

## **TXMI 4330/6330 American Interiors and Furnishings**

Spring Semester 2009

Tuesday, Thursday 9:30-10:45, 312 Dawson

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### **Introduction:**

This course will be a survey of American furnishings and interiors from the seventeenth century to the present. Class sessions will address the identification of styles as well as their social, cultural, and historical influences.

### **Text:**

Oscar P. Fitzgerald, *Four Centuries of American Furniture* (Radnor, PA: Wallace-Homestead Book Company, 1995).

### **Additional Resources:**

Thematic Essays, Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History, The Metropolitan Museum of Art Website,  
[http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hi/te\\_index.asp](http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hi/te_index.asp)

Modernism, Minneapolis Institute of Arts Website,  
<http://www.artsmia.org/modernism/>

### **Class schedule:**

*(Class schedule is subject to change)*

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|------------|--|
| January 8  | Welcome  |
| January 13 | 17 <sup>th</sup> century (Chapter 1, Met: "Religion and Culture in North America, 1600-1700")  |
| January 15 | 17 <sup>th</sup> century (Met: "Architecture, Furniture, and Silver from Colonial Dutch America," and Met: Hart Room Virtual Tour, <a href="http://www.metmuseum.org/Works_of_Art/vr/hart/hart_main.asp">http://www.metmuseum.org/Works_of_Art/vr/hart/hart_main.asp</a> , and room description: <a href="http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/geor/ho_36.127.htm">http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/geor/ho_36.127.htm</a> ) |
| January 20 | 18 <sup>th</sup> century (Chapter 2)   |
| January 22 | 18 <sup>th</sup> century (Chapter 3, Met: "American Needlework in the 18 <sup>th</sup> Century")   |
| January 27 | 18 <sup>th</sup> century (Chapter 4, Met: "John Townsend," "Paul Revere," "American Rococo")   |
| January 29 | 18 <sup>th</sup> century [ <b>Paper 1 due</b> ] (Met: "American Quilts and Coverlets," "Art and Society in the New Republic," "American Georgian Interiors")   |
| February 3 | 19 <sup>th</sup> century (Chapter 5, Met: "Duncan Phyfe and Charles-Honoré Lannuier")  |

February 5	19 <sup>th</sup> —Neoclassical (Chapter 6, Met: “Post-Revolutionary America”)
February 10	19 <sup>th</sup> —Victorian (Chapters 10 and 11, Met: “America Comes of Age” and “American Revival Styles.” “Industrialization and Conflict in America”)
February 12	19 <sup>th</sup> —Victorian (Chapters 12, 7, 8, and 9)
February 17	Field Trip (Met: “Nineteenth-Century American Silver”)
February 19	Field Trip
February 24	19 <sup>th</sup> —Arts & Crafts [ <b>Paper 2 due</b> ] (Chapter 13, Met: “The Arts and Crafts Movement in America,” MIA: British Arts and Crafts and American Arts and Crafts)
February 26	19 <sup>th</sup> —Art Nouveau (Met: “Louis Comfort Tiffany,” “Art Nouveau,” MIA: European Art Nouveau and American Art Nouveau)
March 3	Graduate presentations and review [ <b>Grad papers due</b> ]
March 5	<b>Midterm</b>
March 10	<i>Spring Break</i>
March 12	<i>Spring Break</i>
March 17	20 <sup>th</sup> —FLW (Met: “Frank Lloyd Wright,” MIA: Unified Vision, <a href="http://www.artsmia.org/unified-vision/">http://www.artsmia.org/unified-vision/</a> )
March 19	20 <sup>th</sup> —Art Deco (Chapter 15, Met: “Design 1900-1925,” MIA: European Art Deco and American Art Deco)
March 24	20 <sup>th</sup> —Streamlined (Met: “Design 1925-1950”)
March 26	20 <sup>th</sup> — Colonial Revival (Chapter 14)
March 31	20 <sup>th</sup> — Postwar Craft Revival
April 2	20 <sup>th</sup> —1950s (Chapter 16, Library of Congress: The Work of Charles and Ray Eames, <a href="http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/eames/">http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/eames/</a> )
April 7	20 <sup>th</sup> —Movies [ <b>Paper 3 due</b> ]
April 9	20 <sup>th</sup> —1960s (Met: “Design 1950-1975”, Design Museum: A Century of Chairs, <a href="http://www.designmuseum.org/exhibitions/online/a-century-of-chairs">http://www.designmuseum.org/exhibitions/online/a-century-of-chairs</a> )
April 14	20 <sup>th</sup> —1970s (Chapter 17, Met: “Design 1975-present”)
April 16	20 <sup>th</sup> —1980s
April 21	20 <sup>th</sup> —1990s [ <b>Project due</b> ]
April 23	21st
April 28	Review
April 30	<i>Monday schedule</i>
May 7	<b>Final (8am!!)</b>

**Grading for TXMI 4330 (Undergraduates):**

Attendance	10%
Exams	30% (15% each)
Papers	45% (15% each)
Project	15%

**Grading for TXMI 6330 (Graduates):**

Attendance	10%
Exams	30% (15% each)
Papers	30% (10% each)

Project 15%  
Paper/presentation 15%

Grades are A through F based upon a percentage point system:

93+ A  
90+ A-  
87+ B+  
83+ B  
80+ B-  
77+ C+  
73+ C  
70+ C-  
60+ D  
00+ F

**Attendance:**

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. Three tardy arrivals will equal an absence. Please submit official written statements for excused absences. You are responsible for material covered in a missed class. Make up tests will be given by arrangement with instructor when a legitimate excused absence is determined.

