Course: ARTH 223
Instructor: Dr. Sarah J. Scott
Location: Jaffe 104
E-mail: sjarmer@sas.upenn.edu
Time: R 5:30-8:30
Office Hours: Jaffe B17; Thursdays 4-5

Blackboard website URL: http://courseweb.library.upenn.edu

Required Texts:
Available at Penn Book Center (34th St., Sansom and Walnut):

Supplementary texts:
Reserve books at Fisher Fine Arts Library (These texts are meant to enhance the class reading list, and to be used for beginning bibliography for research projects):
John Baines, Atlas of Ancient Egypt (On reserve at MUSEUM LIBRARY)
I. Shaw, ed. Oxford History of Ancient Egypt (On reserve at MUSEUM LIBRARY)
N. Grimal. A History of Ancient Egypt
H. Groenewegen-Frankfort, Arrest and Movement
B. Schafer, D. Silverman, and J. Baines, Religion of Ancient Egypt
S. Quirke. Ancient Egyptian Religion
B. Trigger, et. Al. Ancient Egypt: A Social History
Also helpful as an Art History tool: S. Barnet, A Short Guide to Writing About Art, 7th ed.

Reserve articles (on-line via Blackboard)
C. Aldred, “Some Royal portraits of the Middle Kingdom in Egypt”
M. Bietak. “Egypt and Canaan during the Middle Bronze Age (remains of Tell el-Daba; with discussion)”
J.F. Borghouts. “Witchcraft, magic, and divination in ancient Egypt”
D. Franke. “Middle Kingdom in Egypt”
F. Friedman. “The Underground Relief Panels of King Djoser at the Step Pyramid Complex”
K.A. Kitchen. “Pharaoh Ramesses II in his times”
R. Krauss. “Akhetaten: portrait in art of an ancient Egyptian capital”
L. Horne. “Introduction to the collections of the University Museum”
E. Hornung. “Ancient Egyptian religious iconography”
L.H. Lesko. “Death and the afterlife in ancient Egyptian thought”
W.J. Murnane. “History of ancient Egypt: overview”
S. Quirke. “Belief and Ritual”
H. TeVelde. “Theology, priests, and worship in ancient Egypt”
**Course Description:** The University of Pennsylvania stands preeminent among American universities and colleges as a center for the study of Egyptian art, and the collections of the University Museum offer an unparalleled setting in which to pursue this study. This course takes advantage of these resources to examine the major monuments of Egyptian architecture, sculpture, and painting from the Predynastic Period through the New Kingdom. It places the development of the powerful and sometimes enigmatic forms of Egyptian art in the context of the culture that created them, considering such factors as religion, politics, and philosophy.

**Goals and Objectives:** We will be learning about some of the most fascinating objects of the ancient Egyptian world through the eyes of art historians, archaeologists, and anthropologists. This is the content with which you will come away from the course. Active reading, researching, and absorption are the mechanisms by which you will gain the course content. You will use these mechanisms during your entire educational career and throughout your whole life. They are skills that will make you better able to actively participate in today’s world. Our goals will thus be the following:

- Gain an understanding of Ancient Egypt, and the material world the Egyptians created and valued
- Learn to read, both introductory texts and scholarly articles, critically
- Achieve the ability to discuss and write about art objects

**Our Methods:** The teaching philosophy of this instructor is based on learning through active participation of the students structured around instructor-led presentations/lectures and article discussions. Two exams will test the students’ absorption of the course content. Students will also be responsible for a Museum Assignment, short Visual Analysis Paper and Research Project. Trips to the University of Pennsylvania Museum, Metropolitan Museum of Art, and Brooklyn Museum will be incorporated into the course as well.

**Course requirements:** Over the course of the semester students will have a final exam, two presentations, and two writing assignments. It is upon these assignments that the final grade will be based. Therefore, doing your best on all the assignments, paying attention to detail, asking questions, and actively engaging in every part of this class is important. The syllabus, assignments, some images, reading materials (articles and worksheets) can be found on the Blackboard website. Be sure to consult the Blackboard on a regular basis (every other day) to see postings, announcements, and information about the course. You can also email your fellow classmates and the instructor through this website. It is therefore very important that you set up your PennKey/password and register for the class ASAP so that you can gain access to Blackboard.

**Grading Criteria:**
- Article Presentation: 10%
- Museum Assignment: 15%
- Topic Presentation: 20%
- Research Paper: 25%
- Final Exam: 30%

**Classroom Policies:** Class attendance is very important for this class; by absorbing the lecture material and engaging in discussion students will learn the material much faster, thereby cutting down on ‘at-home’ studying time. It is a partial-lecture class and you will
be responsible for any information you miss. Absence will put you behind and leave you without information vital to our end goals.

I expect you to show as much respect to your classmates as you do to me; you will learn as much from them as anyone. We are not just a class but a community and team of researchers. The power of many is greater than one.

Papers will be handed in via the digital dropbox on Blackboard by 5 PM on the due date. Papers turned in late will receive a 10 point deduction per day. Extensions will be granted only in special cases, when requested ahead of time!

Plagiarism is unacceptable. An instance of this horrendous crime will result in the failure of the assignment and appropriate University disciplinary procedures (see Penn’s Code of Academic Integrity; http://www.upenn.edu/osl/acadint.html).

Exam: The exam will be comprised of slide identifications, comparisons, and essays. We will spend plenty of time in class discussing the format and study guidelines. Students are responsible for all images found in the primary text and those presented in lectures. Images will be posted on-line for review purposes.

