ARH 4331
Renaissance Art in Northern Europe
Fall 2013
University of Florida, College of Fine Arts, School of Art and Art History
Monday, 3:00-4:55pm and Wednesday 4:05-4:55pm, FAC 201
Credit Hours: 3
Course Web Site: https://lss.at.ufl.edu/ (e-Learning in Sakai)
Dr. Elizabeth Ross
Email: elizross@ufl.edu
Office Hours: TBA
Office Location: Fine Arts C (FAC) 119
Please do not email me through e-Learning. If you do use the e-Learning, be sure to check the box that copies the message to my elizross@ufl.edu address. Otherwise, there may be a delay in my receiving your email.

University Counseling Services/ Counseling Center
Phone: (352) 392-1575 (line open 24/7)
Web: http://www.counsel.ufl.edu

University Police Department
Phone: (352) 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies

Course Description:
This course offers an introduction to the art of Northern Europe during the two centuries of transition from the Middle Ages to the early modern era. We will focus on painting and the graphic arts in the Low Countries and Germany with particular attention to the work of Jan van Eyck, Rogier van der Weyden, Hieronymus Bosch, Albrecht Dürer, and Pieter Bruegel. The course will consider the different social and religious contexts in which artists worked (courtly, urban, scholarly, popular, monastic) as well the profound impact of the Reformation on artistic practice and on the role of images in Western culture. We will examine Italian patronage of Northern art as well as the influence of Italian Classicism on Northern artists.

Northern art of this era maintained strong continuities with the Middle Ages while also laying the groundwork for many of the institutions, conventions, and preoccupations of the modern Western tradition. Two important shifts in the history of media set the stage for modern developments. The framed painting—the format par excellence of Western art—began its ascendancy over sculpture, as the medium of oil-on-panel inspired a new, luminous painted realism. And the invention of printing spawned a communications revolution by enabling the mechanical reproduction and mass distribution of images (and texts). Two new genres arose in this period—the portrait likeness and the independent landscape—as well as some of the first princely and scholarly collections of art and artifacts. Powerful pictorial statements of the artist as creator declare the changing status of artists, while the growth of a marketplace for the circulation of works of art as commodities outside court and church also brought about change in the economic and social conditions of art-making.

Course Objectives:
Provide a comprehensive overview of the works, personalities, and themes central to the history of the art of Northern Europe between 1375 and 1600.
Inform students about the variety of social and cultural contexts in which Northern Renaissance art was produced and about the ways in which these contexts affected the form and function of art objects.
Increase fluency with reading and assessing the scholarly literature of Renaissance art.
Heighten visual acuity and increase facility with identifying, describing, and interpreting visual images.
Develop students’ ability to conduct research—to find and critically evaluate information—and then to write an analysis of it clearly, with methodological rigor and proper academic form.
Course Policies:
Attendance and due dates. Prompt attendance is required at all lectures. Repeated unexcused absences or habitual tardiness will result in a lowering of your attendance and class participation grade. Please take a look at your calendar at the beginning of the semester to see if you have any commitments (for example, religious holidays, family obligations, or extracurricular activities) that conflict with lectures and due dates. If you do have a conflict, please see me well in advance to clear your absence, schedule an extension, or discuss the possibility of a make-up exam. Last minute extensions, make-up tests, and incomplete grades will be granted only for serious, unforeseeable circumstances such as hospitalization or a death in the family. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalog at: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx.

Email. Please check your UF email account regularly for course announcements or replies to any emails you send me. I will email you through your UF email account. If your email box is full, my emails will bounce back to me, and I will have no way to contact you. Please make sure to clean out your box to prevent this.

Classroom demeanor. No talking on cell phones, ringing or beeping, text messaging, Facebooking, tweeting, emailing, IMing, noisy or smelly eating, etc. during class. Class sessions may not be recorded.

Accommodation. I will make every attempt to accommodate students with disabilities. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office (DSO). The DSO will provide you with the necessary documentation, which you must then provide to me when requesting accommodation.

Course evaluations. Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on ten criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at https://evaluations.ufl.edu. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results.

Academic Honesty:
UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: ‘On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.’” The Honor Code (http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please ask me (the instructor, Dr. Ross).

UF’s policies regarding academic honesty, the honor code, and student conduct related to the honor code will be strictly enforced. This means that cheating and plagiarism will be penalized, and a report will be filed with the Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution office. During exams, personal items must be cleared from desks and chairs and placed in a bag on the floor. For information on what constitutes plagiarism, consult the UF Plagiarism Guide at http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/msl/07b/studentplagiarism.html and “Misuse of Sources” on the course web site. If you have any questions, please ask me. An online plagiarism checker service may be used to screen papers.

Grading Scale:

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<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>% Equivalency</th>
<th>GPA Equivalency</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93 and above</td>
<td>4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90 to 92</td>
<td>3.67</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87 to 89</td>
<td>3.33</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83 to 86</td>
<td>3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80 to 82</td>
<td>2.67</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77 to 79</td>
<td>2.33</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>73 to 76</td>
<td>2.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70 to 72</td>
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<td>D+</td>
<td>67 to 69</td>
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<td>63 to 66</td>
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<td>D-</td>
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<td>E, I, NG, WF</td>
<td>59 and below</td>
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Please note: A grade of C- (or below) will not count toward major requirements.

