

**Aniconic**- not made after a likeness; not representational

**Arabesque**- ornamental design of intertwined flowing lines, often found in Islamic art

**Atmospheric Perspective**- a system of perspective in which objects further away get smaller and blurrier than objects closer to the viewer

**Background**- the part of the image furthest from the viewer, often the scenery behind the main subject of the image

**Baptistry** -a church or part of a church used for baptism

**Calligraphy**- decorative handwritten lettering

**Continuous narrative**- illustrates multiple scenes from a story in a single image; each scene is distinguished by the repetition of the main character(s)

**Foreground**- the part of the image that is nearest to the viewer

**Foreshortening**- technique to create the illusion of an object receding strongly into the distance of background

**Genre scene**- image of daily life

**Horizon Line**- the line that separates ground and sky in a painting

**Hypostyle**- describes any room that is filled with columns

**Illusionistic**- art that attempts to represent physical appears so precisely so as to trick the viewer into thinking they are not looking at a painting

**Manuscript**- any book that is handwritten (as opposed to typed or printed)

**Middle ground**- the middle part of an image

**Mihrab**- prayer niche in an Islamic prayer hall that identifies which wall faces Mecca

**Minaret**- tower in a mosque complex from which the call to prayer is announced

**Mosque**- a Muslim place of worship

**Narrative Cycle**- a group of images that tells a story

**Narrative Image**- an image that tells a story

**Niche**- shallow recess, usually in a wall

**Oil paint-** paint where oil is used to bind the pigment, as opposed to encaustic or tempera

**Orthogonal Line-** lines that recede into the space of a painting and meet at the vanishing point

**Qibla-** the direction that one prays in in Muslim worship (the direction of Mecca)

**Relic-** a part of a deceased holy person's body or belongings kept as an object of reverence

**Reliquary-** a container for holy relics

**Script-** a style of writing

**Series-** multiple works of art made as a group

**Tenebrism-** intense chiaroscuro

**Vanishing Point-** the point at which the orthogonal lines viewer in perspective appear to converge