ORAL COMMUNICATION & THE VISUAL ARTS

203 Humanities 3:30-4:50 MW
Dr. Rita Tekippe

OFFICE HOURS
ONLINE: 7-8:30 PM MTW by CourseDen e-mail
324 HUMANITIES: 1:30-3:15 MTW

NB: Meetings often require cancellation of office hours; call or e-mail for secure appointment
678-839-4953 – LEAVE A MESSAGE

http://www.westga.edu/~rtekippe/

Required materials and capabilities:

- **Stokstad, Art, A Brief History 3rd edition, 2007** (any edition is okay). This text is for general information and a starting place for your research) Major research will be conducted in library resources.
- **Clicker Student Remote (Standalone, MpsISBN 0-7167-7939-0Copyright 08) Available at Bookstore, or if you have one from another class, you may use that.
- **ThumbDrive** for PowerPoint presentations
- **Maimon, Writer's Resource Guide** Copyright 10ISBN 0-07-736360-4 (the same one you use for your English class)
- **Computer access to CourseDen** (requires access to the internet with current, fully Java-enabled browser; campus lab access will serve this purpose, or your own computer, if it meets the requirements)

Optional Texts: Henry M. Sayre. Writing About Art; Sylvan Barnett, A Short Guide to Writing About Art or similar guidebook; Tim Hindle Making Presentations

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: UWG adheres to requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need accommodation, contact Disability Student Services at 678-839-6428.

Objectives: To learn to research, write, and speak effectively, clearly, and persuasively about a variety of topics and/or objects in the visual arts. Your written and oral presentations about works of art will show mastery of skills in judgment, analysis, organization, and concise verbalization, while addressing pertinent issues for select areas of investigation. Research skills will be essential tools for this process.

Course Description: The aim of this course is to develop a student’s ability to formulate and organize research and ideas about art in a clear and succinct manner and to give verbal and visual expression about the issues in effective classroom presentations. Students will learn to research select works of art in specific topic areas, to
analyze them with regard to the artistic means and their contexts of creation, as well as to formulate informed judgments about provocative issues pertinent to the visual arts, demonstrating mastery through a series of written assignments and oral presentations, delivered with the aid of PowerPoint. This will fulfill requirements for Area B of West Georgia’s Core Curriculum by addressing the following priorities:

- To demonstrate the ability to recognize and identify appropriate topics for oral presentation
- To demonstrate proficiency in necessary library research skills
- To demonstrate the ability to synthesize and logically arrange oral presentations
- To demonstrate the ability to adapt oral communication to specific purposes and audiences
- To demonstrate the ability to utilize appropriate technologies to locate and to present material
- To develop students better prepared for career demands in the 21st Century
- To develop increased awareness of the diverse sources of information and tradition
- To develop enhanced problem solving and critical skills

**COURSEDEN:** Use of CourseDen is a required part of the course (requires access to the internet with current, fully Java-enabled browser) We will use CourseDen for the entrance quiz, assignments, handouts, announcements, required evaluations, and PowerPoints (PPT). It is advisable to work with a DSL or other fast connection. You may use a computer lab on campus. CourseDen is also where we will communicate with one another, through e-mail, discussion board, and gradebook. Announcements will be posted there. Written assignments are submitted and returned through a CourseDen dropbox. You are responsible for any information posted in CourseDen, for checking your e-mail each and every day, and for posting your evaluations of each presentation set, for each presenter. Evaluations of presentations by me and by your classmates will be in the CourseDen Assignment Dropbox You will use it to submit your presentation proposals, to receive feedback on those, approval of your projects, and to submit your final term project. If you have a dial-up connection, you are likely to encounter difficulties since there are sometimes large image files associated with handouts and PPTs and they are apt to load very slowly (or not at all) on a poor connection. To access CourseDen go to: [http://WebCT.westga.edu/](http://WebCT.westga.edu/) and follow the links to CourseDen and go to the left option: CourseDen - Login. IMPORTANT: the alternative way to log in, if UWG web is down, is through the address: [http://westga.view.usg.edu](http://westga.view.usg.edu). We will have instructions on the use of CourseDen. You must use the CourseDen site to communicate with me by private e-mail and submit all of your assignments through the CourseDen site. If you have difficulties with CourseDen connections, you should contact the UWG Distance Learning Center: e-mail Technical support for CourseDen: distance@westga.edu (replies within 24 hours weekdays) or call the Helpdesk 678-839-6248 during their office hours (MF 9-5). Alternatively, or after-hours, use the Distance Hotline: [http://view.usg.edu, 1-866-588-5293 (24 hour/7days a week)](http://view.usg.edu, 1-866-588-5293).

