

Caltech Winter 2013
Tues. & Thurs. 3:00-4:30

Prof. Shelley Bennett
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BRITISH ART 52

A survey of British painting and architecture from the late 16th century to the late 19th century, with a focus on the “Golden Age” of British painting in the 18th century. The lectures, which will focus on the relationship between art, politics, technology and individual artistic expression, will be supplemented by field trips to the Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens.

Required Text:

William Vaughan, *British Painting, The Golden Age from Hogarth to Turner*
(Thames & Hudson, 1999)

Selected Reading (on Reserve):

Julian Treuherz, *Victorian Painting* (Thames & Hudson, 1993)

David Watkin, *English Architecture* (Thames & Hudson, 2001)

Optional Text for illustrations (on Reserve):

David Bindman, *The History of British Art, 1600-1870*, Vol. 2 (Yale UP, 2009)

Course Requirements:

Midterm Exam: 3 short essays based on visual comparisons
(2/5th of final grade)

Final Exam: 4 short essays based on visual comparisons
(3/5th of final grade)

Required Meetings at the Huntington, as noted on syllabus:

The Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens are located at 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, and are open to the public Mon, Weds-Fri. 12:00-4:30 & Sat.-Sun. 10:30-4:30. Free entry will be provided for students enrolled in the course.

Office Hours & Contact Information:

4:30 - 5:30 pm Tuesday and Thursday and by appointment (shellbennett@earthlink.net)

Week 1: Reading: Vaughan, pp. 6-23

1/8 Introduction to British art: visual culture & visual analysis

1/10 Dynasty & Display in 16th-17th century British painting: Holbein & Van Dyck

Week 2: Reading: Watkin, pp. 82-88, 96-138

1/15 British 16th-17th century architecture & the Politics of Patronage: Jones, Vanbrugh & Wren

1/17 Neo-Palladian 18th century architecture: Burlington & Kent

Week 3: Reading: Vaughan, pp. 24-67

1/22 Hogarth's London: Urban Pleasures & the Culture of Politeness

1/24 Hogarth's 'Modern Moral Subjects'

Week 4: Reading: Vaughan, pp. 68-97

1/29 Cultural and Political allusions in Landscape Architecture; Robert Adam

1/31 **3:00 – 4:30, Meeting in the Huntington Art Gallery:** British Portraiture

Week 5: Reading: Vaughan, pp. 98-119

2/5 Portraiture & Society: Reynolds, Gainsborough & Romney

2/7 **MIDTERM**

Week 6: Reading: Vaughan, pp. 126-149, 182-249

2/12 The Academy & History painting: Barry, West & Fuseli

2/14 Visionary Painting & Blake; British Comic Art & the Politics of Satire: Rowlandson & Gilray

Week 7: Reading: Vaughan, pp. 150-173

2/19 Art, Science & Industry: Wright of Derby & Stubbs

2/21 3:00 – 4:30, Meeting in the Huntington Art Gallery: Landscape painting

Week 8: Reading: Treuherz, pp. 9-19, 28-30, 52-55, 75-103; Watkin, pp. 138-148

2/26 Landscape painting & visual culture: Turner & Constable

2/28 British Romantic architecture [& sculpture]: Wyatt, Dance, Soane & Nash

Week 9: Reading: Treuherz, pp. 131-157, Watkin, pp. 154-161

3/5 Paintings of Contemporary Life: Wheatley, Wilkie & Landseer;

3/7 The Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood: Millais, Hunt, Brown & Rossetti,

Weeks 10:

3/12 The Arts & Crafts movement: Morris & Burne-Jones

3/14 British Aesthetic Movement: Whistler & Sargent (last lecture)

March 19 FINAL EXAM