

Art and Architecture in Paris

Quest University Canada | May 2018



Tutors

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Class Hours

On campus: May 11 to May 17, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Room A-216.

Arrival in Paris: May 23.

Departure: June 6.

Office Hours

By appointment, or whenever our doors are open. Please feel free to knock.

Description

The course will take place in two parts. We will first meet for seven days on campus for an intensive study of theory, and for the visual analysis of particular paintings, buildings, and sculptures we can see in Paris. We will then take a travel break, and reconvene for the last two weeks at our lodgings in Paris in the Marais. The rationale for a field course to Paris is simple: by walking out the door, we have access on foot to a Roman arena in 30 minutes, a Gothic cathedral in 15 minutes, and a Frank Gehry museum in a 20-minute metro trip. The Louvre—the world’s largest art museum—is likewise only 15 minutes away on foot, not to mention the dozens of smaller museums in the city. We hope to arrive in Paris knowing what works we want to see, and what we are looking for when we see them.

Course Goals

This class aims to teach students how to respond intelligently to a work of art or architecture. We all have spontaneous responses, but most tourists browse museums and monuments with an empty feeling of not knowing what they are looking for. Even a quick study, however, will enhance our ability to recognize and take note of the various fundamental elements of a work of visual art. Ultimately, students will be able to provide an *interpretation* of a work of art—that is, they will be able to make a cogent argument about what they think it *means*.

Required Texts

1. C. Davies, *Thinking about Architecture: An Introduction to Architectural Theory (TA)*
2. E. Gombrich, *Story of Art (SA)*
3. R. M. Rilke, *Rodin*
4. R. M. Rilke, *Letters on Cézanne*

Paper format

For all assignments, please use MLA format, including a proper heading, substantive title, and a header on every page showing your last name and the page number. See the following example: https://owl.english.purdue.edu/media/pdf/20091250615234_747.pdf You may always rewrite a paper, as long as you do so with permission, and promptly.

Assignments by day (subject to change)

Class	Day	Date	Reading	Assignment Due
1	F	May 11	Prown and Panofsky	
2	Sa	May 12	SA Intro through Ch 7	
3	Su	May 13	SA Ch 8-18	
4	M	May 14	SA Ch 19-24	Ind. Presentations Bring insurance info.
5	T	May 15	SA Ch 25-28	
6	W	May 16	TA Intro, Ch 1-4	
7	Th	May 17	TA Ch 5-8	Final paper 4 pp
Travel Break				
9	W	May 23	Arrival in Paris	Group dinner (GD)
			AM	PM
				Evening
10	Th	May 24	N. Dame, Sainte Chapelle	Louvre
11	F	May 25	Louvre	GD
12	Sa	May 26	Excursion to Chartres	
13	Su	May 27	Free day	
14	M	May 28	Observatoire	GD; Rilke, <i>Cézanne</i>
15	Tu	May 29	Excursion to Versailles	Piano recital
16	W	May 30		Louvre
17	Th	May 31	Excursion to Giverny and lunch	Louvre
18	F	June 1	Orsay	GD
19	Sa	June 2	Orangerie	GD
20	Su	June 3	Free day	
21	M	June 4	Fondation Louis Vuitton	GD; Rilke, <i>Rodin</i>
22	Tu	June 5	Musée Rodin	Final dinner
24	W	June 6	Clean-up and Departure by 10:00 a.m.	

Assessment

Assignments and assessments will include analysis papers on readings; PPT presentations on particular works and in museums; daily excursions and conversations; keeping a sketch book (graded for completion only), and a presentation on a work of your choosing in Paris.

Active class participation	30%
Short Paper	20%
Presentations	30%
Sketch book	20%

Course Policies

Attendance: You must attend every class, every activity, every excursion, and every performance. If you must miss a day for a valid reason (e.g., illness, family emergency, religious observance), contact us in person or by e-mail as early as possible. Regardless of the reason for your absence, it is your responsibility to catch up on the material you have missed by consulting with a classmate. Three unexcused absences will mean a failure in the class. It is especially important while abroad that you take care of yourself so that you can be ready to go early each day.

Truancy: When we are on campus, please arrive to class a few minutes early so that we can be sure to start at 10:00 a.m. sharp. This rule holds with special rigour for the start of class each day in Paris, when we will have to assemble as a group for our daily visits or excursions. **No late assignments.**

Technology: If your cell phone rings or if your devices send any audible notification in class, you will have to perform a one-minute dance. Laptops are only to be used when you are specifically assigned to do so, but bring them every day. Otherwise, please keep them closed and stowed away.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism occurs when you present others' material as your own. In general, this class aims to equip you to interpret these works of art on your own; the assignments are designed so that you develop your own visual acumen and judgment. Any class discussion, or any conversation with friends, is considered common intellectual property and does not need to be cited. However, if you *do* consult published outside sources for your work, of whatever kind, they *must* be cited properly. If you have *any* questions, ask *first*.

Food and Drinks: No food is allowed in the classroom or in break-out rooms. Drinks are fine.

Learning Accommodations: If you have an approved plan for learning accommodations, the policy requires you to contact the tutors on the first day of class so that we can work out the appropriate measures together.

Il depend de celui qui passe
Que je sois tombe ou trésor
Que je parle ou me taise
Ceci ne tient qu'à toi
Ami n'entre pas sans désir.
--Valéry, inscription



*It depends on him who passes by
That I be tomb or treasure
That I speak or fall silent
It's up to you alone,
Friend: do not come in without
desire.*



Field trip rules:

1. This trip is a Quest class to Paris, hopefully one of many more. Your behavior matters, for you represent Quest. We expect you to be courteous and presentable at all times; we ask for respectful dress, especially in places of worship that we visit. Visits to the concert hall normally require dress clothes.
2. This is a study trip during which we all live together. We have to insist on behavioural rules, such as **reasonable and modest** alcohol consumption. Especially due to increased threats of terrorism, we will insist on a curfew at nighttime; you must carry a cell phone (or text messaging service at a minimum); buddy system for all outings.
3. When our visits or excursions are done for the day, you are free to go into town on your own. Please return punctually for meals and performances.
4. No visitors may stay in the apartments.
5. You must take care of your own passport and visa for travel into France, and you must have them ready by departure.
6. If you get held at the border, or arrested anywhere else for any reason, you will be dropped from the class, and you will have to get yourself out of trouble on your own. *Absolutely no illegal substances of any kind.*
7. For shared meals, everyone contributes his/her fair share of planning, shopping, cooking, clean-up, and so on.
8. Our Parisian stay ends on Wednesday morning, June 6. We will say our goodbyes after breakfast and clean-up. Checkout is at 10:00 a.m.