

## **BFA Fine Arts Course Outline**

**Programme:** BFA Fine Arts  
**Title:** History of Civilizations-I  
**Course Code:** AHBF-107  
**Credit Hours:** 2 Credit Hours  
**Type:** Compulsory (Theory)

### **Course Introduction:**

The subject is offered to give knowledge about different terms and concepts of Cultural variations and different factors of civilizations.

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Students are introduced to various civilizations of the world starting from pre historic times till the Classical Rome. Art and Architecture of Egyptian, Greek and Roman, South Asian, Chinese, Japanese, Buddhist and Indus Valley Civilization are studied to develop a historical perspective of the rise and fall of civilizations and the major role of art in determining various cultures.

### **Learning Outcomes / Course Objectives:**

The students will be able to understand about the historical perspective of Art, which will be beneficial for their upcoming academic learning.

Myths related to Civilizations

Terms and concepts

Common questions/Dates

Geographical Background/Maps

### **Course Contents**

#### **1. Prehistoric Period**

- 1.1. Paleolithic Art/ Cave Art
- 1.2. Subject Matters/Myth/Purpose
- 1.3. Techniques/Style of Painting
- 1.4. Analysis and discussion of well-known paintings key features
- 1.5. Discussion about the names of Caves and its specific subjects
- 1.6. Paleolithic Sculpture

- 1.7. Subject Matters/Myths/Purpose
- 1.8. Material
- 1.9. Analysis and discussion of key features of famous sculpture pieces

## **2. Mesolithic Period**

Discuss the subject matters and major features of art and sculpture

- 2.1. Neolithic Period
- 2.2. Subject Matters/Purpose of sculpture
- 2.3. Techniques/Style of Painting
- 2.4. Neolithic Architecture
- 2.5. Purpose/Material/Types
- 2.6. Discuss the first principal of construction of the world
- 2.7. Discuss the main buildings of that era

## **3. Neolithic Pottery**

- 3.1. Material/Purpose/types

## **4. Ancient Near East/Mesopotamian Civilization**

- 4.1. Sumerians, Akkadian, Babylonian, Assyrian, Achaemenid/Perisan
- 4.2. Sumerian art/Myths
- 4.3. Subject matters/Techniques/Major feature
- 4.4. Invention of cuneiform Writing/Pictography/Ideography/Phonetics concept
- 4.5. Sumerian Architecture/ Ziggurat/Etymology/Purpose/Main Basic Plan
- 4.6. Names of well-known Ziggurats
- 4.7. Akkadian
- 4.8. Culture/Invention/Art/Architecture Babylonian
- 4.9. Hanging Gardens  
*Law Code Stele of King Hammurabi*
- 4.10. Neo-Babylonian
- 4.11. Neo-Babylonian culture
- 4.12. Ishtar Gate

## **5. Assyrian**

Assyrian Art/ Architecture

## **6. Persian**

- 6.1. Art/Architecture Introduction/Main Buildings/Material for construction

## **7. Ancient Egypt**

- 7.1. Ancient Egypt, an introduction
- 7.2. Egyptian Myth
- 7.3. Hieroglyphs/writing

- 7.4. Egyptian art/Architecture/Sculpture
- 7.5. Pyramids/Etymology/types/Purpose
- 7.6. Materials and techniques
- 7.7. Pre-dynastic
- 7.8. Old Kingdom
- 7.9. New Kingdom

## **8. Indus Valley Civilization**

- 8.1. Introduction/Mahanjodaro/Harappa
- 8.2. Main Inventions/Town Planning/seals/Drainage System
- 8.3. Pottery
- 8.4. Sculpture
- 8.5. Jewelry

### **Recommended Books - Reading:**

1. Gardner, M.A. *Hellen, Art through Ages*. England: Brace and Co, 1936.
2. Clark, Grahame, Mellaart, James. *The Dawn of Civilization: The First Women Survey of Human Cultures in Early Times*. England: Thames and Hudson, 1961.
3. Cruick Shank, Dan. Ed.,: *Sir Banister Fletcher's: A History of Architecture*. London: CBS Publishers and Distributors, 1996.
4. Lange, K. and M. Hirme. *Egyptian Architecture, Sculpture, Painting in Three Thousand Years*. London: Phaidon Press, 1961.
5. Forbes, Claire. *Ancient Peoples*. England: C.D. Stampley Enterprises, 1999.
6. Chandler, Fiona. *Ancient World (Osborne World History)*. England: Scholastic Inc., 2000.
7. Jay, David. *Reading about Ancient Egyptians*. England: Franklin Watts Ltd., 2000.
8. Crompton, Teresa and Beatrice Stimpson. *History in Focus 1*. England: Peter Bedrick, 2001.
9. Defrates, Joanna. *The Egyptians*. England: Franklin Watts Ltd., 2001.

### **Teaching and Learning Strategies:**

The course is based on history of civilization with special emphasis on Art History. Demonstrations, hands on activities, students led presentations and cooperative learning, brain storming, thought provoking questions, think pair-share, reflections, discussions, etc.

### **Course Assessment:**

Mid-Term Examination	35
Class Assignments	25
Final Examination	40
Total:	100