See the following web page for information on UF policies for using these letter grades to assign grade points: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx.

Course Requirements:
Midterm Exam—25% [of final grade]
Wiki Research Project individual contribution—17%
Wiki Research Project group product—17%
Final Exam—36%
Attendance and participation—5%

This course has a web site accessible through eLearning in Sakai. This syllabus, lecture handouts, assignments, and the images required for exams will be posted to the site.

There will be a midterm exam on Wednesday, October 18 in class and a final exam on Wednesday, December 11 from 12:30-2:30pm in our regular classroom. The exams will require (1) identification and discussion of images shown in lecture and (2) essay responses to questions about themes developed in lecture and in the readings. You can find sample exam instructions by following the <Exam Study Materials> link on the course web site. The images you need to know for exams will be available online through that link in advance of each test.

In lieu of a traditional research paper, you are going to collaborate with a small group of classmates using eLearning’s Wiki software to create web pages that explicate a topic using up-to-date research and proper academic form (bibliography and footnotes). Click <Wiki> at the left of the course web site. Follow the instructions to register your first, second, and third choice of topic before class on Wednesday, September 4. More detailed instructions for the project will be distributed and discussed in class that day.

There are FIVE due dates for the Wiki Research Project. A preliminary bibliography that identifies the major works to be discussed and assigns portions of the project to individuals will be due on Monday, September 30. A first draft will be due Monday, October 28. Your group will then have two weeks to edit your work with the revisions due Monday, November 11. Another group will then be assigned to review and edit your work, with their comments due on Sunday, November 24. You will meet with your group and your group’s outside reviewers in class on Monday, November 25. The finished paper with final bibliography will be due Monday, December 9.

In preparation for the paper, you will read a brief text on the “Misuse of Sources” in academic writing and take an online quiz.¹ You can find the link to the text on the desktop of the course web site, and you can access the quiz via the <Tests & Quizzes> link to the left. You should complete the quiz before class on Wednesday, September 4. You may take the quiz as many times as you need until you get all the questions right, but you must get all the questions right to pass the quiz. You must pass the quiz to pass the course.

Readings:
Most readings are available online through the UF Libraries’ ARES course reserves system at https://aries.uflib.ufl.edu/. [The full, week-by-week list of readings has been edited from this public syllabus.]

Three books are required for this course:


The readings from these are marked “BOOK” below. The books are also on reserve at the Architecture and Fine Arts Libraries, if you would rather read them there.

Week 1  
August 21—Introduction

Recommended web site:  Closer to van Eyck (http://closertovaneyck.kikirpa.be/#home/sub=altarpiece).

**You can visit the Wiki (from the link at the left side of the course web page) to suggest topics for the project. Please make your suggestions before class on Wednesday, August 28, when the ‘suggestion box’ closes.**

Week 2  
August 26—The Valois Courts in France and Prague  
August 28—Claus Sluter and the Chartreuse de Champmol

**Visit the Wiki (from the link at the left side of the course web page) to express your preferred topics after class on August 28. Please do so by before class on Wednesday, September 4.**

Week 3  
September 2—No Class (Labor Day)  
September 4—Discussion of instructions for Wiki and research techniques  
**Online quiz due before class today; register your Wiki topic preference before class.**

**Wiki groups and topics will be assigned the evening of September 4 or 5.**

Week 4  
September 9 and 11—The King of Painters: Jan van Eyck,

Week 5  
September 16 and 18—Master of Flémalle/Robert Campin and Rogier van der Weyden

Week 6  
September 23 and 25—Bankers and Pirates: Hans Memling, Hugo van der Goes, and Italian patrons in the North

Week 7  
September 30—**Wiki bibliography and identification of major works due**

Week 8  
October 7—Sculpted Altarpieces  
October 9—Matthias Grünewald and the Isenheim Altarpiece

Week 9  
**OCTOBER 14—MIDTERM REVIEW**  
**OCTOBER 16—MIDTERM EXAM**

Week 10  
October 21—The Birth of Printing  
October 23—The Artist as Italophile, Christ, and Entrepreneur: Albrecht Dürer

Week 11  
**OCTOBER 28—First draft of Wiki due**

October 28—Albrecht Dürer, cont.  
October 30—The Reformation Crisis of the Image
Week 12
November 4 and 6—When Setting Overtakes Subject

**Begin review and editing of your group’s Wiki**

Week 13
November 11—**Finish review and editing of your group’s Wiki**
November 15—Hans Holbein, Lucas Cranach, and the German Renaissance
November 13—The Rise of Antwerp and the Seduction of Shopping

Week 14
November 18 and 20—Pieter Bruegel the Elder

**Receive assignment to review another group’s Wiki**
**Begin review and edit of other group’s Wiki**

Week 15
November 24—**Finish review and edit of other group’s Wiki**
November 25—**Small Group Discussion/Editing of Wiki**
November 27—No Class (Driving to your Thanksgiving Dinners)

Week 16
December 2—The Sixteenth-Century Court
December 4—Nature and Artifice in the Kunstkammer

**FINAL WIKI PAGES DUE**
Monday, December 9

**FINAL EXAM**
Wednesday, December 11
12:30-2:30pm
FAC 201