

ARH203 SPRING 2025

# ARTS OF ASIA

3 credits  
Tuesday/Thursday  
(LEC) 9:00–9:50 (REC) 9:50–10:20  
Classroom: C103

Instructor: Young Ji Lee  
Office: A509  
Email: youngji.lee.2@stonybrook.edu  
Office Hours: Wednesday 13:00–15:00 or by appointment

## COURSE DESCRIPTION IN THE CATALOGUE:

A general course on Far Eastern art covering India, China, and Japan from its beginnings to the present. Emphasis is on the major arts of painting and sculpture, with some reference to architecture.

## COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is a survey of Asian art and visual culture from the Neolithic period to the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In our survey, we will rethink prevalent assumptions in art history about regionalization, periodization, an evolutionary perspective, and ethno-cultural nationalism. Each session is designed to examine a variety of visual materials — including earthenware, bronze vessels, Buddhist statues, porcelains, paintings, architecture, mass-produced prints, and public arts — as a means to understand the heterogeneous, vibrant, and changing components of art and visual culture produced in present Asia. Using a rough chronology and a thematic approach to Asian art history, and employing a relational perspective that juxtaposes Asia and “the West,” we will cast light on historical transitions in China, India, Japan, and Korea by looking at diplomatic, geopolitical, religious, and economic changes in each country and examining how those shifts have led to artistic and cultural transformations, molded our evaluations of objects, and influenced our aesthetic sensibilities.

**LEARNING GOALS & OBJECTIVES:** By the end of this semester, you will be capable of using oral and written forms to visually analyze objects and will be able to engage with significant terms, concepts, and scholarly debates. You will understand how tradition is constructed and reinvented via the diverse uses of objects and modern knowledge-systems; how the history of art is formulated and continually modified; how intercultural or inter-civilizational contacts change people’s visual experiences, everyday lives, and perceptions of the world; why some objects are considered more sacred, valuable, meaningful, and deserving of their high price tags than others; how power relations in each society, country, and the world affect our aesthetic sensibilities and artistic judgments; and how the nation-state as the basic unit of global capitalism functions in modern/contemporary art history. Most importantly, you will be able to identify historically significant objects and be able to explain in your own terms the reasons for your selections.

**ELECTRONICS & LAPTOP USE: If you are caught using a cell phone, your attendance will not be counted, and you will be marked absent. Do not rely on AI-based programs such as ChatGPT for your mid-term essay and final research project, as they do not always provide accurate information.**

## Attendance Policies:

1. Three unexcused late arrivals equal one absence. One early departure will be accounted for as one late arrival.
2. Three unexcused absences result in course failure.

3. According to the SUNY Korea attendance policy, the submission of a doctor's note does not automatically excuse your absence.

#### REQUIREMENTS & ASSIGNMENTS:

There will be no exams or quizzes, but each student must complete the following assignments:

1. **Bi-Weekly Open-Book Quiz:** Students will take an open-book quiz every other week regarding key art-historical terms and questions.
2. **Mid-Term Essay:** after reading Hyung Il Pai's "Capturing Visions of Japan's Prehistoric Past: Torri Ryuzo's Field Photographs of Primitive Races and Lost Civilizations (1896-1915)," write a two-page essay and submit it by April 17 (Thursday).  
 <Instructions for the mid-term essay>  
 2-1. Your two-page essay should deliver your critical view of the essay that articulates the author's main argument.  
 2-2. In the first paragraph, summarize the main argument and write your thesis sentence at the end (the thesis sentence should reveal your position in agreeing or disagreeing with the author in what aspects and why).  
 2-3. Write two or three paragraphs to support your argument.  
 2-4. In conclusion, you might want to strengthen your argument one more time by rephrasing your argument.
3. **Final Presentation:** Students will do a short research presentation about Asian art. A list of research topic will be provided in early May. Their presentation must have a clear thesis sentence and a well-organized list of images. Students should get the instructor's approval of their research topic two weeks before the presentation.
4. **Q/A Participation:** Students are expected to ask questions about fellow students' presentations and give feedback on them.
5. **Final Research Paper:** Students are expected to upload their final research paper in PDF format on Brightspace by **June 10** at 10:20 AM.  
 5-1. Your paper must have (1) five, double-spaced, 12-font, normal margin, text-only pages; (2) a list of images with a caption under each image; (3) a bibliography. The total page number is flexible, but your paper should have 5 text-only pages.  
 5-2. Use footnotes and follow the Chicago Manual of Style. [http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools\\_citationguide.html](http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html)

#### GRADES ARE BASED ON:

Attendance: 10%

Class Participation: 20%

Bi-Weekly Open Book Quiz: 15%

Mid-Term Essay: 10%

Final Presentation: 10%

Q/A Participation: 10%

Final Research Paper: 15%

Contribution and Progress: 10%

#### Grading System:

	A	94-100	A-	93.9-90.0	
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B+ 89.9-87.0	B 86.9-82.0	B- 81.9-80.0	
C+ 79.9-77.0	C 76.9-72.0	C- 71.9-70.0	
D+ 69.9-67.0	D 66.9-62.0	D- 61.99-60.0	F 59.9-0

**EMAIL POLICY:**

The instructor will read emails from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM from Monday to Friday. Students will receive a response from the instructor within 24 hours. Friday emails may not receive a response until Monday. During the weeks of mid-term tutorial and final presentation, students will receive the instructor's reply sooner than this and after 5 PM as well. If you have a question about the class schedule or assignments, you may want to carefully look at the syllabus one more time. If after doing so you still have unanswered questions, email the instructor.

