



Pieter Bruegel, The Tower of Babel.  
Oil on oak panel, 60 x 75 cm.  
Rotterdam, Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen

**Preannouncement:**

**Fall 2018**

**Special graduate seminar in Vienna, Austria**

**December 3, 2018- December 14, 2018**

**ARTH 844, Topics in Northern Renaissance Art**

***The Hand of the Master;  
Materials and Techniques of Pieter Bruegel the Elder***

**Instructor: Prof. Ron Spronk**

The very first exhibition on Pieter Bruegel the Elder will be held at the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna from October 2, 2018 through January 13, 2019. In conjunction with this groundbreaking exhibition (<https://www.khm.at/en/visit/exhibitions/bruegel/>), Queen's Department of Art History and Art Conservation will offer a unique seminar for a limited number of graduate students. The course will take place at the Kunsthistorisches Museum and will be taught by Professor Ron Spronk, one of the curators of this exhibition. The intensive two-week course will feature daily lectures by Prof. Spronk and presentations from his fellow curators and conservators. Exhibition visits, excursions, and a two-day conference with world-renowned Bruegel scholars will be integrated in the curriculum. Several seminar classes will take place in Kingston pre-departure to provide a foundation for Vienna portion of the course.

Pieter Bruegel the Elder (c. 1525-1569) was a uniquely important and versatile artist. His remarkably varied oeuvre consists of drawings, print designs, prints, panel paintings in oil, and paintings on cloth in distemper, a glue-based paint. Numerous splendid examples of his works will be in the exhibition, and results of extensive technical studies on the artist will be also presented. The course will emphasize object-based analyses, and in-depth discussion of the materials and techniques used by Bruegel and other Netherlandish painters. In addition, several museological aspects of organizing a large international exhibition will be addressed.

This unique seminar is considered a full-term, 3-credit course. It will come with considerable extra expenses for travel, entrance fees, and room and board, in addition to tuition. More information about the seminar, finances, and practicalities will follow by July 1, but because of the unusual nature of this course we want to make sure that interested current and incoming graduate students can mark their calendars and their budgets!