



**Additional Course Notes for 'Looking at the Overlooked'
Ten Masterworks in Focus**

Whilst analysing in-depth, ten renowned masterworks from the early Renaissance through to the end of the nineteenth century, we will develop a critical understanding of works of art, placing them in the context in which they are found. Thus it is hoped that the skills of research and critical analysis will be nurtured to further one's ability to effectively communicate understanding and knowledge of Art History. This will include an awareness of art historical terms, concepts and issues.

In our formal visual analysis of artworks, we will investigate key aspects such as scale, light, colour, tone, composition, setting, pictorial space, depth and distance. Clearly a good deal of attention will be given to materials and processes – namely the 'facture' of each given piece. Furthermore, contextual discussion of subject-matter will inevitably ensue, in terms of the socio-economic, religious and political/historical circumstances surrounding the artworks. The role of patronage will be considered in each case, as will the reception of our selected works.

Some theoretical understanding will be developed, focussing on established views by authorities, whilst allowing plenty of healthy 'air time' for personal judgements to be made.

The works selected for in-depth study deliberately transcend several periods in the western tradition of Art History, whilst also representing a range of genres or subject matter.