

World of the Arts

It is the student's responsibility to read and understand all policies included in this syllabus

Course Information

Professor: Megan Matthews

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Office Hours: T/Th: 9-10 am, W: 11-12 pm , or by appointment

Classroom: CA 1003 (off of the Atrium, Center of the Arts)

Class Meets: T/Th Sect. 15, 11-12:15 pm; Sect. 16, 12:30-1:45 (note the 75-minute period)

You must attend the section for which you are registered.

Text: *The Creative Impulse: An Introduction to the Arts*; 7th Edition, Sporre, (Textbook Rental)

All additional course materials are posted on Desire2Learn (D2L)

Class Webpage: <http://www.uww.edu/desire2learn/>

Professor's Webpage: **Professor:** Megan Matthews

Course Description

“World of the Arts is a course which exposes students to the areas of Dance, Music, Theatre, and Visual Art. Students will gain insight into the basic components of the arts, the role of art in society, and be given an historical perspective on art. Students will attend performing events and see work in the gallery context. Both western and non-western arts will be explored.”

There will also be an emphasis on placing the arts into the larger historical context of the era in which they occur and the impact of the arts on lifestyles, communication, and the cultural market place. Additional discussion will involve current events in the national and international art scene. We will look at art in relationship to business environments and the way art forms interact with new technologies.

It is important that you check D2L and your UW-W e-mail account on a **daily** basis for announcements, discussion postings, and course related email. This is **your** responsibility. If this is your first college course, please note that college classes are quite different from those you had in high school. A major difference is that college courses require much more self-discipline. Reading and doing assignments is much more self-directed than in high school: the professor will give you the assignments and assume that you do them, without reminders. Deadlines are set as printed in this syllabus and late work or missed exams are not permitted.

Mission Statement and Course Goals

Mission Statement: World of the Arts seeks to inspire students to lifelong engagement with the arts by exposing them to stimulating dimensions of the arts, and equipping them with the tools to understand the works of art that they experience.

Course Goals:

- Broaden personal understanding of the arts through direct experiences attending and describing arts events
- Gain an awareness of the norms of audience behavior and participation associated with various types of arts events
- Gain the historical and conceptual background necessary to attain a deeper understanding of the arts.
- Consider the role and value of artists in societies throughout history and in the cultures, both Western and non-Western, cultures of today's world.
- Examine the expressive power of the arts and the interrelationships among art forms.
- Build a foundation for future participation in, and enjoyment of, theatre, dance, music and the visual arts.

Course Policies

Attendance: Regular attendance is very important—you'll need to be present to do well in this course, as many test questions will ask about things observed or listened to in class. I will check attendance at each class, as I'll need to report attendance to coaches, for scholarships, and other programs students are involved in. If you miss class for any reason, you'll need to contact another class member to get missed notes, handouts, etc—any in-class assignments missed **may not** be made up. If you must miss a class for a University-related excused absence, you are required to present me with an official notice from the group's sponsor (your coach, your professor, etc.) **at least 2 weeks** before the event/absence: if you don't do this, I'm under no obligation to make up exams or allow late assignments, and most likely won't do so.

Make-Up Exam/Late Assignment Policy: I **rarely** make up exams or accept late assignments. Exams may only be made up because of serious illness or emergencies. Appropriate examples of this include illnesses for which you must see a doctor, a death in your immediate family, auto accident, etc. or a University-related event for which you have turned in an excuse before the exam.

Call me or send an e-mail immediately, **before** the exam occurs. I will also usually require some sort of written or physical proof if you wish to make up an exam. If you do not contact me or miss an exam for an inappropriate reason, I will not make up the exam, and you'll receive a 0 (inappropriate excuses include oversleeping, minor illnesses, work, boyfriend/girlfriend problems, family trips, etc.). Students may not make up more than one exam.

Since most assignments are turned in on the D2L Dropbox, it's important to keep track of deadlines: once the Dropbox has closed, you've missed your chance to turn in an assignment (documented true emergencies excepted).

E-Mail: All students are required to have and use their UW-Whitewater e-mail account daily: I will use this e-mail address to send out announcements, additional approved arts events, or changes in schedule. I will try to answer any student e-mail I receive within 24 hours M-F and within 48 hours over weekends. I expect that you will answer e-mail I send to you within the same timeframe. I don't accept "I never check my University e-mail" as an excuse. You may also access your University e-mail account by going to the University website and accessing "Webmail." Please contact me if you don't understand how to do this.

