DEPARTMENT OF ART
ART HISTORY &
ART CONSERVATION

ARTH 844/3.0
Studies in Northern Renaissance Art- Materials and Techniques of Pieter Bruegel the Elder

Instructor: Ron Spronk
Email: spronkr@queensu.ca
Time/ Location:
October 12, 15, 16, 22, 24, and 26, 2018 Ontario Hall 210, Kingston, 6:30 PM-9:30 PM
December 3-14, 2018, Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Pieter Bruegel the Elder (c. 1525-1569) was a highly versatile artist, and uniquely important in sixteenth century Netherlandish art. His remarkably varied oeuvre consists of, among others, drawings, print designs, panel paintings in oil, and paintings on cloth in distemper, a glue-based paint. From October 2, 2018 through January 13, 2019, the very first comprehensive exhibition on the artist will be presented at the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna, Austria. In conjunction with this event, Queen’s Art History and Art Conservation Department will offer a unique seminar course for graduate students. Prof. Ron Spronk, one of the curators of the exhibition, will lead preparatory meetings in Kingston in October (see dates above) and an intensive two-week seminar at the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna, which will feature presentations, exhibition visits, and excursions. A two-day conference of world-renowned Bruegel scholars will be integrated in the curriculum.

The goal of this seminar is twofold: 1, to develop an in-depth understanding of Bruegel’s materials and techniques within the context of object-based research of Early Netherlandish painting; and 2, to introduce the participants to a broad range of aspects involved in curating a large exhibition.

ENROLLMENT:

Due to the museum and conservation lab visits, enrollment is limited to circa six graduate students. Please contact Dawn Lloyd (art.history@queensu.ca) to enroll, but also contact Professor Spronk by email (spronkr@queensu.ca) by August 18, 2018. Please attach a brief letter of motivation. Further questions can also be directed to Professor Spronk.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

A detailed list of readings and requirements will be available at the beginning of fall semester. The course will include lectures, presentations, discussions, on-site engagement and conference attendance. Attendance is mandatory for all meetings of the seminar. Evaluation will be based on two presentations (one in Kingston and one in Vienna), a final essay, and the level of active participation throughout the course.

SUPPLEMENTARY COURSE COSTS:

Please note that enrolled students will have to cover their own travel and room/board costs on top of regular course tuition. Please check these substantial costs carefully before enrolling. Students will be responsible for making their own travel and housing arrangements. There might be some additional expenses in Vienna, such as entrance and conference fees, but this is still under negotiation.