

Course Code & No. - Section: ARTH 480-1
Course Title (Credits): African, Oceanic, and Native American Art History
Term & Year: Fall / 2014
Course Ref. No. (CRN): 80183

Instructor: Paris Almond, MFA
Phone: 775-750-4661 cell (no weekends)
Email: palmond@sierranevada.edu
Conferences: T/TH (by appointment recommended)

Class Meeting Time: T/TH, 10:00 – 11:15 am
Location: Holman Art & Media Center, Room 203

Course Description

This course is a survey of African, Oceanic, and Native American Art. We will explore African art, the art of Australia, Micronesia and Polynesia, along with the native art of North and Central America from prehistory through the twentieth century. You will learn about artworks from within their historical context, and you'll also learn how to discuss images using a formal aesthetic "art historical" language. Throughout this course, research and writing are emphasized so that by the end of the semester you will feel prepared to write and present a formal art historical research paper.

Learning Outcomes Assessment of these learning outcomes will be based on participation in discussions, quiz results, and strength of essays, as demonstrated in weekly discussions.

- Students will develop their ability to describe and analyze works of art, specifically of African, Oceanic, and Native American origins, recognizing the stylistic characteristics of the art of different cultures.
- Students will demonstrate understanding of gender and cultural differences and the ability to adapt to multi-cultural settings.
- Students will increase their cultural and visual literacy to recognize the value in the arts of different cultures through studying the aesthetic choices during different time periods.

Instructional Strategies

This class will utilize slide-lectures, small group discussions and activities, and individual work in class, inquiry and research learning, a field trip, and homework assignments. The course makes use of Lore.com/Paris.Almond, our class website. Code: QWXZ6U

Required Texts and Materials

Published by Thames & Hudson. World of Art Series. New York:

African Art, Frank Willett, 2002.

Oceanic Art, Nicholas Thomas. 1995.

Art of Mesoamerica, Mary Ellen Miller. 2006.

North American Indian Art, David W. Penney. 2004.

Recommended Texts and Materials

The MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers

A Short Guide to Writing About Art, Sylvan Barnet

and a good dictionary & thesaurus

Attendance

Attendance will be taken at each class for your points, so absences affect your grade. Arriving late and leaving early affects your grade. Should you miss a class, it is your responsibility to contact a classmate

and/or go to our class website at Lore.com/Paris.Almond Code: **QWXZ6U** to retrieve any assignments, handouts, vocabulary lists, and additional course information that is posted.

Class Requirements

All electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class, *including computers, tablets, and especially phones*. If you choose to use your phone or electronic device you will have to forfeit your device until the end of class or leave class (counts as an unexcused absence). No headphones, or earbuds allowed in class. Snacks are okay in class but please avoid particularly loud or smelly foods. Beverages are fine. Coffee or tea is encouraged after late-nights or all-nighters.

Cookie Policy: If your phone rings or makes an obvious disturbance in class you have to bring in cookies for everybody the following class. Everyone will hold you to it.

Late Assignment Policy: No late assignments accepted; no emailed assignments accepted.

Sanctions for Cheating and/or Plagiarism

The Honor Code

SNC students and faculty are expected to be familiar with the principles and guidelines of the Sierra Nevada College Honor Code as published in the current SNC Course Catalog. Faculty and students are expected to read, understand, and uphold the standards of the Honor Code

Consequences of Violating the Student Honor Code

SNC students and faculty share the responsibility for maintaining an environment of academic honesty. Thus, all are responsible for knowing and abiding by the SNC Faculty/Student Honor Code published in the current SNC Catalog. Faculty are responsible for reporting all incidences of academic dishonesty to the Provost. Students are responsible for knowing what constitutes *cheating, plagiarism, and fabrication* and for refraining from these and other forms of academic dishonesty. *Academic dishonesty, such as plagiarism, will result in an F in the course and subject to further disciplinary action by the College.*

ADA Accommodations

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, students with a documented disability are eligible for support services and accommodations. If a student wishes to request an accommodation, please contact the Director of Academic Support Services, Henry Conover, at (775) 831-1314 x7534, hconover@sierranevada.edu, office in Prim Library: PL-304.