In addition, include a clear subject line, that starts with "WOTA" (e.g. "WOTA review question" or something like that.) and identify yourself in the body of the email note.

Out of Class Contact: You may be able to find me in my office during non-posted hours; it is OK to just stop by. There is a site in the Discussion area of D2L called "Raise your hand". I would prefer you use this forum for most questions. If you feel the need to ask about something regarding the course, the chances are that the other students would also benefit from both the question and answer. Your classmates may be able to answer the question quickly.

Class Format

The majority of class time will involve lecture, discussion, or observation of arts examples. I will sometimes have you work in small groups or in pairs for discussions. I will sometimes ask you to do short written assignments in class—these cannot be made up if you miss class.

I will be projecting a lecture outline, but it is only an outline. You will want to take notes, and when something is unclear to you please ask questions. Chances are, if something is unclear to you, others will be uncertain about the materials as well. The musical and video examples used in class are chosen with great care to illustrate historical and stylistic points, so your utmost attention is extremely important.

Observe proper classroom etiquette. In a college classroom, particularly a large class like this one, a respectful atmosphere is necessary if you and your classmates are going to learn. Be aware that what you do affects those around you. Things like talking or whispering during lecture or musical examples, walking into class late, reading the Royal Purple, or text messaging during lecture are disruptive to this atmosphere. Respect and courtesy must be part of your direct dealings with classmates as well. For more on student expectations, refer to the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater Student Handbook. If someone in the class is interfering with your ability to learn, please come and talk to me.

Sensitive Course Content: 1) Some of the art we will study is closely connected to religious beliefs and spirituality. To properly understand the context of these arts, it will be necessary to discuss the rituals and beliefs of various Christian denominations and other faiths. These

discussions are not intended as advocacy for or against any particular belief. 2) We will occasionally discuss art that deals with sexual or violent themes, art whose content may be offensive to some viewers or listeners. These examples are not intended as titillation or harassment, but are included as representative samples of various artistic styles. 3) Some art studied in this class will express strongly held political views that may be contrary to the views of many students. Inclusion of these works is not intended as advocacy for or against the views expressed, but rather as a point of departure for discussion for the political and cultural situations to which they respond.

Course Organization:

- Wks. 1-3: Elements and Terminology of the Arts (assignments)
- Wks. 4-10: History and context of the Arts (Exams 1 & 2, assignments)
- Wks. 11-15: Interrelationship of Art and Society (Exams 3 & 4, assignments)

Things that go beep: The following items may not be used during class: cell phones, iPhones, Blackberries, etc. (please **turn them off during class), **recording**, picture phones or video devices, **laptop** computers, electronic games, etc. Please finish phone conversations outside of the classroom. Texting during class is distracting to those sitting around you, as well as rude to everyone else in the room. Save it for after class. The use of any of these items during an exam will be interpreted as **cheating**, the item will be confiscated, and the student involved will likely fail the course. If you are registered with CSD, I'll be happy to accommodate you, as needed.**

Assignments

In order to assess student performance on the course, questions on the exams (as well as the homework and quizzes) will examine your knowledge of course materials, and assess competency. If you don't attend class, don't turn in assignments, don't do the reading and don't study outside of class, you will fail the course. **More detailed information is available in the WOTA Assignments document on D2L– make sure you look at that document in order to better understand each assignment.**

Exams: 100 points (4 exams, including a non-comprehensive final; combination of multiple choice and short essay, given in class) You must take exams at the scheduled time, including the Final (see course schedule for days and times). Exams will be machine-scored, multiple-choice tests.

Outside Events: 100 points (4 required; may do 1 for additional credit, use template provided). Since one of the objectives of this course is to broaden your personal understanding of the arts through direct experiences attending and describing arts events, you will need to attend **FOUR (4)** Approved Arts Events outside of class, one in each arts area. **Always** check the list of "pre-approved" events before you commit to buying a ticket. After you attend each event you will write an "Arts Event Report," working on your critical analysis skills as they relate your interpretation, description, and reaction to works of art. **All completed worksheets are due to**

me within 2 weeks of the event or you won't receive credit. Make sure that you plan your events around my deadlines: you'll need to complete 2 events by midterm (Oct. 22) and 2 by the end of the semester.

