INTRODUCTION (3 meetings)

Key reading: Richards, *The Mughal Empire*, “Introduction” and Chapters 1-3, pp. 1-78

9/5 (M): Introduction to the course: The Mughal Empire; the Practice of Art History; Writing

9/7 (W): Art History and the importance of context


9/9 (F): Technical and artistic context: discussion led by Sarah Prickett ‘17

Sarah, who was trained in the technique of Indian miniature painting by Ajay Sharma, will show some paintings and painter’s tools, and explain matters of technique

UNIT I: Formal Analysis and Analytical Description (4 meetings)

Key readings:
- Michael Baxandall, “Introduction” to *Patterns of Intention*
- Erwin Panofsky, “Introduction” to *Studies in Iconology* [focus on discussion of “primary or natural meaning” and “pre-iconographical description”]

9/12 (M): From Formal Analysis to Analytical Description.

Discussion of Baxandall and Panofsky.

*9/14 (W): “Daulat the Painter and Abd al-Rahim the Scribe” from the British Library’s Khamsa of Nizami

*The figures, their dress, their actions. The built environment. Palace, courtyard, and garden.*

READ: Beach, *The Imperial Image*, pp. 9-11


⇒ [Paper #1 assigned: 2 page description of “Daulat the Painter and Abd al-Rahim the Scribe”]

9/16 (F): “Daulat the Painter and Abd al-Rahim the Scribe”, continued composition

⇒ QUIZ #1 on introduction to Mughal India

9/19 (M): Tips on writing an analytical description

UNIT II: Stylistic Analysis (4 meetings)

Key readings:
- George Kubler, “Towards a Reductive Theory of Visual Style”
- Heinrich Wolfflin, “Introduction: 1. The Double Root of Style,” and “2. The most general representational forms” from *Principles of Art History*

9/21 (W): The idea of style

*Discussion of Kubler and Wolfflin. Style as a relational category. Components of style.

Orders of style: regional/national style, period style, individual style. The legacy of Wolfflin’s binary categories.*
9/23 (F)  Mughal vs. Rajput: “Shah Jahan watches an elephant fight” (Mughal) and “Maharaja Bakhat Singh watches elephants wreaking havoc” (Rajput)
   *particular vs. universal; appearance vs. essence*
   READ: Beach, “Characteristics of Mughal Painting”
   Goswamy, “Essence and appearance: some notes on Indian Portraiture”

*9/26 (M):* Mughal vs. Rajput, continued
   *Painting and the representation of space; moving beyond “realistic” and “stylized”: “illusionistic” vs. “conceptual”*
   ➔ [PAPER 1 DUE; Paper #2 assigned: 2 page stylistic comparison of “Shah Jahan watches an elephant fight” and “Maharaja Bakhat Singh watches elephants wreaking havoc”]

*9/28 (W):* Mughal vs. Rajput, concluded. Govardhan’s “Shah Jahan and Timur on Horseback” from the Minto Album
   *Is style culturally determined or individually variable? Style, Mode, and Meaning...*

UNIT III: Analysis of Meaning in Visual Images (6 meetings)
   Key readings: Erwin Panofsky, “Introduction” to *Studies in Iconology* [re-read, this time focusing on discussion of “secondary or conventional meaning” and the “iconographic analysis” employed to arrive at it, and “intrinsic meaning or content” and the “iconological analysis” or “iconographic analysis in the deeper sense” used to arrive at it]

9/30 (F):  Introduction: Iconography and Iconology

10/3 (M):  Introducing Abu’l Hasan’s “Jahangir Embracing Shah Abbas”
   READ: Richards, *The Mughal Empire*, chapter 5, pp. 94-118

*10/5 (W):* The allegorical portrait: “Jahangir prefering a Sufi sheikh to Kings”
   *interpreting Jahangir’s allegorical images*
   ➔ [Paper #3 assigned: Iconological interpretation of Abu’l Hasan’s “Jahangir Embracing Shah Abbas”]

*10/7 (F):* The iconography of pre-Islamic kingship
   *sun and moon; “mulk-i sulaiman”*
   ➔ [PAPER 2 DUE]

