

# Nothing Is What It Seems: Dutch Art of the Golden Age 18.7.2011-29.7.2011

## Utrecht Summer School 2011

Course Director - Nausikaä El-Mecky, University of Cambridge, Department of History of Art. Email: [ne229@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ne229@cam.ac.uk).

This course is highly interactive and based around several excursions a week, seminars where students can explore a topic through a combination of lectures and discussions, regular lectures and a workshop in which students can experiment with some of the techniques used by the artists they are studying.

### WEEK 1 18.7– 22.7.2011

#### **Monday 18.7**

##### **Introduction**

10:00-12:00

##### **Film**

*Girl with a Pearl Earring*

13:00-15:00

A first cinematic taste of life in the Golden Age.

#### **Tuesday 19.7**

##### **Excursion**

All day

*Life in the Golden Age*

Excursion to Amsterdam: *Rembrandthuis*, *Amsterdams Historisch Museum* and Golden Age walk through the city. A chance to experience 17<sup>th</sup> century life first-hand before delving into the art of the period.

Meeting at Utrecht Centraal railwaystation in the main hall in front of the ticket office (which is situated under the large blue departures board) at 08:55 am where you will receive your ticket.

**Note:** bring your *Museumjaarkaart* and a 1 Euro coin for the cloakroom lockers, as well as an umbrella if the weather is bad.

## **Wednesday 20.7**

### **Seminar**

9:30 am

*What Makes Dutch 17th Century Art So Special?*

Why are people so fascinated by Dutch 17th Century art? How can we approach it?

### **Excursion**

1pm

*Rijksmuseum Amsterdam: The Masterpieces*

We will visit the Masterpieces at the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam to take a first look at some of the most renowned works in Dutch Golden Age Art.

1pm Meeting at Utrecht Centraal railwaystation in the main hall in front of the ticket office (which is situated under the large blue departures board) where you will receive your traintickets.

## **Thursday 21.7**

### **Lecture**

10 am

*Turmoil after Tempera: War, Democracy, Iconoclasm, Technology and Oil Paint.*

An exploration of different factors that can change art: cultural, political, religious and technical.

### **Workshop**

2pm

*Oil Paint Workshop*

Oil Paint workshop: Using 17<sup>th</sup> century colours and painting technique yourselves.

## **Friday 22.7**

### **Optional Assignment**

*Prinsenhof / Other*

You may use this day to revisit museums we've already been to, explore Dutch cities or do the extra assignment (see course handbook) by visiting the Prinsenhof Museum in Delft.

## WEEK 2    25.7– 29.7.2011

### **Monday 25.7**

#### **Lecture**

*Landscape and Still Life*

9:30 am

#### **Excursion**

*Mauritshuis, The Hague*

13:00 meet at usual meeting point at Utrecht Centraal Station

Finish at 5pm.

### **Tuesday 26.7**

#### **Seminar**

9:30

*Academic Controversies in Interpreting Dutch Golden Age Art*

#### **Excursion**

13:40 meet at usual meeting point at Utrecht Centraal Station

*Frans Hals Museum, Haarlem*

Finish at 5pm.

### **Wednesday 27.7**

#### **Lecture**

9:30 am

*Dutch Art of the 16<sup>th</sup> Century, Catholic Art and the Special Position of Utrecht Painters During the Golden Age.*

Note: Supplementary Reading will be provided for this lecture for those with a particular interest in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century.

#### **Excursion**

1pm

*Catherijneconvent and Centraal Museum Utrecht: 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Century art.*

### **Thursday 28.7**

#### **Presentations**

9:00

Drift 23, room 207

### **Excursion**

13:40 meet at usual meeting point at Utrecht Centraal Station  
*Delft: Porseleyen Fles, City Walk and Group Dinner*

Finish around 9pm.

### **Friday 29.7**

#### **Individual Grade Discussions**

10:00-12:00

This is your opportunity to discuss your grades and any questions you might have in a brief one-to-one meeting with the course director.

#### **Diploma Ceremony**

12:00-13:00

We finish the course in style by awarding everyone with their certificates, taking photos and saying goodbye to those not staying for the Modern part of the course.

