EVDS 1660 - History of Culture, Ideas and Environment 1  (Formerly 079.166) A brief history of the western creative imagination, part 1. Interdisciplinary survey of cultural periods and key works from the Foundations of Civilization to the Enlightenment, including literary readings, film screenings, and illustrated lectures and discussions. Available to non-Environmental Design students only.

Course Description:
An art historical survey of western and non-western movements in art, architecture, interior design, landscape architecture and urban planning considered in the physical, socio-economic, political, artistic and cultural context.

Course Objectives/Goals:
- develop critical and imaginative thinking skills grounded in knowledge of seminal works of the creative imagination
- deepen perspective on the relevance of historical precedents to a dialogue with contemporary culture
- establish a structured knowledge of the history of art and design through both western and non-western perspectives
- introduce the socio-cultural context of works of the human imagination prior to the Enlightenment
- establish a vocabulary based on the key ideas and outcomes of art and design history
- provide exposure to the comparative analysis and lineage of seminal works of the creative imagination
- identify basic methods of research to explore a topic of study and to understand existing knowledge; conduct research in a manner compatible with principles of academic integrity

The ambition of this course is to advance understanding of the seminal works of the creative imagination in art, architecture, interior design, landscape architecture and urban planning, with an emphasis is on works created prior to the Enlightenment. The course will increase awareness, understanding and appreciation of cultural history and the interrelationship between works of the creative imagination as a living and mutable tradition in dialogue with contemporary culture.

Instructional Methods
This course is taught using projected image-illustrated lectures with the addition of in class discussions based on assigned readings and material looked at in class. Group work will result in further class participation and will be focused on asking questions and engaging with your peers. In addition to the class lectures which provide contextual and historical information, students may be asked to attend a gallery outing to physically engage with art.
Learning Outcomes:

• express ability to identify seminal works of art and design and the artists and designers that have contributed to the foundations and evolution of the design disciplines

• demonstrate awareness of the relevance of historical precedents to a dialogue with contemporary culture

• establish a structured knowledge of the history of art and design through western and non-western perspectives

• exhibit critical and imaginative thinking skills grounded in knowledge of seminal works of the creative imagination

• display awareness of the socio-cultural context of works of the human imagination prior to the Enlightenment

• apply an appropriate vocabulary based on the key ideas and outcomes of art and design history

• exhibit competency with basic methods of research and scholarly writing; conduct research in a manner compatible with principles of academic integrity