10/10 (M):  Mughal-Safavid relations: The political context of “Jahangir Embracing Shah Abbas”

10/12 (W):  Tips on organizing your iconographic/iconological analysis
UNIT IV: Models of Time – The Historical Explanation of Change  (9 meetings)

Key Reading: George Kubler, *The Shape of Time*

10/14 (F):  Introduction: Time, sequence, change, evolution

10/17 (M):  Introduction to Kubler’s *The Shape of Time*
READ: Kubler, *The Shape of Time*, pp. 1-55

10/19 (W):  Discussion of Kubler’s *The Shape of Time*
READ: Kubler, *The Shape of Time*, pp. 56-120

10/21 (F):  Applying Kubler’s theory to pre-Mughal ms. painting: traits and sub-traits

[10/24 (M) FALL BREAK]

10/26 (W):  Indian and Persian painting before the Mughals
Western Indian style; Chaurapanchasika and Chandayan traditions;

➔ [Study guide for Quiz #2 distributed]

➔ 10/27 Th – 10/30 Sun: 40th Annual Navaratri Festival: attend one or more concerts/performances and enjoy! For schedule, see:  http://wesleyan.edu/cfa/events/navaratrifestivalevents-2016.html

10/28 (F):  Indian and Persian painting before the Mughals (continued)
Sultanate painting; Safavid painting

10/29 (W):  Milestones of Akbari painting: the *Hamza Nama*, the “First” and “Second” *Akbar Namas*

10/31 (M):  The “problems” of Early Mughal painting; Painting under Humayun
Imperial incorporation (Safavid, Indic, European); Imperial empiricism
READ: Beach, *The Imperial Image*, pp. 12-37

➔ [PAPER 3 DUE]

11/2 (W):  Reading architectural drawings exercise; Discussion of Cleveland *Tuti-Nama*

➔ [QUIZ #2 given; Paper #4 assigned: Relative dating and historical significance of the Cleveland *Tuti-Nama*]

UNIT V: Architectural and Historical Analysis of Buildings and Sites (9 meetings)

Key Reading: Paul Frankl, “Introduction”, from *Principles of Architectural History*

*11/7 (M):  What is architecture and how do we approach it?
Frankl’s “Principles”: visual, corporeal, spatial, and performative/ritual dimensions;
architecture and site; structural issues; reading and analyzing architectural drawings
READ: “Reading architectural drawings” (Moodle)

➔ [PAPER 4 DUE, 5:00 pm.]

11/9 (W):  Reading architectural drawings exercise; Discussion of Cleveland *Tuti-Nama* exercise
READ: Richards, *The Mughal Empire*, ch. 6, pp. 119-150

11/11 (F):  Introduction to the Taj Mahal; a “walk-through” of the complex
11/14(M): Spatial form and ritual use: the Taj Mahal’s mosque
*Masjid and ritual prayer (salat); khutba*
WATCH: “Prayer Guide for New Muslims”
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1oF8DG4BDg
⇒ [Paper 5 assigned: A reflexive account of an imagined visit to the Taj Mahal’s mosque]

11/16 (W): Spatial form and ritual use: the tomb proper
*Celebrating the ‘urs of Mumtaz Mahal: critical reading of contemporary documents*
READ: Ebba Koch, “The Mausoleum”
“Selections from contemporary historical texts relating to the building”, in “Introduction to the Taj Mahal” handout (also on Moodle)

11/18 (F): Designing the Taj Mahal: what “problems” were being addressed by Ustad Ahmad Lahori?
*The ‘hasht bihisht’ plan; tower pavilions; circumambulation; micro-architecture*
READ: Ebba Koch, “The ‘hasht bihisht’ or ‘eight Paradises’ pavilion”; and “tower pavilions”

11/21 (M): Timurid and Indian traditions of Tomb Design.
READ: Michael Brand, “Orthodoxy, Innovation, and Revival: Considerations of the Past in Imperial Mughal Tomb Architecture”

