistic output and its relation to evolving American society and other forms of American culture such as literature and music. One of the essential issues of the course is to determine what, if anything is uniquely American about this art. An interdisciplinary approach is taken. Slide lectures, reading, and writing assignments are supplemented by field trips, guest lectures, and student presentations. The rich cultural heritage of New York City is extensively drawn upon.

Fulfills General Education Requirement: HCE

FA-1430 Social Justice Art in African Diaspora (3 Credits)

This course seeks to explore Black life (cultural, political, social and spiritual) through the perspective of the Black artist. Students will gain exposure to the visual culture of the African Diaspora, including artists located on the African continent and those of African descent dispersed throughout many nations. Particular focus will be given to North America, Haiti, Senegal, Brazil and the United Kingdom. Students will study artists, art collectives and art movements that use art making to influence an array of social justice topics including civil rights, immigration, and prison reform. An inquiry based learning method will guide student engagement with artists using different media and practices (painting, sculpture, photography and installation). Students will learn how and why African Diasporic identities are formed and maintained along with how visual representation can aid in fueling systemic change.

FA-2001 Italian Film: From Neorealism to Contemporary (3 Credits)

This course will offer a unique opportunity to explore Italian cinema from the revolution introduced by Neorealism (mid-1940s to the beginning of the 1950s) to the emergence of the great filmmakers, like Pier Paolo Pasolini, Michelangelo Antonioni, Federico Fellini, and Luchino Visconti. A view of contemporary cinema will also be offered through the directorial styles of Tornatore, Amelio and Crialeso. Some Italian literature will also be presented.

Typically offered: Fall Only

FA-2002 History of Photography Contemporary (3 Credits)

Requisite(s): FA-1402 or FA-1420

This course provides an overview of the cultural, material, technological, and artistic history of photography from 1839 to the present. It places an emphasis on photography as a technology dependent on social interaction, mediation, and the public sphere. Although students will be expected to gain general knowledge of photographic processes, the main focus will be how photographs convey meanings through their formal elements, historical context, dissemination, and reception. In addition to looking at photographs online and in digital archives, the class will visit the Brooklyn Historical Society to study first hand examples of early photographic formats as well as exhibits of modern and contemporary photography at galleries and museums in New York City.

Typically offered: As Needed

FA-2100 Beginner Guitar Contemporary (3 Credits)

Students will learn the fundamentals of playing the guitar and how to apply basic music theory. Skills developed will include right- and left-hand technique, strumming patterns, and picking. Students will learn to play and understand chords, scales, and arpeggios; read music notation and guitar tablature; analyze basic song forms; and improvise. By exploring solo and accompaniment work, students will learn how to use their skills in solo and ensemble settings.

Typically offered: Fall Only

FA-2403 Twentieth-Century Art (3 Credits)

Requisite(s): FA-1402 or FA-1420

Twentieth-century art is characterized by change and experimentation. This course examines how twentieth-century artists responded to a rapidly modernizing environment by questioning art's role in society. It surveys the visual arts of the twentieth century beginning with the late nineteenth-century origins of modernism, continues through the postwar period and postmodernism, and concludes by signaling trends in contemporary art. In addition to major developments in painting, sculpture, and architecture, other art forms covered may include photography, performance, and mixed media. Works of art will be studied as individual objects with intrinsic aesthetic appeal and as expressions of broader artistic, social, and political concerns. New York museum and gallery exhibitions will be drawn upon as a point of departure for class discussions and assignments.

Typically offered: All Sessions

FA-2404 Introduction to Studio Art (3 Credits)

Requisite(s): Take FA-1402 or FA-1420;

The arts are a resource for enlarging students' experiences beyond their immediate surroundings. Instruction in the arts encourages students to take pleasure in creating and performing in the arts, regardless of previous experience. In this course, students will explore the basic elements and principles of art, such as space, form, and color, and use these principles to create original and meaningful pieces of artwork. Can be continued in FA-2405.

Typically offered: Fall Only

FA-2405 Introduction to Studio Art (3 Credits)

Requisite(s): Take FA-1402 or FA-1420;

A continuation of FA 2404.

Typically offered: Spring Only

FA-2406 ANCIENT EGYPTIAN ART (3 Credits)

Requisite(s): Take FA-1402;

A study of Ancient Egyptian architecture, sculpture, painting, and crafts from the first through the 22nd dynasties. Factors contributing to the art of the Old, Middle, and New Kingdoms is analyzed, including ancient Egyptian geography, history, culture, literature, and mythology. Slide lectures, classroom discussions, readings, and museum visits are included.

