

COURSE DETAIL

LOOKING AT CHRISTIAN IMAGES: FIGURES AND METHODS

Country

Germany

Host Institution

Humboldt University Berlin

Program(s)

Humboldt University Berlin

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Religious Studies Art History

UCEAP Course Number

113

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

LOOKING AT CHRISTIAN IMAGES: FIGURES AND METHODS

UCEAP Transcript Title

CHRISTIAN IMAGES

UCEAP Quarter Units

4.50

UCEAP Semester Units

3.00

Course Description

Using direct engagement with Late Antiquity and medieval artworks housed in Berlin's Staatliche Museen, this seminar introduces students to a solid method of interrogating images and objects. It focuses on the particularities of the Christian image, namely its capacity of figuring the invisible and its relationship with the Hebrew Scriptures. The way the Hebrew Scriptures were transformed into the "Old Testament" in images serves as the seminar's guiding thread. By examining specific distinct objects, students trace the emergence of Christian imagery, explore the contradictions it struggled with, and consider the dynamics of artistic creation in the Middle Ages. The first sessions offer a brief introduction to the central themes. In the following sessions, students visit the Bode Museum and other state museums. During these sessions, each student presents an assigned object, followed by an open group discussion. The class also addresses questions regarding the ways of exhibiting medieval objects in museums.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

533643

Host Institution Course Title

LOOKING AT CHRISTIAN IMAGES: FIGURES AND METHODS

Host Institution Course Details

<https://agnes.hu-berlin.de/lupo/rds?state=verpublish&status=init&vmfile=no&publ...>

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Institut für Kunst- und Bildgeschichte

Course Last Reviewed

2025-2026

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