

CS 2908A (FALL 2014)
EGYPTIAN ART AND ARCHITECTURE



INSTRUCTOR Dr. Catherine Pratt
 Lecturer, Department of Classical Studies

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OFFICE HOURS Tues. 1:30-2:15
 Thurs. 1:30-2:15
 (or by appointment)

CLASS INFORMATION

Meeting time: Tues./Thurs. 2:30-3:20
Classroom: WSC 240

ASSESSMENT

Quizzes x 2	September 25 th , November 11 th	10%
Midterm Exam	October 21 st	40%
Final Exam	(as scheduled by registrar)	50%

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIAL (see “textbooks and readings” below)

- Robins, G., *The Art of Ancient Egypt, Revised Edition* (2008)
- Schulz, R. et al., *Egypt: The World of the Pharaohs* (2010)

NOTE FROM THE DEAN OF ARTS and HUMANITIES: You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as basis of appeal. If you are not eligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time, and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. These decisions cannot be appealed.

PLAGIARISM: Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage of text from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

POLICY ON ACCOMMODATION FOR MEDICAL ILLNESS: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf [downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC): <https://studentservices.uwo.ca> [under the Medical Documentation heading]
Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Office of the Dean of their home faculty and provide documentation.
ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION CANNOT BE GRANTED BY THE INSTRUCTOR OR DEPARTMENT.

WESTERN ACCESSIBILITY POLICY. Western has many services and programs that support the personal, physical, social and academic needs of students with disabilities. For more information and links to these services: <http://accessibility.uwo.ca/>

WESTERN SUPPORT SERVICES: Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed as a broad introduction to the world of Egyptian art and architecture. We will begin with the Predynastic period to explore the beginnings of Egyptian style, then move on to the Old Kingdom and the inception of Egyptian monumental buildings. We will then discuss the artistic breadth of the Middle Kingdom and the building regimes of its Pharaohs. Finally we will finish with a look at the New Kingdom, the last great flourish of Egyptian dominance. Because of the amazing length of Egyptian history we will only be able to touch on the most important aspects and trends of each time period. In particular, this course will familiarize the student with ancient Egyptian visual materials – both objects and architecture. We will examine the tools for visual recognition of an object’s or architecture’s type, style, and date. We will also examine the spatial and cultural context of Egyptian visual material, including provenance, physical and cultural setting, and purpose. The course will be organized both topically, i.e. “funerary art” or “the state temple,” as well as chronologically, i.e. “18th Dynasty,” so that we can examine the evolution in style and function of particular forms over time.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this course students will have a working knowledge of:

- Egyptian artistic styles of the Predynastic, Old Kingdom, Middle Kingdom, and New Kingdom.
- The components of Egyptian funerary architecture in each time period
- The evolution of Egyptian art and architecture over time
- The role of objects within the physical and cultural setting of Egyptian life and death.

- The spatial and cultural context of Egyptian material including provenance, physical and cultural setting, and purpose.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES/TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify an object's or architecture's type, style and date based on recognizable traits.
- Discuss the role of art and architecture within Egyptian society and how this role changed over time.
- Explain how art and architecture functioned in the Egyptian world, both practically and spiritually.
- Situate a particular artistic style for both objects and architecture within the relevant cultural context.

COLLABORATION AND INDIVIDUAL WORK

While most of class time will be lecture-style, I do encourage you to form discussion or study groups outside of class as a way to enhance what we cover in class and in the readings. Study groups are also a great way to prepare for exams and quizzes. However, it is expected that all of your quizzes and exams will be your own original and individual work and in your own words.

CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY USE

I will post PowerPoint lectures to the course website as a study aid. However, they will not necessarily be in advance of the class. They will be useful as study guides for the exams and quizzes and will include mostly pictures of what we discuss in class and in your textbooks. When PowerPoint presentations are available before class, feel free to use them to take notes and follow along during the lecture.

In general, I expect that laptops will be used in class for academic purposes. Using your laptop for other things not related to the course will be disturbing your peers around you. Please be aware of this and use your laptop for only class-related business. **Laptops, other electronic devices and study aids are NOT allowed in tests or exams.**

COURSE COMPONENTS

Lectures and attendance:

It is important that you come to class every day. While I will not be taking formal attendance, we will discuss many things in class that will be on the exams and quizzes. Lectures are primarily based on the readings you will have done for the assignment listed under that day, but they may also introduce other concepts and images not included in the textbooks. **Exams are based on what is presented in class lectures as well as readings.** Therefore, it is entirely possible that something will be on the exam that is NOT in the readings. Alternatively there may be something on the exams that is not discussed in class but is in your assigned readings.

Textbooks and Readings:

There are two required textbooks for this course. This is due to the nature of Egyptian scholarship and cannot be helped. Fortunately, both textbooks are incredibly useful, have wonderful illustrations that complement each other, and are very affordable. Each day for class you will be expected to have read the assigned pages for that day. Some days have reading from one book, some days have readings from both. **While the number of pages assigned for each meeting may seem high, keep in mind that these are art and archaeology textbooks, so much of each page is filled with images.** Also keep in mind that some reading assignments span multiple class sessions since they are related to particular topic. In these cases it is up to you whether to have all the reading done on the first day or spread it out. Additionally, the visual representation of the art and architecture we discuss in class and in the course textbooks is as important as their description. It is therefore necessary that you study and know these images well and read the accompanying caption text.

