Welcome to Art of the Western World. This television course is one of a continuing series of such courses developed for public television. It is devoted to that most fundamental of all human activities, the production of art.

This course is intended to help you understand in depth and greater detail the development of three thousand years of Western art. Beginning with the civilization of ancient Greece, nine programs take you from the earliest monuments of Greek antiquity to the art of present day. Our major emphasis will be to use our understanding of the history of art to learn to view works of art in books, museums and on site.

To get you off to a good start, be sure to do the following:

Classes will meet on the following dates: Sept. 11, Sept. 25, Oct. 16, Nov. 20, and Dec. 11th. For session I on September 11th, view video lessons 1 and 2, and read the chapters in the book on Greek and Roman art (Chapters 7 & 9) and on Romanesque and Gothic art (Chapters 12 & 13). Be prepared to discuss tapes and reading. There will be a quiz on the tapes and reading. Video lesson 1 is titled “The Classical World”. Video lesson 2 is titled “A White Garment of Churches”.

I. Bring the textbook to each session.

II. View the video programs.*

III. If you have any questions, please call 851-6523.

IV. Email: susmans@sunysuffolk.edu
Because we only meet five times during the semester, it is important to keep the lines of communication open. I strongly encourage you to email me with any questions, problems, or concerns.

Media Pick-Up:
* There are 9 video programs. Video programs 1 – 6 are on one cassette; video programs 7 – 9 are on another cassette. These video cassettes are located in the Library Resource Centers on each campus, and should be picked up from the libraries starting on the first day of evening classes.

* Media Return:
All media materials must be returned by the last day of the semester. If you do not return your media materials by the last day of the semester, you will incur a $50.00 late fee and your grades will be encumbered.
COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR: DR. SANDRA SUSMAN PALMER  e-mail: susmans@sunysuffolk.edu
COURSE: ART OF THE WESTERN WORLD  Office: Caumsett Hall 100
DEPARTMENT: VISUAL ARTS  Grant Campus
CAT. NO. VA 11
SEMESTER FALL 2006

OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE:

Each student upon completing the course should have an understanding of the following:
I. Be able to recognize various periods, mediums, and subjects in art.
II. Become aware of artists’ styles and begin to appreciate how and why art changes over
time as well as sometime within the artist’s career.
III. Understand the relationship between the form a particular artwork takes and its function and,
on a broader level, understand some basic historical and societal conditions that produced
particular artistic monuments.
IV. Appreciate the changing relationship between artist and patron and gain an appreciation for the
different kinds of patrons that have supported artists over time,
V. Gain a fundamental conceptual framework that underlies the production of Western art from its
origin with the ancient Greeks to the present day.

PROCEDURES FOR ACCOMPLISHING THESE OBJECTIVES:

1. Meet with Dr. Susman Palmer on the following: Sept. 11, Sept. 25, Oct. 16, Nov. 20, and
Dec. 11th.
2. Visit the Metropolitan Museum of Art at 82nd and 5th Ave., and write a visual/analytical paper
on two works of art in the museum.
3. Read the corresponding chapters in the text.
4. Participate in class discussions.
5. Write a 1-2 page critique of each video.
6. Write a research paper on a topic of student’s choice and approved by Dr. Susman Palmer.
7. Take five quizzes on tapes and reading.

Textbook:

REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPLETING THE COURSE:

1. Read the assignments in the textbook to enrich your understanding.
2. View all the videos. A critique of each video is required.
3. Complete a research paper. Due no later than December 11th.
4. Participate in informal discussions.
5. Select two works of art found in the Metropolitan Museum of Art from the units studied.
   See museum assignment guidelines (attached). The museum paper is due April 17th.
6. Attendance is mandatory.
7. Take 5 quizzes.
GRADING CRITERIA:

Research Paper…………………………50%
Museum Paper………………………….25%
Quizzes and Class Participation………..25%

Three points will be deducted from your final average for every video critique not turned in.

PLAGIARISM POLICY:
Students should realize that presenting the words and ideas of others as their own is dishonest. In writing, students must fully acknowledge the source of any paraphrased passages and ideas which they have borrowed. Failure to conform to these academic standards is plagiarism and may result in a failing grade for the course and/or serious disciplinary sanctions as outlined in the Code of Conduct.
TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

Unit I
The Classical World: Greece and Rome
Chapters 7 & 8, pgs. 81-146

Unit II
A White Garment of Churches: Romanesque and Gothic
Chapters 12 & 13, pgs. 181-216

Unit III
The Early Renaissance
Chapter 15, pgs. 237-261

Unit IV
The High Renaissance: Florence, Rome, Venice
Chapter 16, pgs. 274-298

Unit V
Realms of Light: The Baroque
Chapter 19, pgs. 328-356

Unit VI
Neo-Classicism/Romanticism
Chapters 21 & 22, pgs 374-396

Unit VII
A Fresh View: Realism, Impressionism, and Post Impressionism
Chapters 23, 24, & 25, pgs. 401-453

Unit VIII
Into the Twentieth Century
Chapters 26 & 27, pgs. 455-484

Unit IX
In our Time
Chapters 28, 29, & 30, pgs, 486-527
COURSE: VA 11– ART OF THE WESTERN WORLD
DR. SANDRA SUSMAN PALMER

MUSEUM ASSIGNMENT

Museum visit to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City, 1000 Fifth Avenue at 82nd St. Tuesday – Thursday, 9:30-5:15, Friday and Saturday 9:30-8:45 PM, Sunday 12:00-5:00. Closed Monday.

You are to write a two to three page analysis and comparison/contrast essay on one pair (two works of art) from the museum. You are free to select any two works of art from the Metropolitan Museum which we did not discuss in class or preferably not pictured in your textbook. If you can, include a postcard, photograph or sketch of the works of art.

Important: Include the museum receipt with the paper.

First, introduce each work of art by giving the title, name of artist (if known), the country and time period when it was created. Is the work a painting, sculpture, ceramic vase? What materials were used? What is represented? Is it a portrait, genre scene, mythological or biblical scene? Other possible topics to discuss: Are there symbols in the work? What do they mean? What was the cultural context of the work? What meaning did it have for the people who created it?

You can also describe the formal elements of each piece. These include the description of color, texture, shape, and rhythm. Is there depth or is it flat? Is it static, dynamic symmetrical, or asymmetrical? Are the proportions balanced or unbalanced? Do the forms give a sense of monumentality or stability, or are they expressive of motion and tension?

In comparing and contrasting the two works of art, you will cite both similarities and differences on the above issues.

This paper is entirely a visual project. You should write down your thoughts while you are in the museum standing directly in front of the artwork. You may use your textbook and class notes for reference, but make sure you cite your sources.

Due: November 20.