Typically offered: Spring Only

FA-2407 ART & ARCHEOLOGY IN LAT AMER (3 Credits)

Requisite(s): Take FA-1402;

A survey of the art and archeology of the pre-Colombian civilizations in Mesoamerica and the Andean region in South America. The focus is on four cultures: the Olmec, the Maya, the Aztec, and the Inca. The colonial art of a later period and contemporary art are also studied. Field trips to museums.

Typically offered: As Needed

FA-2408 Commemorative Practices in the United States (3 Credits)

Requisite(s): WRI-1100,AMS-1001 for students pursuing American Studies minor

This course surveys commemorative practices in the United States from the Revolutionary period to the present, focusing on how individual Americans and the nation as a whole remember the past, honor people and events, and reflect on national tragedies. While this course will place an emphasis on how memories of past events and experiences have been given physical form in monuments, souvenirs, and impromptu shrines, other commemorative arts covered may include music, poetry, and film. The histories and debates surrounding a number of major memorials will be studied in depth. The class will visit several of New York's memorial sites.

Typically offered: Fall Only

FA-2409 Art of Social Change in the US United States (3 Credits)

Requisite(s): FA-1402 or FA-1420 ,AMS-1001 for students pursuing American Studies minor

This course surveys art made in the United States with the purpose of effecting social change. By making the rhetorical visual and the abstract personal, images can be powerful tools of social persuasion. Some have questioned art's political effectiveness, arguing that art is inherently removed from political action. Others have dismissed explicitly socially conscious art as propaganda. This class will investigate such claims by looking at a wide range of fine art and visual media, showing how the boundaries between art and popular media, personal expression and social commentary, and commercial and political motives, are more fluid than not. The class will begin with topics and debates related to current social movements. The class will then go back in time to cover key moments in the history of the art of social change, moving chronologically from the visual culture of abolitionism to late 20th-century and early 21st-century topics such as feminist art and the art of war protest. The class will end with a study of some examples of "social practice" or dialogical art.

Fulfills General Education Requirement: HCE

Typically offered: Fall Only

FA-2410 Art in New York City United States (3 Credits)

Requisite(s): Any 1000 Level FA course

This course offers students the opportunity for in depth study of New York museum and gallery exhibitions. Art works will be the primary sources that students examine onsite first hand, along with the contextual and historical framework provided by the exhibitions' curators. Exhibitions at nearby museums and galleries, such as the Brooklyn Museum, the International Center of Photography on the Lower East Side of Manhattan, BRIC gallery on Fulton Street, Smack Mellon gallery in DUMBO, and the Whitney Museum of American Art, will determine the specific focus of the course. Students will develop an interpretive final project (such as an exhibition tour or public program and/or community outreach proposal). Class meetings will regularly take place off campus at galleries, museums, and at public art installations, and students will be required to take public transportation to sites that are not within walking distance from campus.

Fulfills General Education Requirement: SEH, HCE

Typically offered: Fall Only

FA-3210 Women in the Arts and Sciences (3 Credits)

Requisite(s): Take WRI-1100, Take FA-1401, FA-1402 or any ENG course at the 200 level

The liberal arts and sciences curriculum familiarizes the student with fundamental human concerns. In many disciplines, however, women's contributions (both traditional and non-traditional) have been historically overlooked and underrepresented. The class enriches the liberal arts curriculum by studying women's contributions in science, the visual arts, music, and literature. The ways women write about their lives in diaries and letters, memoirs and autobiography, fiction, and poetry are also explored. Concert and theater attendance, museum visits, guest lectures, and student presentation supplement classroom discussion.

FA-3409 Art and Architecture in England (3 Credits)

Requisite(s): Take FA-1402 or FA-1420;

An introduction to the major movements, styles, and examples of English architecture and painting from the Middle Ages until today. Museum visits supplement class lectures and slide presentations.

Typically offered: Fall Only

FA-3413 AUSTRIAN CULT & FINE ARTS (3 Credits)

Requisite(s): Take FA-1402

Cross-listed with: ICS-5307. An introduction to the culture and arts of Austria, with particular attention to Vienna. Painting, sculpture, architecture, urban planning, and music are examined in historical perspective. Classroom lectures are supplemented by slides, films, and museum visits.

