# Early Imperial Chinese Art Art 371

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Course meetings: T/TH 9:30-10:45 AM

Location: 285 NFAC

### **Course Description**

ART 371 focuses on the visual arts of China from 221 BCE through the tenth century CE (from the Qin through the Tang dynasties). Special attention will be given to excavated sites that have radically changed our ideas about the art of early Imperial China. To enhance our understanding of Chinese art we will, at times, also consider the art and archaeology of cultures living to the north of the Great Wall and south of China's borders. Relevant texts in translation concerning myth, philosophy, and history will be introduced to further our analysis of the artifacts.

The primary academic goal for Art 371 is to provide the student with an educated basis for responding to early Chinese art and archaeology.

#### **Course Objectives**

- Identify significant works of early imperial Chinese art.
- Analyze works of Chinese art utilizing knowledge of aesthetic criteria from the periods in which the works were produced.
- Identify and explain the relationship between specific works of Chinese art and their cultural, social, or historical contexts.
- Develop an understanding, awareness and appreciation of the varying approaches to creative expression in the arts of China.

#### Rental Textbook (Available in the University Store)

Sullivan, Michael. The Arts of China. 5th edition.

All other course readings are on electronic reserve. Reading assignments will be posted on the D2L course website. Please be aware that much of the material covered in lecture is not available in any of the readings and will show up on the exams, so regular attendance is **strongly** encouraged.

### **Course Website**

This class uses Desire2Learn (D2L), UWSP's Online Learning Management System. Your course syllabus, study sheets, study images, grades and additional activities will be posted here. You are responsible for keeping up to date with the course by logging into D2L frequently. You can log into D2L at, <a href="https://uwsp.courses.wisconsin.edu/">https://uwsp.courses.wisconsin.edu/</a>,

with your UWSP logon. D2L can also be found on your MyPoint Portal, <a href="https://mypoint.uwsp.edu">https://mypoint.uwsp.edu</a>, on the Academics tab.

After you have logged in to D2L, look below "My Stevens Point Courses" in the middle of the screen. Click the plus sign in front of the current semester to access the link to our class.

**Note on lecture notes**: Although I do distribute study sheets for each lecture, I do not make full lecture notes available to students online or in any other fashion. Excellent note taking is essential to success in this course and is a skill that is important to develop. If you need extra help with this course, please see me in my office or make an appointment to meet with me outside of class. I am more than happy to give extra time to anyone who needs it.

### **Course Requirements**

- 1. Lecture attendance and participation
- 2. Reading assignments
- 3. Map quiz
- 4. Online discussion posts
- 5. Written Exam
- 6. Museum exhibition proposal

### **Quizzes and Exams**

You are required to take a map guiz and a final written exam.

The map quiz will be given on Thursday, September 27 and will be worth 5% of your final grade.

The final written exam will be given on November 29 30% of your total grade. The exam may consist of slide identification and discussion, term discussion, short and long answer questions, etc., or essay format. We will discuss the exam in more detail in class.

Please note, it is your responsibility to arrive to class on time for the quiz and the exam. Extra time will not be given to those who are tardy. I do not, as a rule, give make-up quizzes or exams. Please see my policy on make-up exams and quizzes in the *General Policies* section of this syllabus.

### **Online Discussion**

Art 371 is a hybrid course. Thus, in lieu of face-to-face lecture and in-class discussion, a percentage of our course activities will be online. Students are required to respond to an assigned reading and/or discussion topic posted in the Discussion Forum on D2L intermittently throughout the semester. All posts should be thoughtfully and coherently written with careful attention to grammar and spelling, and proper citations. Grade-school spelling errors, disorganized writing, unconvincing arguments, lack of supporting evidence, and/or obvious indifference to the discussion question will lower your overall discussion grade.

Posts due dates will be announced on D2L and in class. It is your responsibility to keep up to date with posts on D2L. Late posts will not, under any circumstances, receive credit. In total, the online discussion is worth 30% of your final grade. Enthusiastic, engaged writing will be noted.

