



SYLLABUS

FAAH 3590 ISLAMIC ART AND ARCHITECTURE

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SYLLABUS

Welcome to Islamic Art! This course will examine, in chronological sequence, the historical and cultural events plus the persons of significance who shaped the appearance and content of Islamic art, the purposes of works of art, their media and technique, as well as their style. In particular, the course will be divided into three distinct sections: the early Islam period, the middle Islamic period, and the late Islamic period. Architecture, calligraphy and painting, textiles, and the decorative arts will be discussed in separate units within each of these chronological eras. Of particular significance will be the unique qualities of Islamic aesthetics that distinguishes it from other art producing centers of the world, especially the Western world. We will also seek to understand the many ways in which arts produced in lands ruled by Muslims assimilated influences from other cultures at various times. You will be expected to learn important terminology associated with the history and creation of the objects we will be discussing.

CONTACTING YOUR INSTRUCTOR

For information on contacting your instructor as well as other important information from your instructor see the Instructor Letter link in your course website.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The University of Manitoba *Undergraduate Calendar* describes this course as follows:

FAAH 3590 - Islamic Art and Architecture (Formerly 054.359) A contextual and thematic study of Islamic art and architecture beginning in the 7th century and continuing through the present. No prerequisite. 3.000 Credit Hours

This is a third year course covering the art and architecture created in lands ruled by Muslims from the 7th century to the 17th century. It is recommended that students complete FAAH1030 prior to taking this course.

COURSE GOALS

Upon completion of this course you should be able to:

- Explain the key components of Islam as a religious tradition, its principles, and its history;
- Define and analyze the purpose of Islamic art;
- Describe the materials and methods used in the creation of art and architecture that supports Muslim beliefs;
- Develop and use a vocabulary that specifically applies to Islamic art and architecture;
- Identify key monuments or works of art in the history of Islamic art;
- Discuss the various cultures, including pre-Islamic cultures, that influenced the development of Islamic art and architecture.
- Explain how the traditions of Islam are present in contemporary artistic production.

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COURSE MATERIALS

REQUIRED

Bookstore

The following required materials are available for purchase from the [University of Manitoba Bookstore](#). Please order your materials immediately, if you have not already done so. See your [Distance and Online Education Student Handbook](#) for instructions on how to order your materials.

- **Textbook**

Bloom, Jonathan and Sheila Blair. *Islamic Arts*. New York: Phaidon Press, 1997.

Required hardware and software

You will require the following items for your computer for this course:

1. Headset or speakers to hear audio files.

You will also need to install the following software on your computer for this course:

- Acrobat reader
- Flash Player

We strongly recommend that you install and test all required hardware and software immediately. If you encounter difficulties installing your software, contact de_support@umanitoba.ca.

OPTIONAL

Bookstore

The following optional materials are available for purchase from the University of Manitoba Bookstore. Please order your materials immediately, if you have not already done so. See your [Distance and Online Education Student Handbook](#) for instructions on how to order your materials.

- S. Hudson and N. Noonan-Morrissey (2002). *The Art of Writing about Art*. Belmont, CA: Thomson.

This small paperback is **not required** but if you have not written an essay for a long time, or feel the need of some assistance, this book is a good choice.

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COURSE OVERVIEW

Islamic Art is a general term encompassing the arts produced by, and for, all Islamic cultures. It includes Islamic religious art along with a widespread variety of general Islamic Art. Our study will begin with the rise of Islamic Art in the seventh century and conclude with its wide spread establishment across many lands in the fifteenth century. In just a few weeks we will explore several hundred years of Islamic Art together!

TOPICS

The approach to Islamic Art will focus on three distinct chronological periods. In each period we will examine the same four topics:

- Architecture
- Calligraphy
- Textiles
- Ceramics and metalwork

Section 1: The Early Islamic Period (600–900)

Unit 1 The Rise of Islam 600–900 AD & Mosques, Mansions and Mosaics: The Arts of Building

Unit 2 Pens and Parchment: The Koran and Early Writing

Unit 3 The Draped Universe: The Arts of the Loom

Unit 4 Pots, Pans, and Pitchers: The Decorative Arts

Section 2: The Middle Islamic Period (900–1500)

Unit 5 Regional Centers and Local Powers 900-1500 AD & Madrasas and Muqaranas: The Arts of Building

Unit 6 Penmen and Painters: The Arts of the Book

Unit 7 Warps, Wefts and Pile: The Arts of the Loom
 Unit 8 Colours and Figures: The Decorative Arts

Section 3: The Late Islamic Period (1500–1800)

Unit 9 The Great Empires 1500–1800 AD & Capitals and Complexes: The Arts of Building
 Unit 10 From Manuscript to Page: The Arts of the Book
 Unit 11 Velvets and Carpets: The Arts of the Loom
 Unit 12 Bedecked and Bejewelled: The Decorative Arts

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LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Each unit will have one or more of the following learning activities:

- Crossword and/or flashcards to test and practice vocabulary
- Key image identification activity to help you prepare for the quizzes and exam
- Self -test questions on the textbook and study notes to provide practice answering the kind of questions you will encounter in the quizzes and exam

EVALUATION AND GRADING

There are two online quizzes, a research paper, and a final exam.

