

Quarter/Year

Winter 2018

Course Number

ART-HIST 240

Day/Time

TR 11-12:20

Instructor

Hu

Course Title

Introduction to Asian Art



This course is a selective introduction to the artistic heritage of Asia, here broadly defined to include both the Indian subcontinent and East Asia (China, Korea, and Japan). We are primarily interested in how artists in each culture respond to the tasks of representing the other-/underworld—realms of gods, ghosts and “goblins”—on the one hand, the world of nature through painting and landscape design. Some of the questions we will address include: What are the conventions and limits of representing deities in art? How do we understand different notions of naturalism in painting? How did artists take on political issues? Who were the various audiences that artists addressed in their work? How do we gauge their responses? Throughout this course, we will also consider the relationship between collecting and art history, how art collecting shaped and was shaped by

changing notions of “Asia,” and the challenges of studying artifacts that have been removed from their original contexts.

Required Textbooks

Dorinda Neave, Lara C. W. Blanchard, and Marika Sadar. *Asian Art*. 1st Edition. Boston: Pearson, 2014, ISBN: 0205837638. All other readings will be made available on Canvas

Assessments

Two short papers and two exams.