**Plan B:** What will you do if you have a computer failure? Figure it out now, and be ready to make whatever accommodations are necessary to meet the class schedule and requirements, as there are no acceptable excuses for missing deadlines.

**Academic Honesty:** (see [http://www.westga.edu/~handbook/index.php?page=honorcode](http://www.westga.edu/~handbook/index.php?page=honorcode) and appendix A of the student handbook) The University has adopted a policy for promoting high ideals and the greatest possible learning for each individual. Improper academic conduct on the part of the student shall be interpreted to mean obtaining and use of information by means other than those permitted by instructor, including supplying such to other students. Also improper is plagiarism, i.e., purchase and use of ghost-written papers and reports, or incorporating into a report, term theme, research paper, or project, ideas and data obtained from another person without credit to the person from whom such information was obtained. Further, inclusion of published or unpublished writings of another person without noting sources according to scholarly procedures acceptable for the discipline of art history shall be considered plagiarism. The definition of academic misconduct applies equally to improper use of electronic sources of information and opinion. At West Georgia, the student is urged to seek truth and beauty in and for themselves, as well as skills needed for a productive life. Academic honesty is essential in preserving one's own integrity, that of the institution, and in gaining a true education. The West
Georgia student pledges not to lie, cheat, or steal in the pursuit of his or her studies and is encouraged to report those who do.

**Plagiarism:** This course requires that you adhere to high principles of intellectual honesty and personal integrity and that you demonstrate individual achievement in scholarship. Accordingly, any hint of transgression in this area will be dealt with harshly. **Plagiarism in any of your writing assignments or other work will result in failure of the course.** Thus, you are responsible for knowing what constitutes plagiarism and you may not plead ignorance. If you have any doubts, ask me or a librarian. To review the principles, take the time to visit these sites:

http://libguides.westga.edu/content.php?pid=10699&sid=71588

http://library.acadiau.ca/tutorials/plagiarism/

You are responsible for understanding and heeding what is presented in these websites.

For further clarification, see http://www.westga.edu/~engdept/Plagiarism/plares.html

Citation of sources for art history must be according to the Chicago Style, and must be presented in footnotes (preferred) or endnotes, NOT parenthetical references.

**NOTE:** The dishonest use of I-Clickers also constitutes improper academic conduct and is cause for the charge of Plagiarism.

**Class Requirements:**

- **5 Presentations,** on approved topics, specifically approved works of art. NO EXCEPTIONS. **Anyone who fails to make all 5 presentations and to present the written term paper will fail the course.** You will be assigned to a Group – A, B, C, D, E, or F, and must present on your assigned days.
- **For each presentation,** you must first have approval of the work of art that is the focus of the presentation, and the bibliography you will use
- **Preparation for the Presentations,** conducting Library Research, creating a PowerPoint lecture, writing a solid speech, rehearsing for good timing, pronunciation, flow, and command. Preparation also includes attention to grooming and wardrobe
- **Attendance and Participation,** for all presentations. **There are no excused absences in this course.**
- **Evaluations.** i>Clicker evaluations in class for each presentation, anonymous checklist online for each
- **Final Term Paper.**

**Grading:**

Entrance Quiz (online) 1 point
Each presentation, w. abstract, bibliography 1 = 7, 2 = 8, 3 = 8, 4 = 10, 5 = 12 45 points
Attendance on required T days 9
Participation/evaluation points for A, B, C, D days 18
Online Evaluations for each presentation by classmates 18
Final Term Paper 10

COURSE TOTAL 100 points
**ENTRANCE QUIZ: ** **2 PARTS:**

**Part 1: SYLLABUS QUIZ:** You are required to take a quiz over the contents of the syllabus and to make at least 95% on it. You may re-take it as many times as you like, until you do make the almost-perfect score. Until this is accomplished, you will not be able to take any of the ensuing exams or to submit any other assignments.

**Part 2: DROPBOX SUBMISSION TRIAL:** you will be required to submit a trial document through the dropbox system prior to the deadline date for the first dropbox submission in order to be allowed access to the system.