**Late assignments:**

The highest possible grade on a work submitted up to 24 hours late is a B; 48 hours late is a C, and so on.

**Academic Honesty:**

Students are responsible for knowing the University's policy on academic honesty.

"A Culture of Honesty,"

[http://www.uga.edu/honesty/ahpd/culture\\_honesty.htm](http://www.uga.edu/honesty/ahpd/culture_honesty.htm).

**Exams:**

The exams will consist of slide identification, short written answers, and comparison essays. Images may not be the same ones discussed in class. The final will not be cumulative.

**WebCT:**

The PowerPoint presentations will be posted on WebCT within approximately three days after the lecture.

### **Three Papers**

250 words each (one page, double-spaced, 12 point Times New Roman or similar font, 1 inch margins). Please be prepared to discuss your paper briefly in class. Please select topics that are relevant to this class.

1. Select a historic home or period room from the 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> century. Use at least three different sources (periodicals or books) when gathering information about your subject. On-line resources do not count towards your three sources but may be used in addition to the three sources. Reference the sources in the paper and include a bibliography (do not count the bibliography as part of the 250 words).\* Include photocopies of relevant images with the paper. Write a compelling and informative description of the home or room.

Consider the following questions when preparing your paper (you may not have room to address all of the questions):

- a. What is the history of this home or room?
- b. What are the key elements in this home or room?
- c. Who is responsible for the survival/recreation of this home or room?
- d. How does it reflect living conditions at the time it was built?

2. Select an advertisement for a decorative arts object in a 19<sup>th</sup>-century newspaper. Include a photocopy of the advertisement with your paper and note the publication, date, and page number. Please use an actual newspaper (via microfilm, not ProQuest) (please do not use a book with vintage advertisements and please do not use an image found on-line). Analyze the advertisement and its promotion of the object. Include a bibliography if appropriate.

Consider the following questions when preparing your paper (you may not have room to address all of the questions):

- a. What qualities does the advertisement promote about the object?
- b. What style is the object?

- c. How does the advertisement reflect the time during which it ran?
  - d. In what type of environment would the object have been used?
3. Select an advertisement for a decorative arts object in a 20<sup>th</sup>-century magazine. Include a photocopy of the advertisement with your paper and note the publication, date, and page number. Please use an actual magazine (please do not use a book with vintage advertisements and please do not use an image found on-line). Analyze the advertisement and its promotion of the object. Include a bibliography if necessary. Consider the following questions when preparing your paper (you may not have room to address all of the questions):
  - a. What styles and/or movements influenced the design of this object?
  - b. What are the materials?
  - c. How was it made?
  - d. How was it used?

\*For citations within the text, please reference the source as:  
(Author's last name, page)

\*For the Bibliography, please follow the Chicago Manual of Style:  
See:  
[http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools\\_citationguide.htm](http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.htm)  
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### **Final Project**

Develop a mock exhibition.

1. Identify a theme (related to this class) and title for the exhibition.
2. Write one page (250 words, double spaced, Times New Roman 12 point or similar font) introducing the exhibition. This should be in the form of an introductory wall label. This will be the text that visitors first read upon entering the gallery.
3. Identify 10-15 objects for the exhibition and make a checklist (with images). Below is the information that should be included for each object. The information may vary slightly depending on the objects (some do not have manufacturers, etc.).

Artist (Nationality, year of birth-year of death)

Manufacturer (City, dates)  
*Title of object*, date of object  
Materials  
Dimensions (height x width x depth)

4. Write labels for each object, approximately 50 words each. The label text should be clear and concise. Consider what the most interesting and important details and facts are about each object. Please do not be repetitive.
5. Prepare a floor plan and 2 elevation drawings.
6. Write one page explaining your design and your reasons behind the arrangement of objects, selection of wall colors, proposed display techniques, etc. This text may be more informal.

The proposed exhibition space is the Odum Gallery at the Georgia Museum of Art, which is 20 x 30 feet with an 11-foot opening in the short end. The ceiling height is 11'3". The basic floor plan will be included on WebCT.

Pick a theme, related to this class, that interests you—a style, a maker, a particular form over a period of time, a particular form from different makers or locations, objects with a common use or other feature in common, etc.

Consider how to convey your theme to visitors to the gallery. Consider how the visitor will interact with the objects (what will the visitor see first, how will the objects be protected? etc.).

You may be asked to do a 5-minute informal presentation in class on your exhibition.

### **Graduate students:**

#### **Additional paper and presentation**

Write a five-page paper on one of the following: a key figure in the study and preservation of American decorative arts, the history of a significant collection of American decorative arts, or a historic interior in Georgia. Present a 10-minute, slide-illustrated talk in class about your topic. Please confirm your topic via email (adbrown@uga.edu) by February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

