

**The University of Western Ontario
Department of Visual Arts, Fall 2016**

VAH 2254F: ROMANESQUE ART

Mondays, 5:30 to 8:20 p.m., John Labatt Visual Arts Centre, Rm. 100

Professor Kathryn Brush

Office: John Labatt Visual Arts Centre, Rm. 219

Tel. 519-661-2111, ext. 86187 (direct line with voice mail); 519-661-3440 (Dept. Secretary)

Office Hours:

Mondays, 3:00 to 4:30 p.m., or by appointment

E-mail: kbrush@uwo.ca

Teaching Assistants: Shelley Kopp and Kelsey Perreault, M.A. Candidates (Art History)

Office: John Labatt Visual Arts Centre, Rm. 242

Office Hours:

Shelley Kopp: Thursdays, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.; Kelsey Perreault, Tuesdays, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.,
or by appointment

E-mail: skopp2@uwo.ca and kperrea2@uwo.ca (*preferred addresses for e-mail inquiries*)

Prerequisite

1.0 from [VAH 1040](#) or two of [VAH 1041A/B](#) – [VAH 1045A/B](#), or [Medieval Studies 1022](#), or both [Medieval Studies 1025A/B](#) and [1026A/B](#), or permission of the Department. You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course requirements and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. Enrollment in this course without the normal prerequisite may not be used as the basis of an appeal. If you are not eligible for this course, you will be removed from it at any time, and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. These decisions cannot be appealed.

Course Description

This course examines diverse forms of art and visual culture produced in Europe and around the Mediterranean between the tenth and twelfth centuries CE. Following a discussion of the historiography, sources, and varied manifestations of the visual language now termed “Romanesque,” lectures will engage with objects in all media, including architecture, sculpture, manuscript illumination, ivory carving, and metalwork. Emphasis will be placed on the cultural and historical contexts of the objects/buildings and their wide-ranging functions and audiences during the Middle Ages. Discussions about monasticism, religious cults and pilgrimage, and the construction and decoration of churches (and other significant building types, e.g., castles) aim to give students an active understanding of the originality and complexity of medieval visual culture, and its continuing relevance in the twenty-first century.

Students enrolled in this course will benefit from the many medieval-themed events that

take place on campus and in the city of London during the academic year (e.g., guest lectures on medieval topics, medieval-inspired films). You are strongly encouraged to visit nearby collections of medieval art at the University of Toronto Art Centre (Malcove Collection), the Art Gallery of Ontario, and the Detroit Institute of Arts. You may consult me about other important collections should you have plans to travel further afield in either North America or Europe.

Learning Outcomes

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

Recognize the relationships that exist between medieval cultural objects and the contexts of their production, presentation, and circulation

Analyze and compare the characteristics of art and cultural production from different geographic areas of Europe and the Mediterranean

Apply appropriate terminology to carry out visual analyses of works of art, architecture, and media, and gain knowledge of key critical and theoretical frameworks employed in the study and analysis of art history and visual culture

Utilize the methods and vocabularies pertinent to the study of art history to develop and defend arguments according to their knowledge of scholarly publications in the field

Participate in class discussions and present findings orally and in writing that demonstrate an intermediate level of visual literacy

Enrich their understanding of twenty-first century art and society via engagement with cultural forms and practices of the past.

Evaluation

Fall Test	Oct. 17	20%
Writing Assignment	Nov. 14	25%
Class Attendance and Participation		10%
<u>Final Examination (2 hours)</u>	<u>December (TBA)</u>	<u>45%</u>
Total		100%