#### **Museum Exhibition Proposal**

For your final semester project, you will be asked to write a museum proposal for an exhibition in early imperial Chinese art, which will include a title for your exhibition, rationale, and an exhibition catalogue with a selection of 6-9 objects to be featured in your exhibition. Your exhibition should be related to the course content, but can include objects beyond those we study in class. For example, students may want to include early imperial Chinese objects found in national or international museum collections in their proposed exhibition. Each team of two students will be responsible for working collaboratively on their exhibition title, rationale, and catalogue. For the catalogue of exhibition objects, each team member will choose three objects to be included in the exhibition. They are responsible for their own catalogue entries and should include the author's initials at the end of the entry.

Your exhibition proposal will be graded on creativity, thoughtfulness, persuasiveness, engagement, and professionalism. Your role will be that of a museum curatorial team. In your rationale, you'll want to articulate and describe the theme of your exhibition and explain why your exhibition is special or significant. How do your objects relate to one another and your main exhibition theme? What about your exhibition will draw crowds to the museum or interest the community to attend? Is there a unique way that you'll present your objects to try to bring in a more diverse crowd? How will you engage people who typically would not go to an art exhibition? What kind of experience to you want your audience to have? Try to think outside of the box.

You will submit your proposal (including your exhibition title, rationale, and exhibition catalogue) to the D2L dropbox by noon **Friday**, **December 14**, and then during finals week you will present your materials to the class. You will have no more than five minutes to present your exhibition proposal. You'll want to create an alluring and creative exhibition title and select a significant image to use to advertise your exhibition in your powerpoint presentation. The first slide of your powerpoint should include your exhibition title and main exhibition image, along with your names. This will be followed by labeled slides showing the objects selected for your exhibition.

Since we only have a two hour time slot for finals, you will work in pairs on this assignment. One group may have three students depending on whether or not we have an odd number of students in the class.

We will go over a more detailed list of what you need to submit to D2L for this project and what you need to prepare for your in-class presentation later in the semester.

All exhibition proposals will be due to the D2L dropbox by Friday, December 14 at noon. Presentations will then take place during our designated final exam period, 12/20/2018 (Thursday) from 2:45-4:45 PM. The total project will be worth 30% of your final grade.

### **Grading**

Attendance and participation 5%
Map Quiz 5%
Online Discussion 30%
Exam 30%
Museum Exhibition Proposal 30%

The grading distribution is as follows:

Α 93-100% A-90-92% B+ 87-89% В 83-86% B-80-82% C+ 77-79% C 73-76% C-70-72%

## **General Policies**

60-69%

0-59%

D

F

- 1. All classes begin promptly, and attendance will be taken every day. Please do not miss class. Much of the information upon which you will be tested will be derived from lecture notes, not just the text.
- You must attend class, take the map quiz, exam, participate in the online discussion forum, and complete the museum exhibition proposal and presentation to pass the course. As a rule, I do not give make-up quizzes or exams. Make-up quizzes and exams will be given only in cases of dire emergency (i.e. you are hospitalized, have the flu, etc.). A signed note from your physician is required. If you are an athlete and your game schedule conflicts with the exam schedule you must let me know by the September 10 to make arrangements with your coach. I will not make allowances otherwise.
- 3. All electronic gadgets are banned in lectures, including cell phones, laptops, iPads, iWatches, wi-fi surfer devices, iPods/MP3 players, etc. Please turn off your cell phones in class, or mute the ringer. Text messaging or instant messaging during class lectures is disruptive and distracting, and will not be tolerated. I reserve the right to ask you to leave the classroom if you are engaging in social activities during lecture.
- 4. Chitchatting with your classmates during lecture is discourteous. I reserve the right to ask you to leave the classroom if you are disrespectful to the professor or to your classmates. Disruptive behavior, in general, will not be tolerated and may result in class expulsion.
- 5. The University will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. If you have a learning or physical challenge which requires classroom accommodation, please contact the UWSP Disability and Assistive Technologies office with your documentation as early as possible. They will then notify me, in a confidential memo, of the accommodations that will facilitate your success in the course. Students should register with Disability Services BEFORE the quiz to be guaranteed accommodations.
- 6. The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point values academic honesty and integrity. Each student has a responsibility to understand, accept, and comply with the university's standards of academic conduct, as well as policies established by the schools and colleges. Cheating, collusion, misconduct, fabrication, and plagiarism are serious offenses. Violations will not be tolerated and may result in penalties up to and including expulsion from the Department of Art & Design, and possibly the University.