### **Additional Information**

#### **CHECKLIST**

For Excursions be sure to bring:

- 1 euro coin for lockers
- Voordeelurenkaart (your discount card for train travel, if you've been given one)
- Museumjaarkaart (your discount card for museums)
- Umbrella / Raincoat in case of bad weather

#### **SEMINARS**

If you have a suggestion for a topic, question or statement that you would like to explore during a seminar, please send me an email on [ne229@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ne229@cam.ac.uk)

#### **ATTENDANCE / PARTICIPATION**

Attendance at all the parts of the programme is mandatory and absence without good reason may result in a lower participation grade for the course. If you are unable to make it, get in touch as soon as possible, particularly if there is an excursion planned by sending an email to [ne229@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ne229@cam.ac.uk). The same holds for the assigned readings, which are expected to be read to ensure full participation in the seminars and excursions.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

Everyone will be asked to present on a painting of their choice from the Golden Age. These presentations will be held at the Drift Lecture Room. You may choose any painting from the Golden Age, on the condition that you have had the chance to see it during one of the excursions of the course. Presentations will last for ten minutes and will be presented to your peers on the 30<sup>th</sup> of July.

<b>Name:</b>	Dr. Matthias Vollmer
<b>Email address:</b>	mvollmer@t-online.de
<b>Course title:</b>	Art in Germany from the Middle Ages to the 20th Century
<b>Track:</b>	D-Track
<b>Language of instruction:</b>	English
<b>Contact hours:</b>	48 (6 per day)
<b>ECTS-Credits:</b>	4

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### **Course description**

The course will introduce Berlin's outstanding art collections, with their wide range of masterpieces from late medieval times to the present day. We shall focus throughout on the particular circumstances that shaped the production and reception of German art, especially during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. During this long period, the formation of a German nation state and the problematic notion of a German national identity became intimately connected to the question of a German style and artistic 'expression'. A special focus will be given to the "Art of the two Germanys" between 1945 and 1989. We shall explore Germany's vibrant art history by focusing in depth on works by artists like Martin Schongauer and Albrecht Dürer, Caspar David Friedrich, Karl Friedrich Schinkel and Adolph Menzel, Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, Otto Dix, Joseph Beuys and Anselm Kiefer. Visits include the following museums and galleries in Berlin: the Deutsche Historische Museum, the Gemäldegalerie, the Museum of Photography, the Brücke Museum, the Nationalgalleries, and the Hamburger Bahnhof Museum.

### **Student profile**

In principle, the course is open to all students regardless of their field of study, but in the first place it addresses art history students. An elementary knowledge of art and art history is advantageous, but not obligatory.

### **Prerequisites**

none

### **Course Requirements**

Regular attendance & active participation, final exam

### **Grading**

Attendance & participation: 60%

Final Exam: 40%

### **Literature**

A course reader will be provided.

**Course schedule**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Program</b>
Monday, August 1, 2011	<p>Introduction</p> <p>Overview of the content, aims and the logistic parameters of the course: grading, attendance, final exam, visits to museums (excursions)</p> <p>Art and National Identity</p> <p>Excursion: Deutsches Historisches Museum</p>
Tuesday, August 2, 2011	<p>The Middle Ages and the Renaissance: From Prague to Nuremberg and Wittenberg</p> <p>Excursion: Gemäldegalerie - Altarpieces and panel paintings</p>
Thursday, August 4, 2011	<p>The 19<sup>th</sup> Century: Romanicism, Historicism and Realism</p> <p>Excursion: Alte Nationalgalerie: Friedrich, Runge, Menzel, Böcklin</p>
Friday, August 5, 2011	<p>Light and the Discovery of Photography</p> <p>Excursion: Museum of Photography</p>
Monday, August 8, 2011	<p>The 20th Century - The Avantgardes I</p> <p>Excursion: Brücke-Museum or Berlinische Galerie</p>
Tuesday, August 9, 2011	<p>The 20th Century - From the Avantgardes to "Degenerate Art"</p> <p>Exkursion: Neue Nationalgalerie or Sammlung Scharf-Gerstenberg</p>
Thursday, August 11, 2011	<p>The 20th Century: Contemporary Art and the German Past</p> <p>Excursion: Hamburger Bahnhof Gallery</p>
Friday, August 12, 2011	<p>Final Exam in Class</p>