**Presentations:** The topics are listed in pairs below (you will choose one from each pair, plus one more) These will be our focus for the specific periods, as noted on the calendar, and the subjects of your research for your presentations. For the first classes, we will cover principles of presentation, research methods, dress code for presentations, audio-visual aids, & we will have a preliminary perusal of the topics. We will also cover the methods for preparing PowerPoint presentations and the use of CourseDen.

**Presentation Topics:** You will choose five of the following eight topics and prepare a presentation for each. You must choose one of each pair/period, and then choose one more (different topic from those chosen the first four) for your final presentation. The first four of them will be 4-5 minute presentations, while the last one will be 8-10 minutes. They will be timed and adherence to time requirements will be part of your evaluation.

The term will be divided as follows:

- **Period 1:** Principles of Presentation, reading test
- **Period 2:** Images of Rulers and Rulership
  - Or The Bayeux Tapestry
- **Period 3:** Art of Religion and the Afterlife
  - Or Women and Women’s Issues in Art
- **Period 4:** Architecture and the Decorative
  - Or Minor Arts and Luxury Art
- **Period 5:** Arts Symbolism, Expressionism, Abstraction
  - Or Sculptural Forms
- **Period 6:** One more category of the above which you have not previously chosen or another theme of your choice (must be approved by me) or a presentation on your own artwork
- **December 6th, 5:00 PM:** deadline for Final papers, submitted through the dropbox in CourseDen.

**CALENDAR:** Keep your eye on the calendar for the outline of what we will be doing throughout the term. We will meet each class period from August 20th through December 7th except as noted on the calendar. Changes of schedule will be announced in CourseDen. The calendar days are coded as follows for what will happen:

- T = Tekippe lecture on the upcoming topics and possibilities
- A = Group A will give Presentations
- B = Group B will give Presentations
- C = Group C will give Presentations
- D = Group D will give Presentations
- E = Group E will give Presentations
- F = Group F will give Presentations

You will be assigned to Group A, B, C, D, E, or F and must make your presentations on the days assigned to your group. (NO EXCEPTIONS)

**Assignments:** For each topic, I will give preliminary lectures (on T days), which will include suggested works and approaches, and you will choose and claim your topic after determining that there are sufficient research materials for your thesis.
For each, you will conduct further research and refine your specific subject and thesis for the topic, then type a 1-page abstract, and a list of bibliographic library sources for your research, select your visual aids, and prepare for an oral presentation (timed), using PowerPoint. This abstract and bibliography will be prepared in MSWord and submitted through the Assignment Dropbox for the specific period. You must first have your topic choice approved by the deadline, then submit your preliminary abstract and bibliography by the next deadline, or you will not be allowed to make the presentation. NO EXCEPTIONS. You should review your evaluations and also self-critique your speech to help you prepare for the next one. They will be available to you through the dropbox system, where you submitted them.

You should begin selection of your subjects as soon as possible, but if you have questions as to whether they will be acceptable, ask me.

Audio-visual materials should be arranged in PowerPoint presentations and these should be well-organized and polished. They should be professional in appearance. You must always base your presentation on specific works of art, presented in appropriate images, and always present the images you discuss as part of your talk.

For each presentation, you should consider how the formal elements used to create the work of art contribute to the message conveyed and also how the artist has made deliberate choices that affect the work and its impact upon its viewers. To do this well, you will be reliant upon the assigned text and your research materials, as well as your own careful observation and consideration of the ways in which you absorb and interpret visual information. The principles involved will be discussed in some depth at the start of the term and will be under further consideration as we progress. You should continue to consult your text and your research materials for your various projects and feel free to consult me as necessary during office hours.

THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UP PRESENTATIONS, FOR ANY REASON

Evaluation Points:

After each presentation, I will display the grid of Presentation Ratings and you will respond by using the I-clicker devices. The results from these will be posted in CourseDen, and you will view them there as a sort of critique that will help you to evaluate yourself and to make adjustments for the next presentation you make. These are meant to supply you with information in the form of feedback and constructive criticism, which I will review before I pass it along. It is crucial that these evaluations be thoughtful, with a view to helping one another to improve performance. Mean-spirited criticism will not be tolerated. Be sensitive to others’ feelings, while giving honest appraisals and practical advice.

