

**Ancient and Medieval History of Art**

Code: 100025  
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2502758 Humanities	OB	2	1

### Contact

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### Use of Languages

Principal working language: catalan (cat)  
Some groups entirely in English: No  
Some groups entirely in Catalan: Yes  
Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

### Prerequisites

No prerequisites

### Objectives and Contextualisation

The course aims to offer a basic overview of the history of Western art, from Ancient world to the end of the Middle Ages. It will provide students with the fundamental reading keys for understanding the artistic evolution and the main features of the periods studied. Focus will be placed on a Mediterranean and European context, although it will also be analyzed the artistic background provided by the Near Eastern and Egyptian cultures, without which it is not possible to understand the genesis of Western art.

### Competences

- Analysing the regulations about cultural and natural heritage.
- Critically analysing today's culture and its historical conditions.
- Designing, producing, disseminating and commercializing a cultural product.
- Producing innovative and competitive proposals in research and professional activity.
- Properly using the resources and methodologies of the study of contemporary culture.

### Learning Outcomes

1. Analysing the legal framework of copyrights in cinematography.
2. Applying the knowledge about aesthetic ideas and art theory to the analysis of the cinematographic imagery.
3. Contrasting the various legal frameworks of the artistic heritage.
4. Designing programmes of museography or management of the artistic heritage.
5. Distinguishing the techniques and elaboration process of an artistic object from the avant-garde and the latest artistic trends.
6. Identifying the artistic imagery, placing it into its cultural context.
7. Preparing a proposal for an exhibition from a provided material.
8. Reconstructing the artistic outlook of the contemporary world.
9. Relating the artistic creations from various periods with other cultural phenomena.

## Content

### PART ONE: ANTIQUITY

1. Background: Eastern and Mediterranean roots of Western art. The Near East and Egypt as creative focus: architectural and plastic arguments. Before Greece: the art of the Aegean cultures (Cyclades, Crete, Mycenae).

2. Greek art (6th century BC - 2nd century BC): Greek civilization: history and cultural patterns. Myths and Iconographic development. The archaic Greece and the creation of the architectural model. Painted ceramics. Sculpture: the progression of naturalism. The Classical era: religious architecture and monumental sculpture. Hellenism: monumental trends of the 3rd and 2nd centuries BC.

3. Roman art (3rd century BC- 3rd century AD): Precedents: Etruscan art and the importance of Hellenism as a substrate. Monumental and domestic architecture in the Republican era. Portraiture as an intentional paradigm. A historiographical vision of Roman painting: the Pompeian styles. Art of the Empire: architecture as a political expression (forums, temples, buildings for leisure, honorary arches). Evolution of figurative arts until the 3rd century AD.

### PART TWO: LATE ANTIQUITY AND HIGH MIDDLE AGES

4. The art of Late Antiquity (4th-5th centuries): Historical context: late roman and post roman world in the West. Evolution of Roman architecture: palaces, basilicas. Christianity and new models of religious buildings. Visual arts: evolution and rethinking of Naturalism. The splendor of mosaic in architectural decoration. From Rome to Constantinople: architecture in the time of Justinian. The value of the sumptuary arts (miniature, ivory carving, metalwork).

5. A look at the East (8th-15th centuries): Character and romanity of the Byzantine Empire. The iconoclastic period and the fight for images. The apogee of the empire in the Macedonian and Comnen era. Churches, monasteries, palaces. Mural decoration: techniques, iconography. Figurative arts: miniature, icon painting, sculpture, metalwork. Evolution of art in Late Byzantium. A panoramic approach to Islamic art: Umayyad and Abbasid architecture. Specificities of Andalusian art: from the caliphate to taifa kingdoms. Decorative arts in medieval Islam.

6. The art of the West in Early Middle Ages (6th-10th centuries): The weight of the Late Antiquity inheritance in the art of the barbarian kingdoms: Visigoth Spain, Langobardic Italy, Merovingian Gaul. The Carolingian Empire and the cultural *renovatio*. Carolingian architecture and its iconographic values. A renewed splendor for sumptuary arts: miniature, ivory carving, metalwork. The art of the Asturian monarchy.

### PART THREE: THE MEDIEVAL WEST

7. Romanesque art (11th-13th centuries): Significance and origins of Romanesque architecture around the year 1000. First Romanesque: a redefinition of High Medieval architecture and decoration. Cathedrals and monasteries in high Romanesque (ca. 1060 - 1150). Decorative sculpture as the dominant language. Luxury and sumptuousness inside the church: mural painting, liturgical furniture. The arts of the object (miniature, metalwork, textiles) and the role of women artists. A final explosion: late Romanesque and the 1200 style.

