Arts and Sciences 1137.xx (proposed Freshman Seminar course)

*Beauty, Pleasure, and Art: How our Senses Inform Aesthetic Experiences*

Autumn 2016

C. Patrick Woliver, Associate Professor, School of Music

310A Weigel Hall

e-mail: woliver.1@osu.edu

Office Hours: TBD

**Course Description:** This course will probe the subjects of *Beauty, Pleasure,* and Beau*Art* and will seek to explain how and why we as humans are shaped by our response to them.

**Course Goals:**

1. To define beauty, pleasure, and art

2. To introduce works of visual art and music with the intent to invoke an aesthetic experience

3. To engage the senses and through self-analysis learn to describe the “magic” of aesthetic experiences

**Meeting times: ?**Monday, 1:00 p.m.? For this 1 credit course, you are expected to spend 2 additional hours a week preparing outside of class (reading, questioning, hypothesizing).

**Required Texts:**

The Aesthetic Brain by Anjan Chatterjee ISBN 978-0-19-981180-9

Death in Venice by Thomas Mann, translated and edited by Clayton Koelb (A Norton Critical Edition) ISBN-13: 978-0393960136

**Required Activities:**

1. Students are *expected to attend class and participate in the seminar discussions. Weekly reading is expected*.
2. Each student is expected to bring two or three challenging questions to class each week that is based on the reading so that seminar discussion will be stimulated. The Power Points and music presented in class are designed to stimulate class discussion, so if you find the class disinteresting, it’s because the students haven’t generated great discussion.

**One Paper:** Choose a work of art and write a paper of no more than 3000 words that describes how the work has affected you.

**Grading:** letter grade

Attendance and Class Participation 80%

Paper 20%

**Syllabus**

**Autumn 2016**

Week One Introduction

Read: Chatterjee

**Preface, Introduction, & Beauty: Chapter 1**

Week Two “What is this Thing Called Beauty?”

Read: Chatterjee

**Beauty: Chapters 2 & 3**

Week Three “Captivating Faces, The Measure of Facial Beauty”

Read: Chatterjee

**Beauty: Chapter 4**

Week Four “The Body Beautiful”

Read: Chatterjee

**Beauty: Chapters 5, 6 & 7**

Week Five “Brains behind Beauty”

Read: Chatterjee

**Beauty: Chapter 8**

Week Six “Beautiful Landscapes”

Read: Chatterjee

**Beauty: Chapters 9 & 10**

Week Seven “Numbers and the Illogic of Beauty”

Read: Chatterjee

**Pleasure: Chapters 1 & 2**

Week Eight “Food”

Read: Chatterjee

**Pleasure: Chapters 3, 4, 5 & 6**

Week Nine “Sex and Money, Liking, Wanting, Learning”

Read: **Death in Venice** by Mann, translated by Clayton Koelb

**Chapters 1 & 2**

Week Ten “Who is Gustav Aschenbach?”

Read: **Death in Venice** **Chapter 3**

Week Eleven “Voyage to Venice”

Read: **Death in Venice** **Chapter 4**

Week Twelve “ Desire”

Read: **Death in Venice** **Chapter 5**

Week Thirteen “Death in Venice”

Read: Chatterjee

**Art: Chapter 10**

Week Fourteen “The Observer and The Observed”

**Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/.**

**It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term “academic misconduct” includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct http://studentlife.osu.edu/csc/.**