



**ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
COURSE OUTLINE FORM**

**COLLEGE OF IMAGING ARTS AND SCIENCES**

**Art History**

**REVISED COURSE:** CIAS-ARTH-587-TheGothicCathedral

**1.0 Course Designations and Approvals**

<b>Required course approvals:</b>	<b>Approval request date:</b>	<b>Approval granted date:</b>
Academic Unit Curriculum Committee	December 1, 2010	December 1, 2010
College Curriculum Committee	February 11, 2011	February 11, 2011

<b>Optional designations:</b>	<b>Is designation desired?</b>	<b>*Approval request date:</b>	<b>**Approval granted date:</b>
General Education:	Yes		
Writing Intensive:	Yes		
Honors		No	

**2.0 Course information:**

<b>Course title:</b>	The Gothic Cathedral
<b>Credit hours:</b>	3
<b>Prerequisite(s):</b>	None
<b>Co-requisite(s):</b>	None
<b>Course proposed by:</b>	Sarah Thompson
<b>Effective date:</b>	Fall 2013

	<b>Contact hours</b>	<b>Maximum students/section</b>
Classroom	3	20
Lab		
Studio		
Other (specify)		

**2.a Course Conversion Designation**

	Semester Equivalent (SE) Please indicate which quarter course it is equivalent to:
	Semester Replacement (SR) Please indicate the quarter course(s) this course is replacing:
X	New

## 2.b Semester(s) offered

Fall ✓	Spring ✓	Summer	Other
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## 2.c Student Requirements

**Students required to take this course:** (by program and year, as appropriate)

None

**Students who might elect to take the course:**

Students in the Schools of Art, Design, or American Crafts required to take art history electives; students pursuing an art history minor; students with an interest in the history of art, architecture, or design in need of general education courses.

## 3.0 Goals of the course

- 3.1 This course will develop students' understanding of the Gothic cathedral as a cultural phenomenon of the late middle ages
- 3.2 Students will come to appreciate the cathedral as a production of its cultural context, and will learn to closely examine the ties between a work of art and its cultural surroundings
- 3.3 Students will be introduced to the most recent issues and methodologies within the field of medieval art history through readings and lecture
- 3.4 Students will gain a thorough understanding of the style, construction, and decoration of medieval architecture.
- 3.5 Students will improve their abilities to visually analyze works of art and to understand the different ways in which art can convey meaning.

## 4.0 Course description

**Course number:** ARTH-587

**Long Course title:** The Gothic Cathedral

**Short Course title:** TheGothicCathedral

**Prerequisites:** None

**Course 3, Lab 0, Credit 3 (Semester offered - Fall and Spring)**

This class will examine the Gothic cathedral and related art production (stained glass, sculpture, and metalwork within the cathedral context) from the twelfth through the fifteenth century. Students will study cathedrals of the late middle ages within their cultural contexts and examine the meanings such buildings conveyed to their intended audiences. The class will explore the design, structure, and construction of Gothic cathedrals throughout Europe, and will also examine the decorative programs of sculpture, stained glass, and liturgical objects integral to the meaning and function of these structures. Issues to be considered include the production of cathedrals; the stylistic variations of Gothic; the relationship between function and form; the urban context of Gothic cathedrals; and the holistic view of the Gothic cathedral.

## 5.0 Possible resources (texts, references, computer packages, etc.)

5.1 Textbooks

5.1.1 Roland Recht, *Believing and Seeing* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2008)

5.1.2 Christopher Wilson, *The Gothic Cathedral*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (London: Thames and Hudson, 2005)

**6.0 Topics (outline):**

- 6.1 Introduction: the Meaning of Gothic
- 6.2 The Abbey Church of Saint-Denis
- 6.3 First Generation Gothic in France
- 6.4 New Means of Construction: Noyon and Laon
- 6.5 Early Gothic in England: Canterbury Cathedral
- 6.6 High Gothic in France: Chartres
- 6.7 City and Cathedral at Reims and Amiens
- 6.8 English Shrines: Wells, Salisbury, and Lincoln
- 6.9 German and Czech Gothic
- 6.10 Problems and Solutions: the Cathedrals of Milan and Florence

**7.0 Intended course learning outcomes and associated assessment methods of those outcomes**

Course Learning Outcome	Assessment Method
7.1 Identify important cathedrals from the Gothic era	Examinations
7.2 Assess how structure and decorative programs created meaning for the Gothic cathedral	Examinations
7.3 Demonstrate an understanding of the historical context of production	Research paper
7.4 Utilize methods learned in class to analyze a cathedral not covered in class for an independent project	Research paper

**8.0 Program outcomes and/or goals supported by this course**

- 8.1 Enable students to obtain an understanding of the forms, functions and meanings of works of art and architecture in their historical context.
- 8.2 Enable students to develop critical thinking and reading, writing and speaking skills that may be applied to the contextual analysis of works of art and architecture, and, in fact, an entire world of objects and images. These skills will be of capital importance in whatever field the student chooses to work.

**9.0**

	General Education Learning Outcome Supported by the Course, if appropriate	Assessment Method
<b>Communication</b>		
√	Express themselves effectively in common college-level written forms using standard American English	Research paper; Essays on midterm and final exams
√	Revise and improve written and visual content	Research paper includes first draft and final draft stages
√	Express themselves effectively in presentations, either in spoken standard American English or sign language (American Sign Language or English-based Signing)	Presentation of research during final week of

		class
√	Comprehend information accessed through reading and discussion	Midterm and final examinations; reading quizzes; research paper
<b><i>Intellectual Inquiry</i></b>		
√	Review, assess, and draw conclusions about hypotheses and theories	Class discussion of reading assignments; research paper
√	Analyze arguments, in relation to their premises, assumptions, contexts, and conclusions	Class discussion of reading assignments; research paper
√	Construct logical and reasonable arguments that include anticipation of counterarguments	Research paper
√	Use relevant evidence gathered through accepted scholarly methods and properly acknowledge sources of information	Research paper
<b><i>Ethical, Social and Global Awareness</i></b>		
	Analyze similarities and differences in human experiences and consequent perspectives	
	Examine connections among the world's populations	
	Identify contemporary ethical questions and relevant stakeholder positions	
<b><i>Scientific, Mathematical and Technological Literacy</i></b>		
	Explain basic principles and concepts of one of the natural sciences	
	Apply methods of scientific inquiry and problem solving to contemporary issues	
	Comprehend and evaluate mathematical and statistical information	
	Perform college-level mathematical operations on quantitative data	
	Describe the potential and the limitations of technology	
	Use appropriate technology to achieve desired outcomes	
<b><i>Creativity, Innovation and Artistic Literacy</i></b>		
√	Demonstrate creative/innovative approaches to course-based assignments or projects	Research paper and presentation
√	Interpret and evaluate artistic expression considering the cultural context in which it was created	Midterm and final examinations

## 10.0 Other relevant information

Requires classroom with a digital projector