

# **A History of the World through Objects**

- Builds on study of objects as expressions of a particular place and time.
- Introduces students to major trends in world history and to artistic styles and stylistic change.
- Roughly chronological course structure.
- Thematic groupings of objects.
- Prehistory to the era of mass industrialization—a development that occurred at different times for different cultures.
- Objects from ordinary tools of daily life to extraordinary monuments of skill and design.
- Deemphasizes categorical divisions between the fine arts and other forms of production.
- How and why they were made, by whom and for whom, how they were used, what they meant to their users, and what social structures are embedded in them.
- Objects all drawn from public collections in New York City.

# **A History of the World through Objects**

- Meets once a week, 2 hour and 40 min sessions.
- 15 week course
  - 10 set thematic/chronological groupings
  - 5 meetings for...
    - Expansion of particular themes/periods
    - Museum visits
    - Methodological exploration
    - Exams
    - Etc.
- Roughly 100 objects to be taught

# A History of the World through Objects

- Potential themes:
  - Public spaces/private spaces
  - Religious/secular objects
  - Political structures
  - Ecology: relation of man to the natural world
  - Stylistic trends and cross-influences
  - Time: record keeping, performing objects, etc.
  - Writing and history
  - Tools and makers
  - Collectors and collecting (why are these things here?)