11/23—11/27 THANKSGIVING RECESS


*11/30 (W): Paradise or Judgment Day: Begley vs. Koch
Ebba Koch, “The Mughal Waterfront Garden” OR reread 2005?
⇒ [PAPER 5 DUE]

UNIT VI: Historiography: The history of art history (4 meetings)
Key Reading: Keith Jenkins, “What History Is”, ch. 1 from *Re-thinking History*

*12/2 (F): Epistemological, Methodological, and Ideological determinants of art historical investigation
Discussion of Jenkins
⇒ [Paper 6 assigned: Colonial and Post-colonial interpretations of the Taj Mahal]

12/5 (M): How to unpack a scholarly article
*Close reading of scholarly discourse; the scholar’s context*

12/7 (W): Language, Race, and Gender in colonial India

12/9 (F) The reception of the Taj Mahal: in art, poetry, advertising, and tourism [LAST CLASS]
READ: Tim Edensor, “Narratives of the Taj Mahal”, chapter 3 of *Tourists at the Taj*

*12/15 (Thursday) ⇒ [PAPER 6 DUE]
NOTE: This paper will be due at 12 noon on the day scheduled for the final exam for the course. There is no final exam.
ARHA 181: Mughal India: Introduction to the Practice of Art History

P. Wagoner

Founded in northern India in the early 1500s, the Mughal empire was one of the largest centralized states in the history of the early modern world. During the two centuries of their effective rule over most of the Indian subcontinent, the Mughal emperors and their subordinates were prolific patrons of the arts, overseeing the production of lavishly illustrated books and picture-albums and commissioning such architectural masterpieces as the Taj Mahal. This course offers an introduction not only to the art and culture of Mughal India, but also to the practice of art history itself, through a sequence of six thematic units exploring and applying different methods that are central to the discipline. Each unit begins with critical reading and discussion of one or two key theoretical or methodological statements, then continues through application to case studies drawn from Mughal India. The units include (1) techniques of visual description and formal analysis, (2) the concept of style and stylistic analysis, (3) the analysis of meaning in visual images (iconography and iconology), (4) models of time and the historical explanation of change, (5) architectural and historical analysis of buildings and their sites, and (6) historiographic assessment of debates and changing interpretations within art history. Each unit culminates in a writing exercise designed to provide students with structured experience in some of the various modes of art historical writing. The course is appropriate as an introduction both to art history and to Mughal art.

About the course:

1. Assigned readings: There are three different types of assigned readings for this course: “key readings”, which present theoretical or methodological positions of general relevance to the practice of art history; subject-specific readings which relate directly to Mughal India (both art historical and historical), and various chapters assigned from Sylvan Barnet’s manual, A Short Guide to Writing about Art, which provides a compendium of useful information about the practice of art history as well as useful guidelines for a variety of different genres of art historical writing. Key readings are listed under the heading of the unit for which they are prescribed, and are to be read by the first day of that unit (and ideally, returned to for further consideration throughout the course of the unit). Subject-specific readings are listed under the lecture topic for which they are assigned, and should be read BEFORE the class meeting on that day. The readings from Barnet are assigned in different places on the syllabus and in certain cases are referred to again in the handouts giving instructions for the various writing assignments.

Three of the readings take the form of books, which are available for purchase at Broad Street Books:


All other prescribed readings take the form of journal articles, or of chapters and brief excerpts from books, and are available electronically via “Moodle”. A full list of these readings is given below on pp. 9-10.

2. Reserve readings: A small selection of basic reference books and sources of good-quality illustrations has been placed on reserve in Olin Library. See the list of reserve readings on page 11. To request items on reserve, you need to specify the call number (included in the list of reserve readings).