The SNC Email System

The SNC email system is the official communication vehicle among students, faculty members and administrative staff and is designed to protect the confidentiality of student information as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 Act (FERPA). Students should check their college email accounts daily during the school year.

Students have a right to forward their SNC e-mail to another e-mail account (for example, @hotmail or @gmail). However, confidentiality of student information protected by FERPA cannot be guaranteed for SNC e-mail forwarded to an outside vendor. Having email redirected does not absolve a student from the responsibilities associated with official communication sent to his or her SNC email account.

The Sierra Nevada College Mission Statement:

Sierra Nevada College graduates will be educated to be scholars of and contributors to a sustainable world. Sierra Nevada College combines the liberal arts and professional preparedness through an interdisciplinary curriculum that emphasizes entrepreneurial thinking and environmental, social, economic and educational sustainability.

The Core Themes: Liberal Arts; Professional Preparedness; Entrepreneurial; Thinking Sustainability

Course Requirements

- Midterm Exam (100 points)
- Final Exam (100 points)
Exams may consist of image identification, vocabulary, compare & contrast, and short answer, or essay questions. There are no make-ups on exams unless due to emergency only.
- Research Paper or Project (200 total points)
The research paper or project is an opportunity for you to perform an in depth analysis of work of art, a topic, an artist, or a body of work related to our course. You may choose the topic of your choice but I must approve it in advance.
- Quizzes x 4 (25 points each)
There are no make-ups on quizzes if you are late or absent from class.
- Museum Assignment (100 points)
*A field trip is scheduled for **11:00 am, Saturday, October 26.** You are responsible for your own transportation. Once at the museum, you will be given a docent-guided tour during which you will take notes. You will write a 500 word essay from these notes, to be turned in at the next regularly scheduled class meeting. Attendance is mandatory. Failure to attend will count as an unexcused absence and you will not receive the points for the assignment.*
- Participation/Attendance (200 points)
Attending class and being active in class discussions contribute to your participation points. Please remember that absences affect your grade. Arriving late and leaving early affects your grade.

Grading Scale (800 points possible):Midterm Exam = **100 points**Final Exam = **100 points**Research Paper/Project Proposal = **25 points**Peer Reviewed Draft of Research Paper/Project = **25 points**Research Paper/Project Presentation = **50 points**Final Research Paper/Project = **100 points**Quizzes x 4 (25 points each) = **100 points**Museum Essay = **100 points**Participation/Attendance = **200 points****Letter Grade Equivalent:**

720 – 800 = A

639 – 719 = B

558 – 638 = C

477 – 557 = D

0 – 476 = F

Fall 2014 Weekly Class Schedule

This schedule is subject to change.

Chapter readings and Guided Reading assignments should be completed *before* the class date!Podcast links and Guided Reading Questions available at Lore.com/Paris.Almond

