
Course Title:	The Great British Art Appreciation in London
Program and Date:	May13-28 2025
Academic Department:	Art
Instructor Name:	Prof. Chris Wille
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Get to Know Your Professor

Prof. Christopher Wille is an artist and educator based in Bloomington, Illinois. Wille is Associate Professor of Digital Media & Design and Chair of Art and Education division at Eureka College. He received his bachelors of Art at Eastern Illinois University, and his Master of Fine Art at Illinois State University where he graduated with honors. His work combines new media with traditional sculptural techniques to form a hybrid. Wille's work has been shown nationally and internationally including New York, Texas, Arkansas, South Korea, Berlin Germany, and Reykjavík Iceland. Recent recognition includes a Merit Award at the Emerging Illinois Artist exhibition and an Honorable Mention at the 4th Cheongju International Craft Competition, as well as three artist residencies. These include I-Park in East Haddam, Connecticut, SÍM in Reykjavík, Iceland, and Arteles in Finland. Wille is a founding member of Sphere a collaborative artist collective. Prof. Wille participated in a seminar at Yale focusing on British art history and the art of London.

Course Description

London's deep historic importance in the art world is exemplified by its vast range of museums and galleries that provide a unique opportunity for students of the visual arts to enrich their understanding of the function and meaning of art. By focusing on how contemporary artists compare with art from previous ages and different cultures, the interconnectedness of art through history will be emphasized. We will immerse ourselves in such amazing collections of art as the British Museum, the National Gallery, the Royal Academy of Art, the Victoria and Albert Museum, and the Tate Gallery while sampling the contemporary art scene on display in galleries and walls throughout the city.



Prerequisite(s)

None

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of all coursework with a passing grade and full participation in course activities, students shall be able to:

1. explore the history of London's art scene and compare it to the larger global art scene. identify important art works and institutions in London's rich artistic history and compare them through written critique.
2. demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between artistic technique and the expression of an artwork's underlying concept.
3. analyze the formal elements of performances and works of art using standards and vocabulary appropriate to the form and cultural context.
4. engage in the artistic process, including conception, creation, and ongoing critical analysis.

Required Readings and Materials

Seven Keys to Modern Art, By Simon Morley ISBN 978-0-500-02162-0
Notebook
Pencil or pen

Assignments and Grades

Students will be assessed on Essay (10% of grade), journal/sketchbook (30%), critiques (25% of grade), signature assignment (25% of grade), and participation (10% of grade). This should be a lower division class.

The students will complete the essay before the trip, the crits during the trip, and the signature assignment after.

TWO WEEKS OF ASYNCHRONOUS WORK BEFORE TRIP

Essay (10%): Before travel, students will watch several video modules and write a five-page essay, evaluating two artists backed by research and presenting work by the artists. The purpose of the essay is to compare and contrast these artists. Along with the writing, images of work should be included and referenced. Proper use of art vocabulary should be demonstrated in the essay. This is medium-stakes writing assignment. While you don't have to develop an overall argument, your work will be assessed on the depth of your observations and the clarity/coherence of your writing.

DURING TRIP

Journal/Sketchbook (30%): Students will keep a journal while visiting museums, each visit the student should choose one or two works and take some note on their thought of the piece and its importance to the British art scene. Along with the journal entry students should take time to sketch out the work applying practical artistic learning through the tradition of copying masterworks. Notes from the journal entries will be used to inform the work done in the critiques turned in during the trip.

Critiques (25%): Students will write three two-page critiques of a gallery or museum visit. These are low-stakes writing assignments designed to get you thinking about upcoming topics. The objective of these papers is to generate initial ideas; your writing does not have to be fancy or polished, nor do you need to present an argument. These short writings are a critical evaluation of a work you saw in the museum or gallery. Include an image. Students should analyze the formal elements of the art and use proper vocabulary to describe the aesthetic qualities of the artist. If you meet the word minimum with comprehensibility and relevance, you will receive a 100%. If you do not submit a response (or submit something nonsensical or entirely irrelevant), you will get a 0%. Note: because these are low-stakes writing assignments, I will not give written feedback, just the grade based on completion.

Participation (10%)

Participation in all on-site class sessions and activities is mandatory. This includes attending class sessions and activities on time, and communicating and participating during presentations and discussions.

AFTER TRIP

Signature Assignment- (25%)

Presentations, Research Paper, & Original Artwork: Students will select an artist from a list provided by the instructor. Students will deliver a five-minute presentation and submit a five-to-seven page research paper and create an original work of art in the artist's style. The presentation and the paper will focus on one artist and present their work, the context of their work and how it fits in the larger world. Along with the presentation students will create an original artwork in the artist's style. Students will need to indicate proper use of art vocabulary. This is a high-stakes writing assignment.

Grading Scale

The following scale will be used to compute your grade.

90 to 100%=A

80 to 89% =B

70 to 79% =C

60 to 69% =D

Below 59%=F



Onsite Learning Experiences and Activities

Onsite learning experiences in this class will likely include the following site visits. This is a tentative list which will be replaced with a detailed daily itinerary of class meetings and field trips prior to the departure date.

The course goals and learning outcomes are reached through observing, and interacting with artwork, trips to the following museum and galleries will help the students achieve the course goals and outcomes.

The British Museum
The National Gallery
Victoria and Albert Museum
Tate Modern
National Portrait Gallery
Saatchi Gallery
Royal Academy of Arts
Guildhall Art Gallery
Walking street art tour

Attendance Policy

Attendance is mandatory at all scheduled activities and class meetings as well as field trip excursions. This includes any virtual meetings before and after the onsite experience. Repeated absences, including for ill health, will require documentation to be excused.

Students will have their final letter grade reduced by one letter for each unexcused absence.

Academic Integrity Policy

Students found violating the academic integrity policy by copying other's material without citation, using another person's paper, generating their paper using AI (ChatGPT, Quillbot, etc.), receiving excessive help from a friend or elsewhere, or using another project as if it were your own will receive a 0 for the assignment and will be reported to the proper administrators.



Physical Expectations

Program requires walking 3-5 miles per day on uneven pavement in all kinds of weather and long periods of standing.

Disability Accommodation

CCSA is committed to providing access to education abroad to the extent possible in a study abroad setting. The earlier CCSA and the faculty know the needs, the more likely we can accommodate them. At a minimum, students seeking accommodations are to contact both the CCSA office and the faculty one month in advance of the program's beginning. Students seeking such accommodation must provide CCSA with a copy of the letter on file with their own Office of Disability Services outlining what services they receive on their home campus.

Title IX Policy

Sexual misconduct (including sexual harassment, sexual assault, and any nonconsensual behavior of a sexual nature) and sexual discrimination violate CCSA policies. Students experiencing such behavior may obtain support from the Onsite Program Director or the CCSA Executive Director. To report sexual misconduct or sex discrimination, contact either of these two officers. Disclosure to faculty instructors or CCSA officers of sexual misconduct, domestic violence, dating violence, or sex discrimination occurring on the program or involving a visitor, student or employee is not confidential under Title IX. Faculty and other CCSA employees are required to forward such reports, including names and circumstances, to the CCSA Executive Director.

Statement about Final Syllabus

Please note that all CCSA syllabi are subject to change, but every effort will be made to ensure participants receive notice of such changes in a timely manner.