Typically offered: As Needed

FA-3416 Early and Medieval Christian Art (3 Credits)

Requisite(s): FA-1402

This course focuses on the development of the arts within the Church from the fourth to the 14th century. It begins with an introduction to common symbols and themes used in the arts of the period and progresses to the study of painting, sculpture, and architecture. Particular emphasis is placed on the evolution of these art forms from the early Christian period through the Gothic. Decorative and functional objects such as stained-glass windows and reliquaries will be examined for their style and purpose.

Typically offered: As Needed

FA-4995 Independent Study in Fine Arts (1-3 Credits)

A project undertaken by the student with the approval of the Department Chairperson. Students develop and pursue a reading and research program resulting in a paper of appropriate length.

Typically offered: On Demand

FA-4996 Choir (1 Credit)

Members of the College Choir may apply for a one-credit Independent Study based on their training, practice, rehearsals, and public performances during one semester. Approval from the Department Chairperson is required and evaluation is conducted by the Department Chairperson in consultation with the Moderator of the Choir. This course may be repeated for a maximum of three credits.

Typically offered: On Demand

FA-5406 ANCIENT EGYPTIAN ART (3 Credits)

A study of Ancient Egyptian architecture, sculpture, painting and crafts from the first through the twenty-second dynasties. Factors contributing to the art of the Old, Middle and New Kingdom will be analyzed, including Ancient Egyptian geography, history, culture, literature, and mythology. Illustrated lectures, classroom discussions, readings, and museum visits will be included.

Typically offered: Spring Only

FA-5412 SELECTED READINGS IN HONORS (3 Credits)

An interdisciplinary seminar course in which a variety of text (novels, plays, essays, and criticism) are read. Emphasis is on eliciting from the students a critical reading of the texts. Seminar discussions, written analysis, oral reports, and term papers, are required for participants. Professors from various departments of the College will participate. Honors.

Typically offered: Spring Only

FA-5414 Art in New York City (Honors) (3 Credits)

This seminar will generally survey contemporary art and the New York area scene. It will help students to discover new artists, to be knowledgeable about different media, and to put recent work in historical context. Guest lectures may include working artists, art dealers, curators, arts administrators, and collectors. Class meetings may take place off campus at galleries, artist studios, and museums.

Typically offered: As Needed

FA-5415 HON Seminar: Opera in NY City (3 Credits)

This seminar generally surveys contemporary art and the New York area scene. It helps students discover new artists, be knowledgeable about different media, and to put recent work in historical context. Guest lecturers may include working artists, art dealers, curators, arts administrators, and collectors. Class meetings may take place off campus at galleries, artist studios, and museums.

Typically offered: As Needed

FA-5416 Hon Seminar: Public Art (3 Credits)

This course covers traditional public monuments and memorials, as well as performance art, social practice art, sound art, digital art, temporary public art installations, and public art interventions." Students will learn about the commissioning process, audience reception, and policies developed to negotiate the removal and relocation of public art no longer in sync with contemporary values. Site visits to public art projects in New York City will be made as a class and individually.

Fulfills General Education Requirement: SEH, HCE

Typically offered: As Needed

FA-5417 "Blues, Jazz, and the Harlem Renaissance" (3 Credits)

An exploration of blues, jazz, and the literature of the Harlem Renaissance. In the process of developing a stronger, more critical appreciation of these art forms, students study such legendary figures as Alain Locke, WEB duBois, Langston Hughes, Zora Neal Hurston, Louis Armstrong, Bessie Smith, and Duke Ellington. Lectures are supplemented with film, slides, and recorded examples. Students will attend live jazz performances.

Typically offered: As Needed

FA-5440 Studies in Architecture-Honors (3 Credits)

A study of the major architectural movements and monuments in the Western World with a view to developing the student's ability to read a building in correct architectural terms. Slide presentations, lectures, seminar oral reports, field trips, and term paper are required.

Typically offered: As Needed

FA-5441 "Music, Art & Architecture in Venice And the Veneto" (3 Credits)

Students will demonstrate through discussion and writing the ability to place Venice, a country once the center of a powerful empire, within the context of the history and traditions of Europe. Music, painting, sculpture, architecture of Venice as well as cities of the Veneto are examined in an historical perspective. Classes are supplemented by slides, films, and a field trip.

Fulfills General Education Requirement: HCE, WHG

Typically offered: As Needed