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| Week 1 | Tuesday | Aug 19 | First Day of Class. Welcome to ARTH 480! |
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| | | | Course Overview, Syllabus, Assignments, Text |
| Week 2 | Thursday | Aug 21 | AFRICAN ART Chapter 1 “Introducing Africa” Chapter 2 “The Development of the Study of African Art” |
| | Tuesday | Aug 26 | AFRICAN ART Chapter 3 “Towards a History of African Art” Chapter 4 “African Architecture” |
| Week 3 | Thursday | Aug 28 | AFRICAN ART Chapter 5 “Looking at African Sculpture” Chapter 6 “Understanding African Sculpture” |
| | Tuesday | Sep 2 | AFRICAN ART Chapter 7 “Contemporary African Art” Recent Research: An Illustrated Guide QUIZ #1 - AFRICAN ART |
| Week 4 | Thursday | Sep 4 | OCEANIC ART Chapter 1 “Revelations: Sepik Art” Chapter 2 “Ancestors & Architecture: Maori Art” |
| | Tuesday | Sep 9 | OCEANIC ART Chapter 3 “The Art of War” Chapter 4 “The Art of the Body” Read before Thursday: A Short Guide to Writing About Art: Chapter 3 “Formal Analysis and Style” |
| Week 5 | Thursday | Sep 11 | OCEANIC ART Chapter 5 “Maternal Symbolism & Male Cults” Chapter 6 “Barkcloth, Exchange & Sanctity” Introduction to Formal Analysis |
| | Tuesday | Sep 16 | OCEANIC ART Chapter 7 “Feathers, Divinity & Chiefly Power” Chapter 8 “Narrative Art & Tourism” |
| Week 6 | Thursday | Sep 18 | Chapter 9 “National Independence, Indigenous Minorities and Migrants” Formal Analysis Writing Assignment Due |
| | Tuesday | Sep 23 | QUIZ #2 - OCEANIC ART Review for Midterm – African Art |
| Week 7 | Thursday | Sep 25 | Review for Midterm – Oceanic Art |
| | Tuesday | Sep 30 | Midterm Exam |
| | Thursday | Oct 2 | MESOAMERICAN ART Chapter 1 “Introduction” |

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| Week 8 | | | Chapter 1 "Introduction" Chapter 2 "The Olmecs" |
| | Tuesday | Oct 7 | MESOAMERICAN ART Chapter 3 "The Late Formative" Chapter 4 "Teotihuacan" |
| | Thursday | Oct 9 | MESOAMERICAN ART Chapter 5 "Mount Alban, Veracruz and Cotzumalhuapa" Chapter 6 "The Early Classic Maya" |
| Week 9 | Tuesday | Oct 14 | MESOAMERICAN ART Chapter 7 "The Late Classic Maya" Chapter 8 "Mesoamerica after the fall of Classic cities" |
| | Thursday | Oct 16 | MESOAMERICAN ART Chapter 9 "The Aztecs" QUIZ #3 - MESOAMERICAN ART |
| Week 10 | Tuesday | Oct 21 | NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN ART Chapter 1 "Introduction" Chapter 2 "Ancient Woodlands" |
| | Thursday | Oct 23 | **No Class Due to Field Trip on Saturday, October 25** |
| | Saturday | Oct 25 | Class Trip, 11:00am, Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, for Docent-Guided Tour |
| Week 11 | Tuesday | Oct 28 | NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN ART Chapter 3 "Eastern Woodlands" Chapter 4 "Southwest" |
| | Thursday | Oct 30 | NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN ART Chapter 5 "Plains" Chapter 6 "Far West" Research Paper Proposals Due |
| | Tuesday | Nov 4 | NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN ART Chapter 7 "Northwest Coast" Chapter 8 "Arctic and Subarctic" |
| Week 12 | Thursday | Nov 6 | NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN ART Chapter 9 "Artists of the Modern and Contemporary World" QUIZ #4 - NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN ART |
| | Tuesday | Nov 11 | Class Presentations |
| | Thursday | Nov 13 | Class presentations |
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| Week 14 | | | |
| | Tuesday | Nov 18 | Class presentations |
| | Thursday | Nov 20 | Class presentations Final Paper/Project Due |
| Week 15 | Tuesday | Nov 25 | Thanksgiving Break (no class) |
| | Thursday | Nov 27 | Thanksgiving Break (no class) |
| Week 16 | Tuesday | Dec 2 | Review for FINAL |
| | Thursday | Dec 4 | Review for FINAL |
| | Friday | Dec 12 | Final Exam, 8:00 am – 11:00 am, HAMC 203 |
| | Wednesday | Dec 17 | Final Grades filed with Registrar |

Thank you for a great semester!