

# ART 102: Understanding Art

Instructor: Mandy Keathley  
Email: [keathlm@linnbenton.edu](mailto:keathlm@linnbenton.edu)  
Office hours: By Appt.  
Office: SSH 115

T/R 1:30-2:50 PM  
Credits: 3  
Classroom: NSH 109

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

Understanding Art explores the ways we make, perceive, and interpret art. After gaining a practical understanding of the major formal elements and principles of design, students survey the characteristics and developments of artistic media and movements within their cultural and historical contexts. Topics include, but are not limited to: drawing, painting, graphic arts, sculpture, design, architecture, digital arts, and new media. This course focuses on building foundational knowledge of art and art history, therefore no prior experience is required.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Demonstrate an understanding of a variety of media and techniques.
- Analyze in writing an artwork using the formal elements and principles of design.
- Understand artworks within their social, cultural and historical contexts.

## REQUIRED MATERIALS

- TEXTBOOK: Introduction to Art: Design, Context, Meaning. This free e-textbook can be downloaded at: <http://oer.galileo.usg.edu/arts-textbooks/3/>. If you prefer a hard copy, you can buy it on [Amazon](#) for a reasonable price.
- Additional required readings provided in Moodle.

## COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

- Readings and videos are assigned for each class. You are expected to complete these before class. Consult the Course Schedule (on the last page of the Syllabus) to know what to read for each class.
- Weekly Quizzes are due in Moodle each week of instruction (Weeks 1-10). These are designed to help students keep pace with the material. Quizzes are due Sundays at 11:59 pm.
- Class Activities & Technical Workshops. Classes will often include an activity or workshop. Some activities will be graded, some will not. Activities generally cannot be made up without prior authorization. Please see instructor to discuss accommodations, if appropriate.
  - Class Activities may include discussions, writing assignments, pop quizzes, and group projects and presentations.
  - Technical Workshops allow students to deepen their knowledge of artistic media and techniques through hands-on projects. Assessments are according to effort, ambition, and experimentation, rather than artistic skill.
- Principles of Design Photobook: For this midterm project, students create a photobook of original compositions demonstrating their understanding of the elements of art and principles of design.
- Formal Analysis Paper: A 2-3 page formal analysis paper on an artwork that they have chosen
- Group Final Project: Create an Online Virtual Exhibition based on a chosen theme

Failure to submit an assignment or participate in an activity in a timely manner will result in a 0 grade. Class activities and technical workshops cannot be made up later.

## COURSE GRADING

Assignment	Points
Weekly Quizzes	20
Class Activities & Technical Workshops	20
Formal Analysis Paper	20
Principles of Design Photobook (Midterm)	20
Final Project	20
Total Points	100

## GRADING SCALE

- A 90-100% - Excellent Work
- B 80-89% - Good Work
- C 70-79% - Average Work
- D 60-69% - Poor Work
- F 0-59% - Failing Work

## ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students are allowed 2 absences. Each absence thereafter will deduct 10 points from the final grade (i.e. you will drop a full letter from an A to a B, or a B to a C.) Please contact me if you have a documented excuse (i.e., severe illness, death in the family). Be mindful about any classes you skip. If you miss a lecture, a demo, or handout, you are still responsible for information presented as well as items due at the next class and should contact your peers to find out what you missed.

**Faculty at LBCC may administratively withdraw a student for nonattendance during the first week of the term.**

Students may be automatically dropped from the course by the second Monday of the term if they miss a class session OR if they fail to log into the Moodle course site by Sunday, October 1st at 11:59PM. This policy is to ensure that the class is the right fit for you. If you cannot commit to these requirements, please consider dropping the course, and feel free to re-register in a future term.

## GENERAL GUIDELINES

- o Communicate regularly. See me before or after class if you have questions.
- o The best ways to reach me is before/after class and by email Monday - Thursday.
- o I encourage you to email me with questions or to discuss issues, but please take some care in composing the email to be clear and concise. Because of the high volume of emails that I receive, make sure your email is clear and asks a direct question.
- o Required format for emails:
  - o SUBJECT LINE: [your first + last name] ART 102 [Reason for Email]  
i.e. "Jane Smith, ART 102, Request appointment"
- o Keep up with the material. Readings are substantial, and assignments build on each other. You should spend about 60 minutes reviewing readings/videos and taking notes before each class. The professor reserves the right to administer pop quizzes to check that students are keeping up.

- Attend class. This course revolves around class activities and interactions. If you miss class, you will miss activities, workshops, and time set aside for group work. It is easy to fall behind. You cannot make up missed activities. See the professor during Week 1 if you require accommodations.
- Check your LBCC email regularly (preferably daily), or have it forwarded to your preferred account. I make frequent class announcements, some of which are time-sensitive.
- Take notes of readings/video/lectures. Note-taking is an important college skill developed through practice.
- When in class, focus on class. Class time is valuable. You should be focused on class while you are in the room; if you can't focus, leave the room. If you have personal business (e.g. phone calls/texting, other class work), take care of it outside of the classroom.
- Be a good class citizen. This means be open to: 1) working with others, 2) being respectful of your peers, and 3) trying new things. It's always OK to be unsure about how to do something; it's never OK to give up without trying.
- Be a good team member. You will spend time working with your team in class. The best teams work through style differences. Approach collaborative activities with the attitude that you will contribute something, rather than that you don't know or can't do something.
- Bring a laptop/tablet to class (recommended, not required). This is a technology-friendly course, as long as you use your device for classwork ONLY. Since you will be asked to complete in-class research/writing, and will upload your work and take attendance in Moodle, it will be helpful to have a laptop, tablet, or even a smartphone handy. This is not a requirement, but there will be times when you find it useful. Bringing a print or digital copy of the textbook is also recommended.

