

Welcome to AP Art History 2024-25! This next school year promises to be exciting and challenging for all! AP Art History (aka APAH) is a college level study of the history of painting, sculpture and architecture since the beginning of time to the present. College credit can be earned by passing the College Board test in May. This is a rigorous but extremely satisfying course of study. **SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS (MANDATORY)**

Over the summer you will get acquainted with art historical methods by covering the beginning of Prehistoric Art on your own. This requires some research and note taking, but you will be provided with some sources to get you started. **The following questions will be due on the first day of class.** You should study your notes and the study guide provided on the artworks before the start of school as you will be quizzed on these the first day of class.

Rest up, get psyched and ready to work hard. Welcome to AP Art History, a course that will truly “change your life”! Looking forward to an amazing and satisfying 2023-2024 year!

Colorfully, Mrs. Tubbs

[Prehistoric Art](#) (Link to Resources)

This link includes all the images/ articles necessary to answer the following sets of questions.

- What does Prehistory mean?
- Why can't art historians definitively say what the artworks from this era was used for?
- The Prehistoric era is divided into Paleolithic, Mesolithic, and Neolithic. What do these words mean and what characterizes each period?
- Where did humanity begin?
- What types of art were made? What materials were used?
- How are these objects dated?
- What is shamanism?

Apollo 11 Stones. Namibia. C. 25,000-25,300 BCE. Charcoal on stone.

- What is depicted? • What materials are used? • Where were these found? • Why are they called Apollo 11 Stones? • What were these possibly used for? • What does their size tell us?

Great Hall of Bulls. Lascaux, France. Paleolithic Europe. 15,000-13,000 BCE. Rock Painting

- What are some of the possible purposes of cave paintings? • Besides bulls, what other animals are depicted in the Great Halls of Bulls? • Where was this painted and when/how was it discovered? • What materials were used? • What are the theories behind its possible meaning or use?

Camelid sacrum in the shape of a canine. Texquiquiac, central Mexico. 14,000-7000 BCE. Bone.

- How/where was this object discovered? • What was the technique used to create it? What tool were used? • What is it made of? • Why was the canine important to the culture? • Why/how were bones important to the culture?

Running horned woman. Tassili n'Ajjer, Algeria. 6000-4000 BCE. Pigment on rock.

- Describe what is depicted in detail (size, shape, color, images) • Why is the size of the figures important to the meaning of the work? • What symbols are present? What might they mean? • Where was the rock art found, what kind of surface? • Who discovered this artwork?

Beaker with ibex motif. Susa, Iran. 4200-3500 BCE. Painted terra cotta.

- What is terra cotta? • Where was this found (setting, not the country)? How does its find spot relate to its possible use? • What is depicted? • How are the animals painted? (realistically, abstract, using shapes) • What might the symbols of the patterns mean? • What techniques were used to make this and hat materials?

Anthropomorphic Stele. Arabian Peninsula. Fourth millennium BCE. Sandstone

- What does anthropomorphic mean? • What setting was this object found in? • What does the object represent (what is it supposed to be?) • Describe the object. What shapes are used to create the form? • What technique was used to create it?

Jade Cong. Liangzhu, China. 3300-2200 BCE. Carved Jade

- What is the significance of jade? • Where was this object found? • What are its physical features? • What images are carved into the object? What might they mean?

Stonehenge. Wiltshire, UK. Neolithic Europe. C. 2500-1600 BCE. Sandstone

- What is a henge? Is Stonehenge truly a henge? • What are the theories behind the use of Stonehenge? • What are the theories behind how this was constructed? • What types of construction were used in this structure?

The Aumbum Stone. Aumbum Valley, Enga Province, Papua New Guinea. C. 1500 BCE. Greywacke

- What is depicted in this artwork? • Is there meaning behind the visual elements of the work? • What may it have been used for? • What is greywacke?

Tlatilco female figurine. Contral Mexico, site of Tlatilco. 1200-900 BCE

- Describe the figure's physical features? • What does bicephalic mean? • What might the two-faced figure suggest? • In what type of setting were these types of figures found? • What techniques were used to create it?

Terra cotta fragment. Lapita. Solomon Islands, Reef islands. 1000 BCE. Terra cotta (incised)

- What important information does this potsherd reveal about migration in the Pacific?
- What techniques were used to create Lapita pottery?
- What were pots like this used for?
- Where were they discovered?
- What imagery was incised (carved into) the potsherds?

