

EASTERN UNIVERSITY
Department of Music

INST480K
104 Workman Hall
M-W-F 1:00-1:50

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appointment)
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What is music? What is painting? What do they mean, and why? What do they do, and how? And what does it all have to do with religion? In this course, we will examine the ways in which art-making is what Madeleine L'Engle called an "incarnational activity"--something inherently religious, even in the absence of explicit or traditional religious content.

The purpose of this course is to explore the visual, musical and literary arts from the standpoint of the world's faiths, examine the place of the arts in human

activity and religious thought, become acquainted with the basic theological underpinnings of the arts and culture, test assumptions about the value and significance of the arts, and inquire into how the sacred is present in the work of artists. The course will also examine the ways in which perceptions of art and religion have developed over time.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, you should be able to:

- 1) Discuss, and write fluently about, the ideas of the theologians studied in the class.
- 2) Discuss, and write fluently about, the work of the artists and artistic movements studied in the class.
- 3) Discern, and write fluently about, the theological and social implications of works of art.

Quizzes

Quizzes will be of two types. The "Reading Quizzes" will, as the name implies, cover material in the reading, and will be administered immediately before the lecture on that material. Their purpose is to increase the

meaningfulness of the lectures by motivating you to read the relevant materials beforehand. They will be frequent, brief, and extremely elementary, and will consist of multiple-choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, and matching questions.

The "Content Quizzes" will be less frequent, and will consist of questions requiring short, objective answers. They will primarily cover the musical and visual art examples, and will ask you to identify and discuss the material you have studied.

Grading

The course is broken up into several units, each consisting of readings, sample viewing and listening, class discussion and lecture.

Reading Quizzes	30%	
Content Quizzes	30%	
Mid-term exam	10%	
Final paper		10%
Final Exam		20%

Term Paper Policies

The Term Paper is to be written in clear, cogent, coherent English, in a manner appropriate to academic paper writing.

(Avoid slang and specialized jargon, etc.) Consult any of the standard style manuals if in doubt. All quotations must be properly cited, **as well as any use of another's ideas**. Be rigorous in your thought; inferences presented as observations, opinions presented as fact, and logical flaws will all result in a loss of points. Website sources should be used sparingly in writing papers, and must be properly cited in the same way as print sources.

For your paper, you will attend two services of worship from different faiths. Compare and contrast the two services in as many ways as you wish, but make sure that the bulk of your observations are about the use of art, music, poetry, dance, and any other artistic elements. A sample is posted for you on the Web.

You will also have the option of writing a second paper in lieu of completing the essay questions on the Final Exam. The Final will include five short essay questions, drawn from material introduced throughout the course, of which you will complete three. However, you may choose to attend a concert at the Philadelphia Cathedral on November 20th and write an 1100-word paper on it, in which case you

will only be expected to complete one of the five Final Exam essays. We will discuss details in class.

Materials

A. Viladesau, Richard: Theology and the Arts: Encountering God through Music, Art and Rhetoric. Paulist Press, 2000

B. Eusden and Westerhoff: Sensing Beauty: Aesthetics, the Human Spirit, and the Church. United Church Press, 1998.

C. Spirit of Fire: Faith, Art and Action. Sojourners, 2003.

D. Handouts

Attendance

Your attendance is absolutely essential to your success in this class. Quizzes **will not be made up.** If you miss a quiz because of a legitimate emergency or circumstances beyond your control, a grade will be entered for that quiz that is the average of all your other quiz grades. **A quiz missed for any other reason, and/or any additional missed quizzes, will receive a grade of zero.**

Class schedule

Week 1

January 19: Introduction: What is Religious Art?

January 21: Reading Quiz: Viladesau Chapter 2 A

Lecture: Spiritual Movements in Visual Art

Week 2

January 24: Reading Quiz: Viladesau Chapter 2 B and Edvard Munch

Lecture: Priestly and Prophetic

January 26: Reading Quiz: Viladesau Chapter 2 C

Lecture: Religious Uses of Art

January 28: Reading Quiz: Viladesau Chapter 2 D and "Where is the art's religion?"

Lecture: Vincent Van Gogh

Week 3

January 31: Content Quiz: Viladesau Chapter 2

February 2: Discussion: Spirit of Fire Chapter 1

February 4: Discussion: Spirit of Fire Chapter 2

Week 4

February 7: Discussion: Spirit of Fire Chapter 3

February 9: Discussion: Spirit of Fire,
Chapter 4

February 11: Discussion:
Spirit of Fire, Chapter 5

Week 5

February 14: Reading Quiz:
Viladesau Chapter 3: A

February 16: Reading Quiz: Viladesau
Chapter 3: B

February 18: Reading Quiz:
Viladesau Chapter 3: C

Week 6

February 21: Reading Quiz: Viladesau
Chapter 3: D

February 23: Reading Quiz: Viladesau
Chapter 3: E

February 25: Reading Quiz: Viladesau
Chapter 3: F

Week 7

February 28: Content Quiz: Viladesau
Chapter 3

March 2: Review for Mid-term

March 4: Mid-term

Week 8

Spring Break

Week 9

March 14: Introduction to Music:
Bernstein

March 16: Introduction to Music: Begbie
March 18: Introduction to Music Viladesau

Week 10

March 21: Lecture: Music and
Time: Begbie
March 23: Lecture: Music and Time
March 25: Lecture: Music and Time

Week 10

March 28: Reading Quiz: Viladesau Chapter
1, A & B
March 30: Reading Quiz: Viladesau Chapter
1, C & D
April 1: Content Quiz: Music Concepts

Week 11

March 28: Music in Worship and Devotion
March 30: Music in Worship and Devotion
April 1: Music in Worship and Devotion

Week 12

April 4: Content Quiz: Music Listenings
April 6: Discussion: Begbie
1
April 8: Discussion: Begbie 2

Week 13

April 11: Discussion: Begbie 3
April 13: Discussion: Begbie
4
April 15: Discussion: Begbie
5

Week 14

6 April 18: Discussion: Begbie

7 April 20 Discussion: Begbie

8 April 22: Discussion: Begbie

Week 15

April 25: TBA

April 27: TBA

April 29: TBA

Week 16

May 2: Review for Final Exam

Final Exam: May 6, 12:30-2:30

Student Disability Policy: If you have any documented special educational needs, you are encouraged to work with the Cushing Center for Counseling and Academic Support to prepare a written request for the accommodation you need in this course. In order for you to receive an accommodation in this course, the professor must receive a written request from CCAS at the beginning of the course, or as soon as the disability is diagnosed. It is your responsibility to notify the instructor, in a timely manner,

about any specific accommodations you may need.