## MOODLE

This course uses the Moodle learning platform. Think of Moodle as the online class hub: you will use the Moodle course site to access announcements, the Syllabus and Class Schedule, assignments guidelines, lecture slides, videos, readings, forums, and more. I post lecture slides after each class.

You are expected to keep up with all readings, videos, and assignments posted under each week's module. Failure to keep up in Moodle will result in a lower course grade.

Assignments are turned in via Moodle. Assignments must be uploaded by Sunday at 11:59 pm on the week they are due (See Course Schedule for specific due dates). Moodle automatically closes submission portals when the deadline passes. It is the student's responsibility to upload assignments by deadline, and in an acceptable file format (doc, docx, or pdf). If you are having trouble uploading an assignment, contact the Help Desk or email the professor right away (before the deadline!) Do not wait until the last minute to turn in assignments! "Last-minute problems" such as a faulty internet connection, computer malfunction, conflicting travel plans, personal schedule conflicts, or work are not considered valid excuses for missing deadlines.

Emailed assignments are NEVER accepted. If it's not submitted in Moodle, it's not graded.

## RESOURCES

- Moodle Support: If you have questions about Moodle or need technical support, contact:
  - Student Help Desk (in the Library): Visit, call (541)917-4630, or email [student.helpdesk@linnbenton.edu](mailto:student.helpdesk@linnbenton.edu)
  - LBCC Moodle User Support Forum: Look up answers or post questions: <http://elearning.linnbenton.edu/mod/forum/view.php?id=2697>
- Writing Center
  - Website: <https://www.linnbenton.edu/writing-center>
  - There are 3 ways to use the Writing Center: Schedule a 30-minute appointment (recommended); Use Drop-In Services; Use OWL (Online Writing Lab).
- Important Academic Calendar Dates:
  - Last day to add/drop: April 9, 2018
  - Last day to withdraw: May 20, 2018

- Stay Connected with LBCC Visual Arts! Follow [Linn-Benton Community College Visual Arts](#) on Facebook to stay up to date on LBCC advising, scheduling, gallery openings, and much more!
- Google Arts & Culture: <https://www.google.com/culturalinstitute/beta/>
- LBCC Library Art History page: <http://library.linnbenton.edu/art>.
- We will use the Artstor digital image database for research (available through library page above). Please register an account to access all of Artstor's features.

## INCOMPLETE GRADE POLICY

An incomplete grade may be assigned when a student has completed and passed a majority of the required work, but cannot complete the course for reasons beyond the student's control. Incompletes are given only in extraordinary and documented circumstances (i.e., a family emergency or serious medical excuse), and at the discretion of the professor. If an incomplete grade is granted, the professor will determine the work that must be completed as well as a nonnegotiable completion deadline for submitting all missing work. If the incomplete work is not submitted on time or is unsatisfactory, the incomplete will revert to an F-grade.

## ACCESSIBILITY

If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make arrangements to meet with the instructor DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF CLASS. Late arrangements may cause the requested accommodations to be unavailable. If you have documented your disability, remember that you must make your request for accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources Online Services web page every term in order to receive accommodations. If you believe you may need accommodations, but are not yet registered with CFAR, please go to <http://linnbenton.edu/cfar> for steps on how to apply for services or call 541-917-4789.

## ACADEMIC HONESTY

Academic honesty is an indispensable value as students acquire knowledge and develop college skills. Students are expected to practice academic honesty by not cheating, plagiarizing, or misrepresenting their coursework in any way. Plagiarism, collusion, and other forms of misrepresentation hurt the student and run counter to the goals of education. Students are responsible for understanding and avoiding academic dishonesty. Violations will result in failure of the assignment and possibly the course. Per LBCC policy, all incidents of academic dishonesty are reported to the Associate Dean of Student Development and the Dean of Arts, Social Science & Humanities.

## INCLUSION

To promote academic excellence and learning environments that encourage multiple perspectives and the free exchange of ideas, all courses at LBCC will provide students the opportunity to interact with values, opinions, and/or beliefs different than their own in safe, positive and nurturing learning environments. We are committed to equal opportunities for all faculty, staff and students to develop individually, professionally, and academically regardless of ethnicity, heritage, gender, sexual orientation, ability, socio-economic standing, cultural beliefs and traditions. We are dedicated to an environment that is inclusive and fosters awareness, understanding, and respect for diversity. If you feel excluded or threatened, please contact your instructor and/or department head. LBCC is committed to producing culturally literate individuals capable of interacting, collaborating and problem-solving in an ever-changing community and diverse workforce.

\* I reserve the right to change the contents of this syllabus due to unforeseen circumstances. You will be given notice of relevant changes in class, through a Moodle Announcement, or through LBCC e-mail.