3. Image collections: In this course, we will be studying a number of works of art for which good illustrations are not available in any of the readings. Accordingly, we will be using the online resource Artstor, a service that makes high quality digital images available on the web. There are currently over half a million images in the archive, and most are of extremely high resolution and can be greatly magnified for detailed examination. To access ARTstor, you will need to set up a user account, which is very easy following the “Directions for using ARTstor on pp. 12-13. Once you have registered, it is fairly intuitive to use, and has good “Help” documentation.
4. **How to view images shown in class:** You need the Artstor “Offline Image Viewer” (OIV), which you can download and install on your computer easily from the Artstor website (www.artstor.org). If you are doing this from off-campus, you will be prompted to enter your Wesleyan user name and password. If you have not already registered with Artstor, do so from the home page (under the “Welcome to Artstor” box at the upper right corner of the page). Once you have registered and logged in, go to the “Tools” menu and pull down to “Download offline presentation tool (OIV)”. This will enable you to open any of the OIV files on the course Moodle.

For more detailed instructions on installing and using the OIV, see http://help.artstor.org/wiki/index.php/OIV_Installing

5) **Writing assignments:** There are six graded writing assignments for the course, designed to help you develop your skills at a variety of art historical practices, as well as to afford guided practice in writing. There is one assignment for each of the course’s six thematic units, to provide an opportunity to put into practice the theories and methods covered in that unit. Four of the assignments take the form of short papers (2 pages); the other two are slightly longer (4-5 pages, and 6-7 pages). Typically, you will have about two weeks to complete each assignment.

All papers are to follow the format and conventions outlined in chapter 14 (“Manuscript Form”) of Sylvan Barnet, *A Short Guide to Writing about Art*. Papers that do not conform to Barnet’s “Basic Manuscript Form” (pp. 307-311) will be returned for correction and/or receive a lower grade.

In addition, you are required not to exceed the maximum page limit given for each paper, and to use a 12-point font size. (In other words, do not try to get around the page limit by using a miniscule font or margins of less than 1 inch.

You may elect, however, to use a separate title page, as well as separate pages at the end of your text for illustrations, endnotes and list of citations, in order to preserve the maximum space allowed for the body of the paper.

The papers/assignments are as follows:

- **Paper 1:** Analytical description of a work of art (prescribed: “Daulat the Painter and Abd al-Rahim the Scribe”), 2 pages
- **Paper 2:** Stylistic comparison of two paintings (prescribed: “Shah Jahan watches an elephant fight” [Mughal] and “Maharaja Bakhat Singh watches elephants wreaking havoc” [Rajput]), 2 pages
- **Paper 3:** Iconological interpretation of a painting (prescribed: Abu’l Hasan’s “Jahangir Embracing Shah Abbas”), 2 pages
- **Paper 4:** Relative dating of an undated manuscript (prescribed: Cleveland *Tuti Nama* ms.), and brief commentary on the implications of this dating for the history of Mughal art, 2 pages
- **Paper 5:** A reflexive account of an imagined visit to a building (prescribed: the mosque in the Taj Mahal complex), 4-5 pages
- **Paper 6:** Colonial and Post-colonial interpretations of the same monument (prescribed: the Taj Mahal), 6-7 pages

Detailed instructions for each paper or exercise will be provided when the assignment is given.

PLEASE NOTE: **All papers for this course must be submitted in hard-copy. No email attachments will be accepted.**

5) **Quizzes:** There will additionally be two quizzes for this course. The purpose of these quizzes is to encourage you to learn (i.e. memorize) limited bodies of factual information that will be necessary for informed discussion and analysis in the course. The first quiz will assess your knowledge of the historical context of Mughal India (primarily names of emperors and regnal dates, geographic and ethnic names, etc.). The second quiz will assess your ability to recognize and identify a discrete group of “key monuments” that will provide important reference points for our discussions on the explanation of historical change in Unit IV. You will be given study sheet handouts to aid you in preparing for both quizzes.

There are no other examinations in this course (i.e., no mid-term or final).
6) **Grading:** Your overall grade for the course will be calculated as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paper 1</td>
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<td>Paper 2</td>
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<td>Quiz 2</td>
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10% will be reserved for evaluation of class participation, improvement over the course of the semester, etc.]

**TOTAL:** 100%

The following criteria are used for grading papers:

- **A/A-:** An outstanding paper. Excellent in all or nearly all aspects. The interest of the reader is engaged by the ideas and presentation. Effective organization and writing. Paper marked by originality of ideas.