☞ **THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION!**

☞ Readings are available on Brightspace under Documents. (Two copies of *Asian Art* by Dorinda Neave, Lara Blanchard, and Marika Sardar are on a 2-hour course reserve in the library). <https://anyflip.com/eobsk/nnbh>

**COURSE SCHEDULE:**

Week	Date	Topic	Assignments
Week 1	February 25	<b>Introduction: Course Overview</b>  Neave. "Introduction," <i>Asian Art</i> (New Jersey: Pearson), 2015, xii-xxiii.	
	February 27	<b>Non-Western Art as Western Art History</b>  Abe, Stanley. "From Stone to Sculpture: The Alchemy of the Modern," in <i>Treasures Rediscovered: Chinese Stone Sculpture from the Sackler Collection at Columbia University</i> , New York, Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery, Columbia University, 7-16.	
Week 2	March 4	<b>The Contemporariness of the Past</b>  Neave, Chapter 6, "Ritual and Elite Arts: the Neolithic Period and the First Empires."	Be ready for the open-book quiz.
	March 6	Bi-weekly open-book quiz during the recitation section.	

Week 3	March 11, 13	<b>Myth or History? Issues of Documentation</b>  Neave. "The Way of the Gods and the Path of the Buddha: Japanese Art from Prehistory to the Asuka Period," 277-288.	
Week 4	March 18	<b>Interregional and Cross-cultural Exchanges I (Buddhist Art)</b>  Denise Leidy, "Introduction," <i>The Art of Buddhism</i> (New York: Shambala, 2008), 1-5.  Selected Pages from Meher McArthur, <i>Reading Buddhist Art</i> (London: Thames and Hudson, 2002).  Neave. "The Rise of Cities and Birth of the Great Religions: Early Indian Art," Ibid., 9-21.	Be ready for the open-book quiz.
	March 20	Bi-weekly open-book quiz during the recitation section.	
Week 5	March 25, 27	<b>Looking Outward: The Six Dynasties and Sui and Tang Dynasties</b>  Neave, 146-168.	
Week 6	April 1	<b>Japanese Art from the Nara Period</b>  Neave. "Early Buddhist Art," 288-297.	
	April 3	<b>Japanese Art from the Heian Period</b>  Neave. "External Influences and Internal Explorations: the Nara and Heian Periods," 299-307. Bi-weekly open-book quiz during the recitation section on April 3.	Be ready for the open-book quiz.
Week 7	April 8, 10	<b>Korean Art</b> Neave, "An Unknown Land, A People Divided: Korean Art from Prehistory to the Present," 242-252.	
Week 8	April 15, 17	<b>Chinese Art from the Five Dynasties Period (907-960) to the Song Dynasty (960-1279)</b>  Neave. "Art, Conquest, and Identity: The Five Dynasties Period and Song and Yuan Dynasties," 171-186.	<b>Submit your mid-term essay.</b> No bi-weekly open-book quiz this week.
Week 9	April 22	<b>Japanese Art from the Kamakura Period(1185-1333)</b>	

		<b>Neave, 325-333.</b>	
	April 24	<b>The Mongol Century: Art of the Yuan Dynasty (1279-1368)</b>  Neave, 186-191.  Bi-weekly open-book quiz during the recitation section on April 24.	Be ready for the quiz.
Week 10	April 29	<b>Japanese Art from the Muromachi Period (1392-1573)</b>  Neave, 325-353.	
	May 1	<b>Chinese Art from the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644)</b>  Neave, 195-212.	
Week 11	May 6	<b>No Class (National Holiday)</b>	<b>Post your final research topic on Padlet.</b>
	May 8	<b>Japanese Art from the Momoyama Period (1573-1615)</b>  Neave, 343-353.	No bi-weekly open-book quiz this week because of the national holiday.
Week 12	May 13, 15	<b>Chinese Art from Qing Dynasties (1644-1912)</b>  Neave, "The City and the Market in Chinese Art: the Ming and Qing Dynasties," 195-219.  Bi-weekly open-book quiz during the recitation section on May 15.	Get yourself ready for the quiz.
Week 13	May 20	<b>Student Presentations</b>	Upload your PPT file to BrightSpace one day before your presentation day.
Week 14	May 22, 27	<b>Student Presentations</b>	Same as above
Week 15	May 29	<b>Student Presentations</b>	Same as above
	June 3	<b>Student Presentations (Last Day of Class)</b>	Same as above

Week 16	June 10 (Tuesday)	<b>Final Research Paper Due (10:20 AM)</b>	Upload your paper on Brightspace.
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### SUNY Korea - FIT Policies

SUNY Korea policies apply both inside and outside of the classroom.