Midterm and Final Exams:

Both the midterm and final exams are multiple-choice. The midterm exam will be taken in a single class period and will cover the material from the beginning of the semester to the midterm. The final exam is cumulative for the entire semester. Since material you learn in the beginning of the course is still relevant at the end of the course, it will be natural and necessary to comprehend everything for the final exam. In general, questions will emphasize major concepts instead of minute details, though at times it is necessary to know certain dates, people, and places. All of these criteria for the exams will be addressed throughout the course and especially before the exams when we review. The date and location of the final exam is set by the registrar and must be adhered to.

Quizzes:

In addition to the midterm and final exam, there will be **two 10-minute quizzes** (see above for dates). **They will be taken in class at the beginning of the session—so please be on time!** These quizzes are based on material discussed in class that will be assigned ahead of time. The first quiz will be early in the semester and will focus on the geography of Egypt including important places, landmarks, and regions (e.g. Abydos is located in Upper Egypt). This quiz is intended to help build a solid base for the rest of the term since we will be repeatedly discussing certain locations that continue to be important throughout Egyptian history. The second quiz is based on important people and their time periods and will be taken towards the end of the semester (e.g. King Djoser=Third Dynasty=Old Kingdom Period). This is to prepare for the final exam and solidify the Egyptian chronology so that events, objects and buildings will fit securely into a timeline. These quizzes will be short-answer/fill-in-the-blank style.

***No laptops, cell phones, books or notes will be allowed during the exams and quizzes.**

***Make-up quizzes, tests and exams will only be given with a dean's approval. If you miss an assignment it is not up to me to decide if your case warrants a make-up. Please take all such concerns to the academic counselor in the dean's office of your faculty. Please take note**

now of all test and assignment dates listed at the top of the syllabus and confirm that you are available for test and assignment due dates. The final exam date is set by the registrar and is non-negotiable. Please do not schedule travel during the exam period.

SCHEDULE OF READINGS AND LECTURE TOPICS

Week 1

Sept. 4: Principles of Egyptian Art
Reading: Robins pp. 12-29

Week 2

Sept. 9: Predynastic Art
Reading: Robins pp. 30-39; Schulz et al. pp. 9-23
Sept. 11: Early Dynastic Art (Dynasties 0-2)
Reading: Schulz pp. 25-39

Week 3

Sept. 16: Old Kingdom royal pyramid complexes
Reading: Robins pp. 40-51, 58-67; Schulz pp. 47-77
Sept. 18: Old Kingdom royal pyramid complexes (continued)

Week 4

Sept. 23: Old Kingdom private funerary art
Reading: Robins pp. 51-57, 67-79; Schulz et al. pp. 79-103
Sept. 25: **QUIZ #1** (Geography of Egypt: regions, cities, major landmarks)
The First Intermediate Period
Reading: Robins pp. 80-89

Week 5

Sept. 30: Middle Kingdom royal tombs, mortuary temples, and art
Reading: Robins pp. 90-99; Schulz et al. pp. 109-117
Oct. 2: Middle Kingdom royal tombs, mortuary temples, and art (Continued)

Week 6

Oct. 7: Middle Kingdom private tombs and private art
Reading: Robins pp. 101-109, 114-121; Schulz et al. pp. 119-131
Oct. 9: Middle Kingdom private tombs and private art (Continued)

Week 7

Oct. 14: Middle Kingdom state temples and associated relief and sculpture
Reading: Robins pp. 99-101, 110-114; Schulz et al. pp. 133-141.
Oct. 16: Review/catch-up

Week 8

Oct. 21: **MIDTERM EXAM:** beginning of the course through Oct. 16 (all material from lecture and readings may be found on the exam)

Oct. 23: 18th Dynasty royal funerary complex
Reading: Robins pp. 122-131; Schulz et al. pp. 183-190, 217-243

Week 9

Oct. 28: 18th Dynasty royal funerary complex (Continued)

Oct. 30: FALL BREAK

Week 10

Nov. 4: 18th Dynasty state temples and associated relief, sculpture

Reading: Robins pp. 131-137; Schulz et al. pp. 153-164, 175-178, 199

Nov. 6: 18th Dynasty state temples (Continued)

Week 11

Nov. 11: **QUIZ # 2** (Chronology and important persons)

18th Dynasty state temples (Continued)

Nov. 13: The Amarna Period, the Post Amarna Period

Reading: Robins pp. 148-165; Schulz et al. pp. 165, 200-203

Week 12

Nov. 18: Ramesside state temples, statuary, and relief

Reading: Robins pp. 177-181; Schulz et al. pp. 155 (plan), 166-174, 175 (Luxor),
179-182, 204-207, 213-215.

Nov. 20: Ramesside state temples, statuary, and relief (Continued)

Week 13

Nov. 25: Ramesside royal tombs and mortuary temples

Reading: Robins pp. 166-175; Schulz et al. pp. 191-199, 208-211 (Ramesses II), 217-
226 (review for Ramesside period), 244-247

Nov. 27: Course wrap-up/catch-up and Review for Final Exam

Week 14

Dec. 2: Review for Final Exam

The final exam is cumulative (material from the whole semester will be covered) and will be scheduled by the registrar. It will take place within the final exam period for the Fall 2014 Term, between December 6th and 18th.