While the use of the I-Cricker will identify you to me as present in class and as an evaluator, the ratings and comments will be posted anonymously to your fellow students as presenters. Moreover, these will be available to you on a private and confidential basis -- not visible to anyone besides you.

Your final term paper will consist of a more extensive and thorough development of one of the subjects you have chosen for a class presentation. This will be more like a regular term-paper, in that you will use a formal written paper presentation format, including full documentation and footnotes. Your paper should be 4-6 pages in length (typed, double-spaced), prepared in MSWord, and submitted through the Assignment Dropbox in CourseDen. More explicit directions will be posted on the website by the end of week 2.

Reading/Preparation guidelines:

The images from the art history survey text will be appropriate choices for your presentations, and you should browse the pictures to select subjects for your presentations. Since you will need digital images for the PowerPoint, you will likely be able to find them UWG library ArtSTOR database. While they are protected by copyright, are allowable for our purposes here under educational fair-use provisions. BUT BE CAREFUL of web images -- there are many copies and fakes of well-known works, as well as prints and reproductions -- these are not acceptable to use. Mae sure you are looking at the original by verifying the authority of the website you are using. Any of the images from your text, if they fit into the category/theme may be used. If you select a work from the text, you may also use other related works which do not appear there (by the same artist, from the same frame/topic area. of the same subject, etc.) You may also present main
topic images from other sources, with my approval. Some of the works/images fit into more than one category, depending upon what you choose to emphasize in your treatment, so you should be clear about what you see as the theme of your investigation. For each presentation, your selection must be submitted for my approval by the scheduled deadlines shown in the calendar. **If you do not have your choice approved by the deadline, you will not be allowed to present.** Once your choice is approved, it will be posted to the website, and you may check there to see if someone has already selected a topic/work. This will ensure that works and topics are appropriate and that there will not be duplications. If there are duplicate choices, permission will be granted on a “first come, first served” basis.

You may approach the task of preparing a presentation in any way you choose, but the categories are set up so that you can select them in the text and read what is presented there and then add to that from other sources which you will find in your own research. **You must not be reliant upon internet sources** – rather, go to the library and seek information from other scholars. There are bibliography references at the back of your textbook for each of the chapters, and you can also consult the library catalogs, for both books and journal articles. **See Plagiarism warnings above.**

As soon as you select the topic for any presentation, e-mail me with the title of the work, with the artist if known, and an image, by attachment. Do a quick check to determine that you will be able to find library resources to create the presentation, and include the preliminary list of resources you have found in that e-mail, so I can see if you are on the right track. I will notify you if it has approval, then you may proceed with your preparations for presentation. Make sure your image is of a good size for presentation on the large screen. It should be a JPG, at least 300X400, and of good resolution. If you use web-images, make sure they are of sufficient quality for your presentation. If you find images elsewhere (slides, books or journals or such), they can be scanned for use but should be high resolution pics of high quality images.

**BE WELL-PREPARED.** For the PowerPoint, you must prepare them ahead of time and bring them into the classroom on a thumbdrive. You may **not** download images from the web in the classroom on the day of presentation, nor e-mail the PowerPoint to yourself to retrieve in the classroom. You may have simple notes on a notecard, but do not plan to read your presentation from paper or notecards. Prepare ahead, rehearse, and be thoroughly familiar with your subject. Make sure it meets time requirements for the day. We will go over these issues in depth in class. **Check for proper pronunciation of names, titles, terms, and all other words at [http://www.forvo.com/](http://www.forvo.com/).**

Your PowerPoints need to be well-done and professional and they are considered as part of your evaluation. Avoid over-emphasis on glitzy tech effects, as they are not the point of what we are trying to accomplish here, but do take care that your presentation has a respectable level of polish. Take care not to crop images or to distort them from their original proportions. Stay focused on the artistic image you have selected and its importance **AS ART.**

**Website:** [http://www.westga.edu/~rtekippe/](http://www.westga.edu/~rtekippe/) This site is sometimes important for you – it will be useful to you for viewing the syllabus and other information related to class. On the website for Art 2201 is a list of vocabulary terms, various diagrams and aids to understanding of the art concepts for which you are responsible.

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If, at any point, you have questions or problems, contact me.

I will be happy to consult with you on advice about working with online issues, preparing for presentations, or any other concerns.

Call, set an appointment, or contact me by e-mail or phone.

**For technical issues with CourseDen, contact helpdesk.**