

Course Number

AH 480

Course Title

Studies in Asian Art:
Art and Visual Culture in the Global Mughal World

Quarter/Year

Fall 2021

Day/Time

W 1-3:50

Instructor

Sharma

Distro Fulfillment



Course Description

The Mughal empire occupied a position of political, economic, and demographic dominance in the early modern period surpassing others such as the Safavids and the Ottomans. Its visual culture absorbed the intellectual heritage of Indic and Central Asian traditions expressed in its Indo-Persianate court culture that positioned itself globally. The concurrent rise of European mercantile and colonial interests of the English, Dutch and French East India Companies in the region further contributed to a 'worlding' of Mughal aesthetics. This course will address global and cross-cultural themes in art and visual culture of South Asia between the 16th and 19th centuries covering the diverse arts of the Mughal State to address the broader cultural and epistemological contexts within which Mughal-era art and architecture flourished.

Required Textbooks

Asher, Catherine and Cynthia Talbot, *India Before Europe* (Cambridge University Press, 2006) E-Book. Beach, Milo C. *Mughal and Rajput Paintings* (Cambridge University Press, 1992) E-Book. Scans of additional readings will be provided.

Assessments

Weekly reports on readings, presentations, in class discussion and final paper.

Contact.

art-history@northwestern.edu
www.arthistory.northwestern.edu