Prehistoric Art Study Guide

Recommendations for Studying:

- Slide IDs([Prehisotric Slideshow](#)) Memorize the image slide IDs (find all information in the table below).
- Terms: Go through the terms listed below – next to each term, find the image or images that correspond to each term
- Multiple choice: briefly review all Snapshots to make sure you can answer all multiple-choice questions
- FRQ: review the potential FRQ images (found below) in a more detailed manner to ensure that you can write eloquently about those images if they show up on the FRQ

Theme: “Cave Conjecture” -- This theme addresses the site of much Paleolithic Art as well as the lack of documentation surrounding this period’s artwork. Therefore, much of this chapter is comprised of conjecture.

Images (**# indicates sub-images that students are also responsible for knowing)

#	Title	Artist/Culture	Date	Medium	Location
1	Apollo 11 Stones	Prehistoric African (Namibia)	25,500 BCE-25,300 BCE	Charcoal on stone	Namibia
2	Great Hall of the Bulls	Prehistoric European	15,000 BCE – 13,000 BCE	Rock painting	Lascaux, France
3	Camelid sacrum in the shape of a canine	Prehistoric American (Mexico)	14,000 BCE – 7,000 BCE	Bone	Tequixquiac, central Mexico
4	Running Horned Woman	Prehistoric African (Algerian)	6,000 BCE – 4,000 BCE	Pigment on rock	Tassili n’Ajjer, Algeria
5	Beaker with Ibex Motifs	Prehistoric Middle Eastern (Iran)	4,200 BCE – 3,500 BCE	Painted terra cotta	Susa, Iran
6	Anthropomorphic stele	Prehistoric Middle Eastern	4,000 BCE	Sandstone	Arabian Peninsula
7	Jade cong	Prehistoric Chinese	3300-2200 BCE	Carved jade	Liangzhu, China
8	Stonehenge	Prehistoric European	2500-1600 BCE	Sandstone	Wiltshire, UK
9	Ambum Stone	Prehistoric Oceania	1500 BCE	Greywacke	Ambum Valley, Enga Province, Papua New Guinea
10	Tlatilco female figurine	Prehistoric American (Mexico)	1200-900 BCE	Ceramic	Tlatilco, Central Mexico
11	Terra cotta fragment	Prehistoric Oceania (Lapita)	1000 BCE	Incised terra cotta	Solomon Islands, Reef Islands

Terms:

- Anthropomorphic: having characteristics of the human form, although the form itself is not human
- Bushel: cylindrical earthenware pot
- Cong: a tubular object with a circular hole cut into it in the middle like a cross section
- Figurative: clearly derived from real objects or sources
- Ground/Horizon line: horizontal line at eye level that determines ground space that figures are rooted upon
- Henge: a Neolithic monument, characterized by a circular ground plan of stone; commonly used for rituals and marking astronomical events
- Incise: to cut into a surface with a sharp instrument
- Megalith / Monolith: a large, single block or piece of stone used in large, stone structures
- Mortise and tenon: an architectural joint made from two components (mortise hole and tenon tongue); tenon is inserted into the mortise and is cut to fit the hole exactly; tenon may be glued or otherwise adhered in place
- Naturalism: attempting to portray objects from everyday life as they are
- Positive vs. negative: Positive (area of artworks where there is mass and subject); Negative (area that is void of mass)
- Post and lintel: architecture in which two or more vertical elements (posts) support and are capped by a horizontal element (lintel)
- Profile: a view of an object or person from the side
- Sculpture-in-the-round: Sculpture that can be seen from all sides and is not affixed. Also called *free-standing sculpture*.
- Stele: upright stone slab, often to mark a grave or site
- Stylized: a manner of depicting the visible world that privileges a certain look over realism and faithfulness to how things truly appear in nature
- Superimposed art: when one painting is painted over another, not necessarily at the same time.
- Terra-cotta: a hard, ceramic clay used for building or for pottery
- Twisted perspective/Composite view: A convention of representation in which part of a figure is shown in profile and another part of the same figure is shown frontally; also a *composite view*.

Potential FRQ Images:

1. Great Hall of the Bulls
2. Camelid sacrum in the shape of a canine
3. Stonehenge
4. Tlatilco female figurine
5. Jade cong

