

# CAH3524: WESTERN CULTURAL HERITAGE

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## Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

## Part I Course Overview

### Course Title

Western Cultural Heritage

### Subject Code

CAH - Chinese and History

### Course Number

3524

### Academic Unit

Chinese and History (CAH)

### College/School

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CH)

### Course Duration

One Semester

### Credit Units

3

### Level

B1, B2, B3, B4 - Bachelor's Degree

### Medium of Instruction

English

### Medium of Assessment

English

### Prerequisites

Nil

### Precursors

Nil

### Equivalent Courses

CTL3524 Western Cultural Heritage

### Exclusive Courses

Nil

## Part II Course Details

### Abstract

This course is an introduction to the history of the visual arts and culture in Western Europe from Antiquity to present. The course re-examines about 2,500 years of European art by exploring how artworks, visual modes, artistic practice

and theory were shaped by society and changing historical circumstances. Different than the traditional canon of art history, societal concepts and developments, such as economy, religion, politics and science, shape the story. These concepts and developments represent the five themes around which the lectures are structured. A sixth theme, 'Art and Cultural Exchange' will be developed by the students through the course assignments and in class discussions. Students will foremost gain a basic understanding of the relation between European visual arts and the wider cultural and social context. The course is a foundational course and requires no prior knowledge of the subject. Students who are interested in European art, culture and history are welcome to attend.

### Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

| CILOs |                                                                                                                               | Weighting (if DEC-A1 app.) |   | DEC-A2 | DEC-A3 |
|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|---|--------|--------|
| 1     | Develop a critical and contemplative attitude towards European art, culture and history                                       |                            | x |        |        |
| 2     | Develop a good understanding of the relation between European visual culture and cultural, social and historical developments |                            |   | x      |        |
| 3     | Identify and situate the most important works of European art history                                                         |                            |   |        | x      |
| 4     | Obtain basic knowledge and understanding of methods and terminology in art history                                            |                            |   | x      | x      |

#### A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

#### A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

#### A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

### Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

| LTAs |                              | Brief Description                                                                                                               | CILO No.   | Hours/week (if applicable) |
|------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|----------------------------|
| 1    | Lecture                      | Lectures on the history of the visual arts and culture in Europe from Antiquity to present                                      | 1, 2, 3, 4 |                            |
| 2    | Reading and class discussion | Reading and class discussion of selective reading materials that form the basis of the syllabus and the content of this course. | 1, 2, 3    |                            |
| 3    | Presentation                 | Presentations in class to show how well the students understand the course materials and any relevant issues.                   | 1, 2, 3, 4 |                            |

**Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)**

| ATs |                                                                                                                                                                           | CILO No.   | Weighting (%) | Remarks ("- " for nil entry) | Allow Use of GenAI? |
|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|---------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1   | Attendance of lectures and participation in class discussions as evidence of the student' s involvement in the course.                                                    | 1, 2, 3, 4 | 20            | -                            | Yes                 |
| 2   | Students are required to write a paper of 3,000 words (or 5-7 pages) on an artwork, which is the product of cultural exchange between Europe and other parts of the world | 1, 2, 3    | 40            | -                            | No                  |
| 3   | Presentations of a topic in European history of art as evidence of individual research skills and the experience of learning from lectures and in class discussions       | 1, 2, 3    | 40            | -                            | No                  |

**Continuous Assessment (%)**

100

**Examination (%)**

0

**Assessment Rubrics (AR)****Assessment Task**

Attendance and Participation

**Criterion**

Grade on active participation in learning activities in both lectures and tutorials.

**Excellent (A+, A, A-)**

- Excellent command of knowledge of Western cultural heritage.
- Excellent understanding of the various aspects of cultural management in the West.
- Excellent presentation skills to demonstrate an understanding of the basic concepts in cultural and heritage management.

**Good (B+, B, B-)**

- Good command of knowledge of Western cultural heritage.

- Good understanding of the various aspects of cultural management in the West.
- Good presentation skills to demonstrate an understanding of the basic concepts in cultural and heritage management.

**Fair (C+, C, C-)**

- Fair command of the course content.
- A certain degree of understanding of the various aspects of cultural management.
- Acceptable presentation skills to demonstrate an understanding of the basic concepts in cultural and heritage management.

**Marginal (D)**

- Familiarity with the subject matter.
- Marginal command of course materials, with the ability to describe a few basic concepts of cultural heritage management.
- Marginal ability and skills to demonstrate an understanding of the basic concepts in cultural and heritage management.

**Failure (F)**

Fail to meet the minimum requirements.

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**Assessment Task**

Reading reports and / or field trip reports

**Criterion**

Grade on the content of reflection after reading articles and/or visiting the cultural heritage sites.

**Excellent (A+, A, A-)**

- Excellent command of knowledge of Western cultural heritage.
- Excellent understanding of the various aspects of cultural management in the West.
- Excellent presentation skills to demonstrate an understanding of the basic concepts in cultural and heritage management.

**Good (B+, B, B-)**

- Good command of knowledge of Western cultural heritage.
- Good understanding of the various aspects of cultural management in the West.
- Good presentation skills to demonstrate an understanding of the basic concepts in cultural and heritage management.

**Fair (C+, C, C-)**

- Fair command of the course content.
- A certain degree of understanding of the various aspects of cultural management.
- Acceptable presentation skills to demonstrate an understanding of the basic concepts in cultural and heritage management.

**Marginal (D)**

- Familiarity with the subject matter.
- Marginal command of course materials, with the ability to describe a few basic concepts of cultural heritage management.
- Marginal ability and skills to demonstrate an understanding of the basic concepts in cultural and heritage management.

**Failure (F)**

Fail to meet the minimum requirements.

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**Assessment Task**

Group project and presentation

**Criterion**

Grade on selection of topics, collection and uses of primary and secondary source materials, creativity in presentation, as well as contents, organizations and fluency of written reports.

**Excellent (A+, A, A-)**

- Excellent command of knowledge of Western cultural heritage.
- Excellent understanding of the various aspects of cultural management in the West.
- Excellent presentation skills to demonstrate an understanding of the basic concepts in cultural and heritage management.

**Good (B+, B, B-)**

- Good command of knowledge of Western cultural heritage.
- Good understanding of the various aspects of cultural management in the West.
- Good presentation skills to demonstrate an understanding of the basic concepts in cultural and heritage management.

**Fair (C+, C, C-)**

- Fair command of the course content.
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**Failure (F)**

Fail to meet the minimum requirements.

**Part III Other Information****Keyword Syllabus**

European history of art; European visual culture; European history; Artistic practice; Artistic theory; Critical terms and concepts for European art history

**Reading List****Compulsory Readings**

| Title |                                                                                                                |
|-------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1     | Jonckheere, K. (2022). A new history of western art: from antiquity to the present day. Yale University Press. |
| 2     | Davies, P.J.E. et al. (2011), Janson's History of Art. The Western Tradition (Eight Edition). Prentice Hall    |

**Additional Readings**

| Title |                                                                   |
|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1     | Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History. The Metropolitan Museum of Art |