

Course Number

ART_HIST 389

Course Title

Special Topics In Asian Art: Neolithic Petroglyphs and Neuro-art history

Quarter/Year

Spring 2021

Day/Time

TR 2-3:20

Instructor

Linrothe

Degree/Distro Fulfillment

pre-1400 300-level; non-Euro-American



Course Description

The study of prehistoric imagery in caves and on cliffs requires a variety of perspectives and disciplines, including archaeology, anthropology, biology, geology, environment and climate science and visual analysis. Recently, neuroscience and neuroaesthetics have been promoted as providing insights. Using petroglyphs from the western Himalayas as test cases, placed within a comparative framework, this course will examine many of the assumptions and interpretations of images of powerful mountains inhabitants—human and mammal—in order to grasp at the communicative and expressive functions of images inscribed into landscapes on boulders and stone walls. We will also look at continuities of rock art imagery in the early historical period, as well as the tragic destruction that development and climate change are wreaking on thousand-year-old paintings and carvings.

Required Textbooks

Course readings will be provided on Canvas.

Assessments

Discussion leading, presentations, and final paper.

Contact.

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