

Duration:	26 Weeks
Time:	9.00-10:30am/Wednesdays – Semester I & II
Fee:	€270
Start date:	September 2020 (Date to be advised)
Number of Credits:	5 Credits

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Art History 1 aims to provide a foundation for learners in methods of analysis and investigation to empower further study in the discipline. The module begins with lectures on broad topics including specialist language and vocabulary, symbolism, techniques, power and patronage. It also draws the students' attention to the meta-cognitive aspects of the discipline by considering how art historiography has been written and presented. The module continues with a chronological introduction to Western European art history with an emphasis on the cultural contexts of art production. Field trips to galleries and museums are encouraged and organized for participants. A range of audio visual materials will be presented in the lectures, with adjacent textual resources, links and activities posted on Moodle. The module aims to deepen the students' understanding of art and their own development as artists.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

On completion of this module the learner will/should be able to;

1. Recognise key art works of the Western canon from a range of art forms including painting, sculpture, and print.
2. Develop their visual memory and build a framework of reference to art works.
3. Appreciate the works of art in the context of the prevalent ideas and historic events in which they were produced.
4. Understand and be able to utilize the language and methods of Art History5.
5. Become familiar with important literature and learning resources of the discipline.
6. Explore works of art through independent enquiry using a range of resources available.
7. Be cognizant of how and why the traditional Western canon is changing.
8. Write and present written critical reflections employing academic methods of research and citation.

COURSE CONTENT

PART ONE: Introducing the History of Art

This introduction aims to provide a foundation for the student to build upon their own further research and learning about the discipline.

1. Introduction to the History of Art
What is art? How do we evaluate and appreciate works of art? What is art history and who are its authors? What are the methods of finding the deeper picture?
2. Visual Vocabulary:
What do the terms Form, subject-matter and content mean? How do artists employ formal elements in their composition and what is the relationship between form and content? What is the role of convention and social context in the meaning of works of art?
3. Detection and Deciphering
What is semiology? What is the role of signs and symbols in constructing meaning in art? Learning to read codes in the context of their construction. Interpreting symbols to unlock a deeper understanding of wider cultural issues.
4. Writing about Art
An introduction to writing about art, how to structure an essay and the use of the art historical method.
5. Techniques in Western Art History.

An introduction to the traditional *bottega* system in operation since the Renaissance, and to the language and techniques including: tempera, oil, fresco, reductive and additive methods of sculpture and general introduction to print techniques.

6. Art Power and Patronage

Looking at the relationship of patrons from secular, intellectual and religious perspectives. Dealing with the power relationships between artists and patrons concerning matters of authorship, autonomy and subject matter.

PART TWO: Key Movements and Periods in Western Art History

7. The Early Italian Renaissance

8. Florence 1400-1500

9. The High Renaissance

10. Northern Renaissance

11. The Venetian Renaissance

12. Mannerism

13. The Bottega, female artists and the problem of genius.

14. The English Renaissance

15. & 16. Baroque I & II

17. 17th century female artists

18. Rococo

19. British art of the 18th century

20. The Sublime and the Picturesque

There will be one field trip for AH1 to the National Gallery of Ireland and another major museum or site of relevance.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Dr John Mulloy

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HOW TO APPLY

Application for the course is made direct to the Institute. Please contact LLLMayo@gmit.ie for an application form or download from our website www.gmit.ie/llm.