SUNY Korea Title IX Reporting Procedures and Resources ([http://sunykorea.ac.kr/theme/v1/download/200715\\_Reporting%20Options%20and%20Resources.pdf](http://sunykorea.ac.kr/theme/v1/download/200715_Reporting%20Options%20and%20Resources.pdf))

SUNY Korea Student Handbook. ([http://sunykorea.ac.kr/theme/v1/download/2020-2021%20Student%20Handbook\\_FIT\\_20200819\\_FINAL.pdf](http://sunykorea.ac.kr/theme/v1/download/2020-2021%20Student%20Handbook_FIT_20200819_FINAL.pdf))

SUNY Korea Policy Library: <http://www.sunykorea.ac.kr/page/policiesregulations> \*

### Student Conduct

SUNY Korea encourages student development of independence, maturity, and ethical sensitivity. Students are expected to refrain from conduct that threatens or endangers the health, safety, and welfare of the SUNY Korea community. Faculty are recommended to report to the SUNY Korea's Office of Student Affairs any student misbehavior or violation of the Student Conduct Codes.

See the SUNY Korea Code of Student Conduct Policy for further details.

<http://sunykorea.ac.kr/theme/v1/download/SUNY%20Korea%202019%20University%20Student%20Conduct%20Code.pdf>

### Emergency Preparedness

SUNY Korea is committed to ensuring the safety and security of the SUNY Korea community and campus.

**IGC Campus Police Office** SUNY Building A107, T: (032) 626-0560

### Emergency Contact Numbers

In case of an emergency on campus and before 6PM, contact the Student Affairs office (032) 626-1191. After 6PM, contact 24 hours RA Hotline (010-4768-1196) and consult with IGC Health Center at (032) 626-0553.

### Critical Incident Management

SUNY Korea expects students to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report to the Office of Academic Affairs any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, or inhibits students' ability to learn.

Always check the SUNY Korea website <http://www.sunykorea.ac.kr> for announcements.

### Withdrawal Policy

The last day to officially withdraw from a course is up until the last day of the 13th week of a fall or spring semester. The student will receive a final grade of WD for a course withdrawal completed in this time frame. WD grades do not affect GPA. To officially withdraw from a course, students must submit a Course Withdrawal Form, completed and signed by them and their instructor, and submitted to the Academic Affairs Office, Campus Building A. Room A201. (032)626-1356(FBM),1358(FD).

### **Academic and Student Support Resources at SUNY Korea**

**Advisement Center** is here to help with all types of academic questions in order to make your academic experience as smooth and rewarding as possible. We embrace a holistic, developmental approach to student success, recognizing your dynamic, creative, career-oriented spirit. Our goal is to build strong partnerships with you, your faculty, and other administrative offices to support you through every stage of your academic life.

**Counseling Center:** <http://www.sunykorea.ac.kr/page/camplife403020>

You can get help for personal, emotional, psychological, and family problems at the Counseling Center. All registered SUNY Korea students are eligible for counseling services. Make an appointment through email ([counseling@sunykorea.ac.kr](mailto:counseling@sunykorea.ac.kr)) or by calling at (032) 626-1700. The Counseling Center office hours are from 10 am to 5 pm (except 12 pm - 1 pm) during the weekdays (Mon - Fri). Service is also available via Zoom.

### **Physical, Psychological, Medical or Learning Disabilities:**

If you have a physical, psychological, medical or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact the Office of Student Affairs, Campus Building A, Room 208, (032) 626-1190. They will determine with you what accommodations, if any, are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation are confidential.

**Career Services:** <http://www.sunykorea.ac.kr/page/camplife403010>

Career services are available to assist with students' career paths. To contact the Career Development Center, please call (032) 626-1195/1197 or email ([careercenter@sunykorea.ac.kr](mailto:careercenter@sunykorea.ac.kr)). You can make a reservation at <https://sunykoreacdc.youcanbook.me/>

**International Student Services:** <http://www.sunykorea.ac.kr/page/camplife403030>

**Writing Center** consultants work with students one-to-one and help with writing or presentation projects. For more information and to make an appointment, contact Writing center via email. ([wc@sunykorea.ac.kr](mailto:wc@sunykorea.ac.kr)).

### **Technical Support**

Blackboard is FIT's learning management system for all online and face to face taught courses. The Open SUNY HelpDesk provides students help with questions or problems using Blackboard. Call 1.800.875.6269 or visit their help page (<http://open.suny.edu/support/contact-us/current-students/>).

For campus Wi-Fi problems, contact SUNY Korea IT team at [itservices@sunykorea.ac.kr](mailto:itservices@sunykorea.ac.kr) or (032) 626-1177 / 1171

For campus WIFI (IGC\_User) access ID and Password, please register on the IGC IT Center website (<http://itcenter.igc.or.kr>).

### **Other Links & Useful Resources**

For Current Students: <http://www.sunykorea.ac.kr/sk/announcement>

IGC Library: <http://lib.igc.or.kr/>