

ATTENTION: APAH STUDENTS

Because the bulk of the responsibility rests on your shoulders for gaining the most from this course, it is advisable to take note to the following suggestions for optimal success in this course:

READING

Readings from the course's primary textbook (*Gardner's Art Through the Ages*)

We will not always cover, in class, the key material that each book's chapters offer. While there is no one single textbook that contains "complete material" on *any* topic or period in art history, I feel that ours is the most fitting for our studies.

That said, I encourage you to seek and explore material in the other primary textbooks (Stockstad, Adams, etc.) for reinforcement and enrichment. Furthermore, your curiosity should compel you to read further on certain topics, especially as they relate to scholarly articles and primary source documents. I am more than willing to assist you in securing / pursuing these; just let me know what I can do to help.

The bottom line is this: you must read the textbook – THOROUGHLY. All reading should be done PRIOR to our discussion in class. There is no substitute for this and, getting behind will only limit your understanding as well as cripple your ability to contribute to the classroom conversations.

NOTE-TAKING (This is a must!)

For each chapter, I encourage you to maintain information / notes. Notes are for you and serve as a vital means of organizing your thoughts, and remembering facts. Note-taking is important both **in-class** & **out-of-class** (summarizing readings, journaling, etc.).

Research supports the fact that the more frequently one "rehearses" content, the more successful it is for that knowledge to shift into one's long-term memory. There are many note-taking strategies out there; Find one or 2 that work for you. Keep your notes simple. Feel free to add some 'visual appeal' to them as well.

----- **SUPPLEMENTING YOUR CLASSTIME & READING EXPERIENCES** -----

RESOURCES – (take advantage of these resources as supplements to your learning.)

- **Visual Analysis Guides 1-4**
- **Theme(s) Grid**
Maintain this document as the semester progresses. Plug and play as you go!
- **Chapter Grid**
Same as above
- **Chapter Review – blank sheets**
Complete this after reading / studying each chapter; This is a great way to sum-up the information you have just learned.

- **Create Flashcards**
Printing or drawing the key images you study and adding notation to them is a very helpful way to solidify the material. Reinforce your understanding by viewing them often. They can be small (index card size) or large... whatever works for you.
- **Create Timelines**
Placing items / images within a linear perspective can be helpful for organizing and understanding the sequencing of style, changes, etc..
- Think of **“Questions to ask”** the following day. Write these down in order to remember them.
- **Collection of “Daily Questions”**
These are available from Mr. Walker. This is a collection of questions created by a fellow APAH instructor for means of “pacing” the delivery of content throughout the semester. I have taken these questions and revised them to suit my needs. You could actually review these questions before and after your reading of any given chapter.
- **Unit Questions on Class Wiki**
For each unit, I have been developing and maintaining questions that can be used to guide students in their understanding of the material. Note that, for each unit, you can easily locate pertinent questions from other sources as well.
- **Study Guides** (or documents aimed at **“Guided Reading”**)
Make use of any **“Study Guides”** offered to you. I normally make available some sort of guide for each major unit of study.
- **Websites**
There is a plethora of stellar websites – full of information related to our studies. Seek these out – you’ll be glad you did.

THOSE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO YOU:

1. **Class Wiki**
Here, you will find the “announcements” and vital information for success in this course.
<http://cyarthistory.wikispaces.com/>
2. **Mr. Walker’s Links / Bookmarks**
<https://delicious.com/andywalker13/apah>
Locate my **Delicious** bookmarks; perform search **#apah** for links to what I have considered to be stellar sites.
3. **Mr. Walker’s Art History site**
This is an “in-progress website” that contains a number of helpful educational resources.
http://int.cysd.k12.pa.us/hs/walker/arthistory/art_history/UNIT_PAGE.html
4. **Helpful Documents / VAULT**
This is a subpage within the above-listed site.
http://int.cysd.k12.pa.us/hs/walker/arthistory/art_history/VAULT.html

5. **Textbook companion sites**

Most major publishers offer free access to sites that help students supplement their text-based material.

6. **AH websites created by other AP classes**

Just perform searches and you will find many. Warning: Some are better than others. You will easily discover an array of study guides that may prove helpful to your digestion of the material.

- **Digital / Visual Resources (other)**

I have created a separate document (*Digital / Visual Resources*) which highlights those I have found to be most useful. Refer to this for more detail.

RECOMMENDED:

1. Mr. Walker's **Youtube** playlist

<https://www.youtube.com/user/jumpinghoops/playlists>

OTHER:

1. AH websites created by **organizations / institutions** (museums, colleges, universities)

2. **Youtube** – videos, podcasts (from other APAH sources)

3. **Itunes U** – videos, podcasts

- **APAH Exam Guides**

Both REA & Baron's offer nice publications for preparing you for the Spring Examination.

OTHER ADVICE

- Review **Reading strategies** (including **re-reading**)

- Review **Note-taking strategies**

- **Summaries**

A way to solidify an understanding of your reading each night might come from any of the following...

- Construct a 25-word summary for every section (maybe 2 or 3 sections).
- Make a list of what you feel are the most important 3-5 facts in a given section or so.