Purpose
This course explores visual artistry in relation to both theology and spirituality. It is historical in part, but also theoretical and, at times, practical. Although the Christian tradition will provide the basic framework for our reflection, certain non-Christian traditions of spirituality and visual artistry will receive attention as well. We will include architecture and film as two aspects of the course, but we leave more detailed consideration of those media to courses dedicated to those topics in particular.

Format of the Course
The class will meet once a week. Time will be divided between brief lectures by the professor, group discussion, meetings with visiting artists, media presentations, and student presentations. We will also take advantage of resources in the community, especially the Indianapolis Museum of Art.

Required Texts
John Dillenberger, A Theology of Artistic Sensibilities
Robin Jensen, The Substance of Things Seen: Art, Faith, and the Christian Community
Robert K. Johnston, Reframing Theology and Film
David Morgan, Visual Piety
Mark A. Torgerson, An Architecture of Immanence: Architecture for worship and Ministry Today
Beth Williamson, Christian Art: A Very Short Introduction

Course Requirements
Active, positive participation in class 10%
Two Short Papers 20% (10% + 10%)
Class presentation 20%
Mid-term exam 25%
Final exam 25%

Grades (including plus and minus)
A (outstanding work); B (very good work); C (somewhat deficient but generally satisfactory work); D (seriously deficient or otherwise unsatisfactory work); F (unacceptable graduate work)

Late Work
Late work is normally penalized at the rate of five points per day. If you need an extension, you must have a good reason and must talk with the professor—preferably
ahead of time. *No grade will be given for work handed in after the end of the semester,*
apart from work done to satisfy an official incomplete.

**Absences**
A class such as this one functions well only if all students attend regularly. Moreover, some
of the materials presented in class cannot otherwise be made available. This class follows
the CTS attendance policy.

**Incompletes**
A grade of “incomplete” is given only when there is an emergency or serious illness; any
incomplete must be approved by the Dean’s Office, by the end of the last week of classes.
TENTATIVE CLASS CALENDAR

Aug 30
• Introduction of class and each other; Video: *The Face: Jesus in Art*, first half

Sept 6  LABOR DAY, NO CLASS

Sept 13
• Discussion of Jensen *Substance of Things Seen*, Chapters 1-3; *Face of Jesus* video.

Sept 20
• Continue with Jensen, Chapters 4-6

Sept 27  1st paper due
• Beth Williamson, *Christian Art*, Chapters 1-3

Oct 4
• Continue with Williamson, Chapters 4-6

Oct 11  READING WEEK 1

Oct 18  2nd paper due
• Morgan, *Visual Piety*, TBA;

Oct 25
• Dillenberger, *A Theology of Artistic Sensibilities*, TBA

Nov 1
• Amy Kindred, visiting artist and minister

Nov 8
• Student presentations 1-2; Johnston, *Reframing Theology and Film*, TBA

Nov 15
• Student presentations 3-4; Johnston, cont.

Nov 22  READING WEEK 2 (THANKSGIVING)

Nov 29
• Student presentations 5-6; Torgerson, *An Architecture of Immanence*

Dec 6
• Presentations 7-9, and future directions

Dec 13 FINAL EXAM