"This course will provide an introduction to the visual arts and to the discipline of art history by focusing on a small number of works, primarily of two-dimensional art, that will be studied in depth. Such focused analysis will also provide opportunities for introducing the students to different artistic techniques, to the various questions of interpretation that can be raised in art history and the methodologies developed to answer them, and to different theories of art and aesthetics. The works of art studied will mostly come from Western art since the Renaissance, though works of classical art, as well as ones coming from East-Asian traditions, can also be considered. The definitive selection of works for the semester will be made in the first week of class by the professor in collaboration with the students, taking into consideration their specific interests. The class will be taught colloquium style, with class discussions and brief student presentations emphasized throughout."