

COURSE OUTLINE

ART AND ARCHITECTURE

Join Alice Foster and learn how to read images, concentrating on the Gothic and Renaissance styles of Western Art and Architecture. Students learn to analyse art stylistically and historically, and examples are chosen to reflect the rich artistic and architectural heritage of Oxford and its surroundings.

The small group seminars are supported by individual tutorials designed to allow students to express their own responses and tastes. The course is supported by close reference to the two key texts mentioned below and formal teaching is complemented by regular visits to places of architectural interest, museums and galleries. Students are encouraged to lead a short verbal presentation on a pre-arranged topic, or to research a topic of interest and present it in written form. By the end of the course students will have learned a pictorial and architectural language which will equip them to observe and write about images in a professional manner. In order to prepare for this course, students are asked to read and acquaint themselves with the introductory chapters in each key text.

Week One: **Visual analysis of style**

How to “look” at images, from the flat style of the Middle Ages, to the 3-D paintings of the Italian Renaissance and the return to the flat style of the early twentieth century. The language of image making, distinguishing between Gothic and Classical styles.

Week Two: **The Early Renaissance**

Painting, sculpture and architecture
Visit: The Ashmolean Museum and Christ Church Picture Gallery

Week Three: **The High Renaissance**

Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci; Raphael
The Architecture of Bramante
Visits: Oxford buildings

Week Four: **Conclusions and presentations of assignments**

In what ways did the artists of the Middle Ages in Europe and during the Renaissance in Italy affect the nature of the art that followed these seminal periods in the history of art and architecture?

Recommended Reading

<i>The Story of Art</i>	E H Gombrich	ISBN 0714832470
<i>The Story of Architecture</i>	P Nuttgens	ISBN 0714836168

If you are unable to obtain books locally, they may be ordered from

<http://bookshop.blackwell.co.uk>

or

www.amazon.co.uk