

# USAD Art Resource Guide Notes

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## Section 1 Art Fundamentals

- Introduction to Art
  - Difference in the definition of 'art'
  - The two methods to analyze art works : formal analysis/ contextual analysis
  - Sources and Leads related to art studies
  - The Development of Art History
    - Pliny the Elder (Ancient Roman) *Natural History* : analyze historical and contemporary art
    - Giorgio Vasari (Renaissance) *The Lives of the Artists* : biographies of great Italian artists
    - Johann Joachim Winckelmann (1717-1768) German Scholar : emphasizing to a rigorous study of stylistic development
- Brief Overview of the Art of the Western World
  - Ancient Civilizations
    - Old Stone Age : Chauvet Cave (Discovered 1994) Southern France
    - Middle Stone Age : cave paintings —> rock shelter paintings
    - New Stone Age : Stonehenge (2100 BCE) Wiltshire, England
    - Mesopotamian Art : Sumerians —> Ziggurats (Less Complex Platform like Pyramids)
    - Persian Art : Palace at Persepolis (influenced by Egyptian architecture)
    - Egyptian Art : Fractional Representation (Technique to make sure each part of the body is shown as clearly as possible using figures)
    - Nubian Art
  - Greek and Roman Art
    - Cycladic, Minoan and Mycenaean Art
    - Ancient Greek Art : Doric and Ionic Decorative style / Corinthian style (figure page 14) Pose : Contrapposto (Classic) : counter positioning —> balance in art
    - Etruscan Art

- Roman Art : Discovery of the equivalent of modern concrete —> enabling builders to fill the space between structures / Curved Arch —> constructing bridges and aqueducts
- Byzantine and Medieval Art : Mosaic (Byzantine) small ceramic tiles, pieces of stone / Barrel Vault, Ribbed Vault (figure page 16) / Flying buttresses —> additional bracing material and arches placed on the exterior of the building —> larger windows with artwork.(Chartres Cathedral in France)
- The Renaissance in Southern Europe
  - Linear (single vanishing point) perspective. Filippo Brunelleschi (1377-1446)
  - Aerial perspective. Masaccio (1401-1428)
  - Sfumato. Leonardo Da Vinci (1452-1519) use of mellowed colors and a blurred outline.
  - Mannerism. Tintoretto (1518-1594) Acidic colors and the twisted positioning of subjects.
  - Chiaroscuro. Tintoretto (1518-1594) Dramatic Contrasts of light and dark to heighten the emotional impact.
  - Reformation. To move away from the rich decorated style of Renaissance.
  - Counter Reformation.
- The Renaissance in Northern Europe (Add.)Use of new Oil Paints.
- Baroque Art (Baroque : artworks produced from the late 16th to mid 18th century) Establishment of Art Academy.
- Rococo, Neoclassicism and Romanticism
  - Revolution of 1789 in France —> neoclassicism (hearken back to the democratic ideals of the ancient world and the revival of classical Greek and Roman Art)
  - Romanticism. Eugène Delacroix (1798-1863)
- Realism and Impressionism
  - Realism. Reaction to the Neoclassicism and Romanticism. (Realistic Style)
  - Impressionism. Dissatisfaction with the rigid rules. Édouard Manet (1832-1883)
- Post-Impressionism and other 19th Century art styles
  - Post-Impressionism: Vincent Van Gogh (1853-1890)

- Pre-Raphaelites.
- Art Nouveau.
- Modernism
  - Use of Arbitrary Colors
  - Expressionism
  - Abstraction
- Pop Art, Minimalism and photorealism
- Earthworks, performance art.
- Brief Overview of NonWestern Art
  - Asian Art
    - Chinese Art
    - Indian Art
    - Japanese Art
  - African and Oceanic Art
  - Islamic Art
  - American Art
- Elements of Art
  - Line
  - Shape and Form
    - Positive Space : the space objects occupy
    - Negative Space : the area around these objects
  - Perspective
  - Color
    - Color Wheel
    - Value : the lightness or darkness of a color or of grey
    - Intensity : the brightness or purity of a color
    - Local Color : “true color” seen in normal daylight
    - Optical color : color seen under special lightning

- Texture
- Composition : The organization of the elements
  - Rhythm : movement or pattern
  - Balance : the equal distribution of visual weight in a work of art. (Asymmetrical Balance)
- Processes and Techniques
  - Drawing —> Shading : Hatching, cross hatching / Stippling
  - Printmaking
    - Relief printmaking : Cutting away parts from the surface of the plate.
    - Intaglio printmaking : opposite manner from relief printmaking.
    - Lithography : process in which the image is drawn with a waxy pencil or crayon directly on a plate.
  - Painting
    - Oil Painting Tempera : Water-based paint / Glazes : thin layers applied to alter colors / Fresco : Technique used to paint on walls or ceilings.
    - Water-based paint : Watercolor / Gouache : similar to school-quality tempera but of higher quality.
    - Acrylic paint
  - Photography
  - Sculpture
    - Carving
    - Modeling
    - Environmental Art (Earthworks)
  - Mixed Media (Collage : combination of various paper-based materials)
  - Performance
  - Craft and Folk Art
  - Architecture.