

DEPARTMENT OF ART HISTORY & ART CONSERVATION

ARTH 260/3.0 (Fall 2022) Culture and Conflict (Tuesdays 6:30 – 9:30 PM)



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Delivery: On Campus

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: An investigation of the impact of war on art and architecture, as well as human attempts to preserve cultural heritage. A chronological or thematic approach may be taken, with focus placed on one or more case studies, such as: the Sacks of Rome, the Napoleonic wars, Nazi looting, the Cultural Revolution in China, Afghanistan under Taliban rule.

PREREQUISITES: Level 2 or above or permission of the Department.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: From Ancient Mesopotamia to Europe during WWII and Syria today, this course examines the enormous impact of war and other military conflicts on cultural heritage, focusing on monuments and works of art. In lectures that move both chronologically through time and geographically from place to place, several themes are explored: cultural damage and destruction during conflict (Temple of Bel, Palmyra), the looting of works of art (Napoleon and the Nazis), erecting monuments to celebrate military victory (Trajan's Column in Rome), human responses to heritage destruction including restoration and rebuilding (Coventry Cathedral), the desire for recovery of national heritage (Parthenon Marbles) and the rise of international efforts to safeguard heritage (UNESCO).

ON CAMPUS DELIVERY & REQUIREMENTS: ARTH 260 is a lecture course, and there will be a 3-hour class each week. The power-point images from the lectures will be posted. Students have weekly required readings via Course Reserves. Every two weeks there is a multiple-choice quiz via onQ and based on the lectures and readings. One essay is required, for which research will be carried out in the Queen's libraries. There is a 3-hour final exam in the exam period.