Other Assignments:

**Article Presentation:** Over the course of the semester, we will read and discuss as a class several articles pertaining to the study of Egyptian culture. Each student will be responsible for working with one or two other class members and as a group presenting one article to the class. Get together with the other members of your group, and make the outline for a 20-minute presentation to the class. This presentation of the article should stimulate the class discussion; plan to lead the class discussion for at least 20 minutes. You are therefore responsible for leading active discussion of the class for a total of 40 minutes. Feel free to use images posted on the course webpage. Please note that classroom participation IS part of your grade, so, even if you are not the day’s presentor, you are still responsible for the article and will be expected to take part in the discussion.

**Length:** 40 minutes

**Due Date:** varies

**Museum Assignment:** The University of Pennsylvania Museum has an outstanding collection of Egyptian art from various University-led expeditions. Due to the evening schedule of our class we will not be able to spend class time in the Museum, so students will be expected to spend at least three hours ‘on-site’ completing a Museum-based assignment. Choose four objects on display in the Museum, one from each of the following periods: Pre/Early Dynastic, Old, Middle, and New Kingdom. Identify them clearly by title, Museum accession number, location (in the galleries) and brief description, and write up a 1 page discussion of each, and how the object is contextually relevant for the Egyptian culture during its respective period. Do not spend enormous amounts of time researching the objects/periods; use the Museum and your primary texts and class notes as resources. This is meant to be a preview assignment to familiarize yourselves with the objects before we discuss them in class. Complete the assignment by writing a 1 page conclusion comparing the four objects, and generating some questions about Egyptian material culture that you hope to answer by the end of the semester.

**Length:** 5 pages (typed, double spaced)
Due Date: September 29

**Topic Presentation:** Over the course of the semester we will be looking at Egyptian Art and Architecture chronologically. However, there are certain topics that are common to all the periods we will discuss. These include portraiture, wall painting/relief, funerary architecture, and temple architecture. Together with three of your classmates, you will be required to present an overview of one of these topics to the class. Your presentation should cover all the relevant periods, and should include images; it should be about 45 minutes in length, in addition to 15 minutes of discussion at the end. Please choose an article or reading to assign to the class to be completed before your presentation (to facilitate class discussion). A sign-up sheet will be distributed towards the end of the semester.

**Length: 45 minutes**

Due Date: December 1 or 8

**Paper:** The final paper for this class should be a formally written research paper stemming from your topic-based presentation. You may choose to focus on one period, or aspect of your presentation, but be sure the paper version is distinct from the presentation – in other words – it should be a more detailed, independently-completed write-up. Be sure to include footnotes, bibliography, and images where relevant. You should include at least 5 sources, no more than one should be a website. Please contact me if you have questions or concerns regarding writing a research paper in Art History. We will spend some time in class discussing strategies for the assignment.

**Length: 10-15 pages**

Due Date: December 20
Course Schedule:

**Thursday, Sept 8**
- Introductions, Syllabus
- Introduction to the Study of Egyptian Art
- Timeline

*Reading Due in Smith:* Chapter 1; Introduction
*Reading Due in Robins:* Chapter 1; Introduction
*Article:* W.J. Murnane. “History of ancient Egypt: overview”

**Thursday, Sept 16 *no formal class meeting***
- Spend time at UPenn museum working on Museum Assignment

**Thursday, September 22 *no formal class meeting***
- Make-up class trip to NYC Egyptian Collections to be scheduled for December

**Thursday, September 29**
**Class Lecture:**
- Predynastic, Early Dynastic

*Reading Due in Smith:* Chapter 2, 3
*Reading Due in Robins:* Chapter 2

*Article presentation:* H. Pittman, “Constructing Context: The Gebel Al Arak Knife”

**Museum Assignment Due**

**Thursday, October 6**
**Class Lecture:**
- Old Kingdom I, Dynasty III-IV

*Reading Due in Smith:* Chapter 4, 5
*Reading Due in Robins:* Chapter 3

*Article presentation:* F. Friedman, “The Underground Relief Panels of King Djoser …”

**Thursday, October 13**
**Class Lecture:**
- Old Kingdom II, Dynasty V-VI

*Reading Due in Smith:* Chapter 6-7, 8
*Reading Due in Robins:* Chapter 4, 5

*Article presentation:* S. Quirke. “Belief and Ritual”

**Thursday, October 20**
**Class Lecture:**
- First Intermediate Period, Dynasty VII-XI

*Reading Due in Smith:* Chapter 6-7, 8
*Reading Due in Robins:* Chapter 4, 5

*Article Presentation:* Selection from “The Tale of the eloquent peasant,” edited by R.B. Parkinson

**Thursday, October 27**
**Class Lecture:**
- Middle Kingdom, Dynasty XI-XII
Reading Due in Smith: Chapter 9
Reading Due in Robins: Chapter 6
Article presentation: C. Aldred, ‘Some Royal portraits of the Middle…”

Thursday, November 3
Class Lecture:
   Second Intermediate Period, Dynasty XIII-XVII;
   New Kingdom I, early Dynasty XVIII
Reading Due in Smith: Chapter 10, 11, 12
Reading Due in Robins: Chapter 7
Article presentation: TBA

Thursday, November 10
Class Lecture:
   New Kingdom II, Dynasty XVIII, Amarna Period
Reading Due in Smith: Chapter 13, 14, 15, 16
Reading Due in Robins: Chapter 8, 9

Thursday, November 17
Class Lecture:
   New Kingdom III, Dynasty XIV-XX (Ramesside Period)
Reading Due in Smith: Chapter 17, 18, 19
Reading Due in Robins: Chapter 10

Thursday, November 24
No class – Thanksgiving

Thursday, December 1
Topic presentations:
   Funerary Architecture
   Wall painting/relief

Thursday, December 8
Topic Presentations:
   Portraiture
   Temples

December 20: Final Paper due
Final Exam TBA
December ??? Trip to NYC: Metropolitan Museum of Art and Brooklyn Museum