- **B+:** A very good paper. Clear argument, clear writing, good evidence, appropriate response to assignment.

- **B/B-:** A good paper. Technically competent, with perhaps a lapse here and there. The thesis is clear, properly limited, and reasonable, and the prose is generally good but not distinguished. Use of evidence is sufficient.

- **C+/C:** A competent piece of work but not yet good. More or less adequately organized along obvious lines. Thesis may be unclear or over-simple. Development is often skimpy. Use of evidence may be inadequate. Monotony of sentence structure is apparent and errors may be sprinkled throughout.

- **C-/D/D-:** A piece of work that demonstrates some effort on the author’s part but that is too marred by technical problems or flaws in thinking or development of ideas to be considered competent work.

- **E/F:** Failing grade. Essay may not respond to assignment. Essay may be far too short. Grammar and style may be careless.


7) **Policy on extensions & rescheduling of quizzes:** There will be no extensions given for any paper, except in the case of a medical or personal emergency supported by an email communication from your class dean. All papers are due by 5:00pm on the due date (unless stated otherwise), and should be turned in to me in person (either in class or in my office in Boger Hall, Room 311) or placed in my mailbox in the Art History Program office (3rd floor of Boger Hall, turn left from the stairs or elevator and go through the glass doors). **N.B. If papers are turned in after the due date, your grade will be reduced by one letter grade for each day or fraction of a day that the paper is late (please note that Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays also count as days). Quizzes must be taken during the scheduled time, and cannot be rescheduled except in the event of a medical or personal emergency supported by a letter from a physician or dean.**

8) **Honor Code and Plagiarism:** Please be sure you have read and understood the section in the current Student Handbook describing the Honor Code and Plagiarism. In particular, pay special attention to the section on
plagiarism, which describes the acceptable ways of quoting, paraphrasing, and citing the works of others, and acknowledging the ideas of others, and to the section on the Pledge, which reads as follows:

A. The Pledge
The pledge is an affirmation of each student's agreement to adhere to the standards of academic integrity set by Wesleyan's Honor Code. In order to promote constant awareness of the Honor Code, faculty are encouraged to ask students to sign the pledge when submitting any academic exercise for evaluation. The pledges read as follows:

For papers and similar written work:
In accordance with the Honor Code, I affirm that this work is my own and all content taken from other sources has been properly acknowledged.

For tests and other academic exercises:
In accordance with the Honor Code, I affirm that this work has been completed without improper assistance.

Any suspected violations of the honor code will be reported to the Honor Board.

9. Disability Resources: Wesleyan University is committed to ensuring that all qualified students with disabilities are afforded an equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from its programs and services. To receive accommodations, a student must have a documented disability as defined by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008, and provide documentation of the disability. Since accommodations may require early planning and generally are not provided retroactively, please contact Disability Resources as soon as possible.

If you believe that you need accommodations for a disability, please contact Dean Patey in Disability Resources, located in North College, Room 021, or call 860-685-2332 for an appointment to discuss your needs and the process for requesting accommodations.

If you require accommodations in this class, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible [before the end of add-drop period], so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

10. Classroom etiquette:
● please arrive on time
● please turn your cell phone off before you come into the classroom
● please do not get up and leave the room before class is over
● if you bring food or beverages, please take your trash with you when class is over
List of assigned readings available electronically on Moodle
All items are listed in the order in which they are prescribed

“Key readings” (theory and method readings)


Readings specifically relating to Mughal India


Selected reference works and sources of illustrations on reserve in Olin Library


Directions for using ARTstor (*see next page if you have browser-based technical difficulties):

1. Use your browser to go to http://library.artstor.org/library/#1. At the top right corner of the page, under “Welcome to ARTstor”, click “Register” if you are a first-time user. In the User Registration window, fill in your full Wesleyan email address in the first blank, and repeat it in the second. Then enter a password you wish to use for ARTstor, and confirm that. Then fill out the remaining fields and click the “Submit” button. You are now registered and logged on.