Homework: 40 points (5 total, you may miss one without penalty, though you'll get 5 extra credit points if you complete all 5; in order to receive extra credit, the other 4 assignments must already have been received.). Completed assignments **must use the template provided** on D2L and be turned in using the Dropbox. **Make sure that your paper is saved in one of the following formats (look before you send it): .rtf, .doc, or .docx** (if it says .wps, etc. I cannot read it and you won't receive credit for your assignment). Each assignment must be in your own words: if you copy information from the book or from the Internet, you will receive an F on the assignment and risk failing the course.

Attendance and Participation in Class: expected. Raise your hand once in a while and participate—it will make a difference come grade time if there are judgment calls. Your exam grades will suffer greatly if you miss many classes.

Language of the Arts Online Modules: In order to insure that you get the most out of your event experience, you will need to become familiar with the appropriate vocabulary of the arts. An introduction to each of the arts can be found in an online presentation available through D2L. They will provide you with the vocabulary you will need to be successful on the exams.

UWW guidelines state that at least six hours of outside work for a three-credit class is a basic academic expectation. In most weeks I will probably ask you for less than that.

Due Date	Assignment	Points
Event Reports	4 total (25 pts each, 1 addit'l for 10 pts EC)	100
Variable	2 events by Oct. 22 and 2 by the end of the semester	
Homework –	5 total (4 count - 10 pts each, 5 th for 5 pts EC)	40
September 10	Homework Assignment 1	
September 17	Homework Assignment 2	
November 10	Homework Assignment 3	
December 1	Homework Assignment 4	
December 10	Homework Assignment 5	
Exams	4 total (25 pts each)	100
September 24	1 st Exam	
October 22	2 nd Exam	
November 19	3 rd Exam	
December 15 or 17	4 th Exam	
	Total Grade Points	240
	Potential Extra Credit Points	15
	Total Available Points	255

Grading		Points:			
A	93-100%	232 - 240	C	70-75%	168 – 181
A-	90-92%	216 - 231	C-	65-69%	156 – 167
B+	86-89%	206 – 215	D+	61-64%	146 - 155
B	82-85%	196 – 205	D	58-60%	139 – 145
B-	79-81%	189 – 195	D-	55-57%	132 – 138
C+	76-78%	182 – 188	F	0-54%	0 – 131

University Policies

Official Notice

The University of Wisconsin-Whitewater is dedicated to a safe, supportive and non-discriminatory learning environment. It is the responsibility of all undergraduate and graduate students to familiarize themselves with University policies regarding Special Accommodations, Misconduct, Religious Beliefs Accommodation, Discrimination and Absence for University Sponsored Events. (For details please refer to the Undergraduate and Graduate Timetables; the "Rights and Responsibilities" section of the Undergraduate Bulletin; the Academic Requirements and Policies and the Facilities and Services sections of the Graduate Bulletin; and the ["Student Academic Disciplinary Procedures"](#) [UWS Chapter 14]; and the ["Student Nonacademic Disciplinary Procedures"](#) [UWS Chapter 17].

Academic Misconduct

The University believes that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental to the mission of higher education and of the University of Wisconsin System. The University has a responsibility to promote academic honesty and integrity and to develop procedures to deal effectively with instances of academic dishonesty. Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others' academic endeavors. Students who violate these standards are subject to disciplinary action. UWS Chapter 14 identifies procedures to be followed when a student is accused of academic misconduct. For additional information, please refer to the section in the Student Handbook titled, Student Academic Disciplinary Procedures.

Religious Beliefs Accommodation

Board of Regents policy states that students' sincerely held religious beliefs shall be reasonably accommodated with respect to scheduling all examinations and other academic requirements. Students must notify the instructor, within the first three weeks of the beginning of classes (within the first week of summer session and short courses) of the specific days or dates on which they will request accommodation from an examination or academic requirement. For additional information, please refer to the section in the University Bulletin and the Timetable titled, Accommodation of Religious Beliefs.

Class Cancellation – notification procedure

If class is cancelled unexpectedly, I will send a written notification to the email that is used for your D2L account. There will also be a sign posted on the classroom door.