

northwestern university
DEPARTMENT OF ART HISTORY

Quarter/Year	Course Number	Day/Time	Instructor
Spring 2020	ART-HIST 224	MW 12:30-1:50	Gunter
Course Title	Degree/Distro Fulfillment		
Introduction to Ancient Art	200-level/ Areas IV and VI		



Some of the most influential works of art and architecture and enduring styles in world history were created in the ancient cultures of Egypt, Mesopotamia, Iran, Greece, and the Roman Empire. In this course we investigate their artistic traditions, styles, and built environments, focusing on the highlights—by general consensus—of these cultures’ artistic and technological achievements. A primary objective is to examine the key monuments that have influenced Western (and global) art over the centuries, along with gaining skills in visual literacy and an understanding of art historical methods and aims. Another goal is to provide insight into the specific historical contexts in which buildings, sculptures, and paintings were produced and the particular political, social, and religious functions they served. To provide exposure to a wide variety of material within a critical framework, we will examine specific case studies to supplement textbook readings.

Required Textbooks

Fred S. Kleiner, *Gardner’s Art Through the Ages, Book A: Antiquity*. Backpack edition. 15th edition (2016) ISBN 978-1-285-83798-7. Additional assigned readings will be available on CANVAS.

Assessments

2 short papers, midterm and final, participation in section.