8. The Gothic (12th-15th centuries): The definition of the Gothic in the Île-de-France. New French cathedrals and their decoration. Other models: Italy, Germany, meridional Gothic. Arts of color: miniature, painting, stained glass. The crisis of the 14th century and the reformulation of medieval world. International Gothic and the splendor of the sumptuary arts (metalwork, enamels, fabrics). Late painting and sculpture: a new approach to Naturalism.

## Methodology

Primary methodology of the course is master class, supported by projection of images. Discourse focuses on the analysis of the specific works of art, in order to evoke, from them, the general characteristics of the artistic production of each period studied. This will be completed with various readings, and the optional assistance to exhibitions and museums related to the contents of course.

## Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Master classes	40	1.6	
Type: Supervised			
Readings	10	0.4	
Tutorials	5	0.2	
Type: Autonomous			
Autonomous study	60	2.4	
Collection and analysis of images	20	0.8	
Visit to museums or exhibitions	5	0.2	

## Assessment

Evaluation of the course will be based on three different exercises. Two of them will be partial exams, each of which will correspond to 40% of the final grade. The exams will be based on the visual identification of several works of art, and on a brief answer to a theoretical question raised around the same images. The rest of the note (20%) will be obtained from the evaluation of an essay (about which the student will be informed at the beginning of the course).

The re-evaluation is understood as complementary and not as a parallel evaluation system. It will be accessible only to students who justifiably (due to illness or other causes) have not been able to take the exams on the scheduled dates. Students who have not passed the course but have a final grade between 3'5 and 4'9 may be submitted to a second-chance examination. (The maximum score of this examen will be a 5.)

## Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Essay	20	5	0.2	6
Partial exams	80	5	0.2	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

## Bibliography

BANGO, Isidro, *Alta Edad Media. De la tradición hispanogoda al románico*, Madrid, 1989

BANGO, Isidro, *El arte románico*, Madrid, 1989

BANGO, Isidro & Concepción ABAD, *Arte medieval I*, Madrid, 1996.

BANGO, Isidro & Gonzalo BORRÁS, *Arte bizantino y Arte del Islam*, Madrid, 1996.

BECKWITH, John, *Arte paleocristiano y bizantino*, Madrid, 1997 (1979).

- BENDALA, Manuel & María José LÓPEZ GRANDE, *Arte egipcio y del Próximo Oriente*, Madrid, 1996.
- BOARDMAN, John, *El arte griego*, Barcelona, 1991 (1967).
- BIANCHI BANDINELLI, Ranuccio & Enrico PARIBENI, *El arte de la Antigüedad clásica. Grecia*, Madrid, 1998.
- BIANCHI BANDINELLI, Ranuccio & Mario TORELLI, *El arte de la Antigüedad clásica. Etruria-Roma*, Madrid, 2000.
- FRANKFORT, Henry, *Arte y arquitectura del Oriente antiguo*, Madrid, 1982 (1954).
- FRANKL, Paul, *Arquitectura gótica*, Madrid, 2002.
- GOMBRICH, Ernst H., *Historia del arte*, 2002 (1950).
- GRABAR, Oleg, *La formación del arte islámico*, Madrid, 2000.
- KRAUTHEIMER, Richard, *Arquitectura paleocristiana y bizantina*, Madrid, 1984.
- LASKO, Peter, *Arte sacro 800-1200*, Madrid, 1999 (1972).
- MARTÍNEZ DE LA TORRE, Cruz et al., *Historia del arte antiguo en Egipto y Próximo Oriente*, Madrid, 2009.
- POLLIT, Jerome Jordan, *El arte helenístico*, Madrid, 1989 (1986).
- PREZIOSI, Donald & Louise A. HITCCOCK, *Aegean Art and Architecture*, Oxford, 1999.
- SMITH, William S., *Arte y arquitectura del Antiguo Egipto*, Madrid, 2000.
- VERGNOLLE, Élianne, *L'art roman en France*, París, 1994.
- WILLIAMSON, Paul, *Escultura gótica, 1140-1300*, Madrid, 2000.
- YARZA, Joaquín & Marisa MELERO, *Arte medieval II*, Madrid, 1996.