2. TO USE THE OFFLINE IMAGE VIEWER (OIV): Once you are logged on, go up to the grayish menu bar at the top of the page, and click on “Tools”. In the drop-down menu, choose “Download offline presentation tool (OIV)” and follow the instructions. Once you have the OIV installed on your computer, you will be able to go to Moodle and open up OIV files (with the .prs file extension). Once the file has been opened, click on the fourth button from the left (“View Image Palette Presentation”) at the top of the Image Palette. Once you have started the presentation, use the arrow and other buttons to navigate and go to split screen; you will also be able to zoom in and out and pan the image in each panel.

3. TO ACCESS INSTRUCTOR IMAGE GROUPS ON ARTstor: Once you are logged on to ARTstor, go up to the grayish menu bar and click on “Find”. In the drop-down menu that will open, choose the “Unlock password-protected Folder” option. In the registration form that pops up, enter your first name and last name, as well as the password in the fields provided. The password for the “ARHA 181 Fall 2014” folder is “mughalindia2014” [all lower case]. After clicking the “Submit” button at the bottom of this window, you will receive a message saying that you have access to this folder.

4. Next, in the grayish menu bar at the top of the page, click “Find” and pull down to select “Browse image groups”. In the “Open an image group” window, click on the + sign next to the “ARHA 181 Fall 2014” folder to see the image groups contained within that folder. To open the desired image group, double-click on its name.

5. The images are displayed as small thumbnails, 24 to a pane. The bar at the top right corner will tell you how many panes there are in the image group, and which pane you are on; it also provides navigation controls for moving from pane to pane. To see a larger version of a given image for study, double click on the image, and it will open up in a separate, pop-up window, with controls for zooming, panning, etc. [these should be more or less self-explanatory]. The resolution of most of these images is surprisingly good!! In this pop-up window, it is also possible to navigate from image to image, using the forward and backward arrows beneath. Returning to the primary window, if you double click on the image title, a pop-up window will open with the cataloging information for the image. You will also note tabs at the top of this window; one opens a section with “Instructor Notes” (if any are present), another provides you a space for recording your own notes on the image.

6. You may also search and browse the various collections available on ARTstor. You can search either in all collections (try “Mughal painting” or “Rajput painting”), or on a particular collection. Of particular relevance to this course is the “ACSAA Collection” (American Council for Southern Asian Art). This includes over 12000 images of various works of South Asian Art and Architecture, which are searchable in various ways. To access this collection, go to “Find” in the menu bar, and pull down to “Browse ARTstor by” and select “Collection” in the side bar. The ACSAA collection should be the fourth one in the list. As you search and browse through these images, you may wish to set up your own image groups, culled from the larger set. To do this, select the images you wish to use by clicking them ONCE only; this will give them a reddish-brown border. You can click any number of images, on several different panes even, and the program will remember. When you have the images you want selected, go up to the menu bar and under the “Organize” menu, pull down to select “Save selected images” and go to side bar to select “New image group”.

You will be presented with a small dialogue box asking you to select the image group folder – here you want to select the folder “ARHA 181 Fall 2014” with your initials following in parentheses, and then in the field below, type in the name for your image group (e.g. “images of court scenes” or whatever). At the bottom right corner of the dialogue box, click the “create new group” option, and then click the “save and open” button and you’ll see your new group. If you decide to add more images later follow the same procedure, but be sure to select the “append to group” option.
*ARTstor works with most common platforms and browsers. These are the technical requirements for using ARTstor for accessing the ARTstor Digital Library images and tools:

- A high-speed internet connection (not a dial-up connection)
- Flash Player, available for free online
  Update or install the latest version of Flash: http://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/
- An up-to-date version of Java
  Update or install the latest version of Java: http://java.com/en/
- Popup blockers must be disabled or popup windows allowed from *.artstor.org and *.artstor.net.
- Cookies must be enabled
- A minimum monitor resolution of 1280 x 1024 pixels
- Set screen colors to True Color (32 bit) or better

If you experience difficulties or need further information, go to: