

ART AND THE HOLOCAUST

ACLT6239

Course Outline

Description:

With the recent 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, this illustrated course examines how art was used as a tool of propaganda under Nazi dictatorship, and the ways in which victims created art within their tragic circumstances. We will also discover how some artists from the Post-War years until now have treated the Holocaust theme in their work as an act of remembrance and hope.

Course Goals:

- Identify some of the ways that art was used by the Nazis as a tool of propaganda
- Understand select problems associated with creating, studying, and memorializing art of the Holocaust
- Recognize general and distinctive ways that artists during and after the War have addressed Holocaust themes
- Comprehend some of the major legal and ethical issues associated with the restitution of Nazi-stolen art

Course Objectives: At the completion of this course, the student will be able to understand the significant and various roles of art during the Holocaust --- for the Nazis and their victims.

Texts: N/A

Attendance Requirements:

Students must miss no more than two classes to receive a completion for this course. A grade report can be printed from myWCS.

Code of Student Conduct:

The purpose of the Code of Student Conduct is to define the general standard of conduct expected of students registered at Western University, provide examples of behaviour that constitutes a breach of this standard of conduct, provide examples of sanctions that may be imposed, and set out the disciplinary procedures that the University will follow. For the complete Code of Student Conduct: <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/board/code.pdf>.

Course Schedule:

Week 1:

Introduction; The Art Hitler Hated and the *Degenerate Art* Show, 1937

Week 2:

The Art Hitler Loved and the *Great German Art Exhibition*, 1937; Nazi Looting of Art

Week 3:

Problems in Studying Holocaust Art; Art Created in Hiding

Week 4:

Art Created in Ghettos; Art Created in Camps

Week 5:

Responses to the Holocaust: Art of the Post-War Years; Holocaust Museums; Art of the Late 20th Century

Week 6:

Reclaiming Stolen Art of the Holocaust; Conclusion