DISTRIBUTION OF MARKS

Evaluation	Percentage
Online Quiz 1	10%
Online Quiz 2	10%
Research Paper	40%
<u>Final examination</u>	<u>40%</u>
Total	100%

GRADING SCALE

Letter grade	Grade Point value	Percentage range	Description
A+	4.5	93 – 100	Exceptional
A	4.0	87 – 92.5	Excellent
B+	3.5	79 – 86.5	Very good
B	3.0	72 – 78.5	Good
C+	2.5	65 – 71.5	Satisfactory
C	2.0	58 – 64.5	Adequate
D	1.0	50 – 57.5	Marginal
F	0.0	less than 50	Failure

Note: All final grades are subject to departmental review.

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ASSIGNMENTS

You MUST complete and submit all assignments and graded activities. You will NOT be permitted to write the final exam if assignments are incomplete.

Quizzes: Two online quizzes will test your comprehension of the material you have been reading, your knowledge of vocabulary, and your ability to identify key monuments in the history of Islamic art. The quizzes will contain 50 multiple choice questions, and 5 images to identify and discuss. You will have 55 minutes to complete each quiz. Quiz 1 covers the

material presented in the first section of the course. Quiz 2 covers the material presented in the second section of the course. The quizzes will be open from noon on the day before the due date until the midnight on the due date.

Research paper: There will be a choice of thirty-five (35) topics for the research paper. This is a formal paper that will require intensive research and analysis and is to be between 1000-1200 not including bibliography or works cited.

You may submit your essay for feedback to the [Virtual Learning Commons](#) where it will be examined and commented on providing you an opportunity to improve it before submitting it to the instructor for grading. In order to use the Online Writing Tutor you must login with your UMnetID username and password.

Note: Detailed instructions about the assignments are found on the course website.

ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES

Consult your course schedule for the assignment due dates.

LATE POLICY

No late material will be accepted. The online course assessment tools are designed to lock once the submission deadline has passed.

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EXAMINATION

The final exam will be written online.

The final exam is worth 40% of your final grade. You must pass the exam in order to pass this course. You will have 3 hours to complete the exam. It contains 50 multiple choice questions, and 5 images to identify and discuss: The final exam covers the material presented in all sections of the course. See the sample examination in the **quiz section** in your course website.

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PLAGIARISM, CHEATING, AND EXAMINATION IMPERSONATION

You should acquaint yourself with the University's policy on plagiarism, cheating, and examination impersonation as detailed in the General Academic Regulations and Policy section of the University of Manitoba *Undergraduate Calendar*. Note: These policies are also located in your *Distance and Online Education Student Handbook* or you may refer to Student Affairs at <http://www.umanitoba.ca/student>.

School of Art Plagiarism and Cheating Policy: *To plagiarize is to take ideas or words of another person and pass them off as one's own. In short, it is stealing something intangible rather than an object. Obviously, it is not necessary to state the source of well-known or easily verifiable facts, but students are expected to acknowledge the sources of ideas and expressions they use in their written work, whether quoted directly or paraphrased. This applies to diagrams, statistical tables and the like, as well as to written material, and materials or information from Internet sources. To provide adequate and correct documentation is not only an indication of academic honesty but is also a courtesy, which enables the reader to consult these sources with ease. Failure to do so constitutes plagiarism. It will also be considered plagiarism and/or cheating if a student submits a term paper written in whole or in part by someone other than him/herself, or copies the answer or answers of another student in any test, examination, or take-home assignment. Plagiarism or any other form of cheating in examinations, or term tests (e.g., crib notes) is subject to serious academic penalty (e.g., suspension or expulsion from the faculty or university). A student found guilty of contributing to cheating in examinations or term assignments is also subject to serious academic penalty.*

Honesty and Integrity: While the University of Manitoba has its own policy on plagiarism and cheating, I would like to add that I expect the highest level of honesty and integrity from each student. Each quiz or assignment that bears your name is a reflection of your integrity.

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DISTANCE AND ONLINE EDUCATION (DE) STUDENT RESOURCES

IN YOUR COURSE WEBSITE THERE ARE LINKS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

- Contacting Distance and Online Education Staff
- Distance and Online Student Handbook
- Distance and Online Education Website

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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