

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

Department of Art and Art History
ARH 345L; WGS 340 48; AFR 374F 13: **Diaspora Visions**
Unique #: 19964; 45089; 30754
Hour: MWF 9:00-10.00 am.
Room: DFA 2.204
Instructor: Moyo Okediji, Ph.D., Office: ART 3.428
Office Hours: MW 10:30 am-11:30 am
Email: moyo.okediji@utexas.edu Phone: 512-605-8178

Instructor available throughout the week by appointment.

Course Description

Border crossing by cultures and groups from Africa, Asia, Europe, the Americas, and the Caribbean islands has generated the production of images by immigrants, exiles, and nomads in alien lands. With examples drawn from various continents, class investigates art across borders in the contexts of the cultural circumstances that produced the diasporas. Students will investigate the arts of voluntary, forced, colonial, distant, and recent diasporas. Illustrations will draw on images, music, and videos.

Texts

Required

J.E. Braziel & Anita Mannur, *Theorizing Diaspora* (TD) (available free electronic copy at the UT library).

Robin Cohen, *Global Diasporas* (GD) (available free electronic copy at UT library)

Recommended (available on 2-hour reserve at Fine Art Library)

Kobena Mercer, ed., *Exiles, Diasporas and Strangers* (EDS)

Nicholas Mirzoeff, ed., *Diaspora and Visual Culture* (DVC)

Daniel Libeskind, *Lines of Fire*. (LOF)

Okediji, *Shattered Gourd*

Bolaji Campbell, *Fabrics of Immortality*

Accommodation

The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259, 471-6441 TTY.

Academic Integrity

University Policy on Scholastic Dishonesty: "Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. For further information please visit the Student Judicial Services Web site: <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs>.

Class Attendance

Students are required to attend all classes. Please inform instructor **ahead** of time if you will miss any class. Full attendance is 20 points. For every unexcused absence from class, a student will drop 2 points. University policy on holy days states, “A student who misses classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day should inform the instructor as far in advance of the absence as possible, so that arrangements can be made to complete an assignment within a reasonable time after the absence.”

Class participation and presentations.

The class will engage students in discussions, interactions and presentations. A ten-minute presentation in the last weeks of classes will demonstrate student’s grasp and perspectives on the subject of art and the diasporas.

Assignments and Grading

- Attendance.....20 points
- Class presentation10 points**
- 2 Essays.....30 points (due Feb. 23; March 30)**
- Calligraphy Deconstruction.....10 points (due April 27)**
- Research paper.....30 points due May 10)**
- Total.....100 points
- Extra credit opportunity.....3 points (April 17, Gordon White Building)

Grade Scale

Your final grade will be calculated according to the following scale:

GRADE	%
A (4.00)	93-100
A- (3.67)	90-92
B+ (3.33)	87-89
B (3.00)	84-86
B- (2.67)	80-83
C+ (2.33)	77-79
C (2.00)	74-76
C- (1.67)	70-73
D+ (1.33)	67-69
D (1.00)	64-66
D- (.67)	60-63
F (0.00)	≤59

COURSE SCHEDULE

PART ONE: CROSSING BORDERS (WEEKS ONE TO EIGHT)

Week One: Wed. January 22 & Friday. Jan. 24

January 22: Syllabus and class introduction

Crossing Borders I: Jewish,

Jan. 24: What Are Diaspora Visions? (1)

**Movie: Preston Sturges, *Sullivan’s Travel*, 1941

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u0CRAavN4EI>

**Psalm 137;

Dayenu (דַּיְנוּ) - Passover Song (Judaica)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mSfrxV_Kcig

Music: Boney M. "By the Rivers of Babylon"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J2j0MUCf6_E

Week Two: Jan. 27, 29 & 31 Crossing Borders II

: Traumatic Diasporas: (2)

Jean Michele Basquiat and Ras Akyem Ramsay;

**Music: Gregory Isaacs "Border," in *Lonely Days*

B. Marley, "Chant down Babylon."

** Vincent Harding, V. *There is a River*

The African Diasporas borders (3)

Week Three: February 3, 5 & 7. Crossing Borders III

Pidgin/Creole Borders (4)

Howardena Pindell,, Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons, Quilts, Wiley, Underground

Railroad, Renee Cox, Harriet Powers, Hale Woodruff

GD 31-55W. (5)

<http://hyperallergic.com/125403/the-beauty-of-howardena-pindells-rage/>

TD 85-118 ; <http://www.buffalosoldiers-amwest.org/history.htm>

[https://video.search.yahoo.com/search/video;_ylt=AwrBT8sZD3JaxScAThJXNyoA;_ylu](https://video.search.yahoo.com/search/video;_ylt=AwrBT8sZD3JaxScAThJXNyoA;_ylu=X3oDMTB0N2Noc2JlBGNvbG8DYmYxBHBvcwMxBHZ0aWQDBHNIYwNwaXZz)

[=X3oDMTB0N2Noc2JlBGNvbG8DYmYxBHBvcwMxBHZ0aWQDBHNIYwNwaXZz](https://video.search.yahoo.com/search/video;_ylt=AwrBT8sZD3JaxScAThJXNyoA;_ylu=X3oDMTB0N2Noc2JlBGNvbG8DYmYxBHBvcwMxBHZ0aWQDBHNIYwNwaXZz)

[?p=marley+buffalo+soldiers&fr2=piv-](https://video.search.yahoo.com/search/video;_ylt=AwrBT8sZD3JaxScAThJXNyoA;_ylu=X3oDMTB0N2Noc2JlBGNvbG8DYmYxBHBvcwMxBHZ0aWQDBHNIYwNwaXZz)

[web&fr=tightropetb#id=2&vid=2887beba4e109f336d1112824e92aa60&action=view](https://video.search.yahoo.com/search/video;_ylt=AwrBT8sZD3JaxScAThJXNyoA;_ylu=X3oDMTB0N2Noc2JlBGNvbG8DYmYxBHBvcwMxBHZ0aWQDBHNIYwNwaXZz)

Re-memering: Border of Art and Politics (6)

DVC 1-18

Music: Lazaros Los, Orisha Aye (bata music)

Week Four: Feb.10, 12, & 14 Border Crossing IV (Form and Content)

Black Female Body in Diaspora (7)

**Toni Morrison, *Beloved* (New York: Plume, 1988), 200;

**Gwendolyn Dubois Shaw, *Seeing the Unspeakable: The Art of Kara Walker*, 46.

: Community Art (Tiperu Wambui Aliga)

Week Five: Feb. 17, 19, 21. Border Crossing V

<https://video.search.yahoo.com/search/video?fr=tightropetb&p=BELKIS+AYON#id=1&vid=7e98d773faadf99bc15b8eb7fdcfeca&action=click>

Latino/Latina Borders. (9)

Lukumi

Art and Healing

<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/art-americas/us-art-19c/realism-us/a/woodville-war-news-from-mexico>

<http://www.tucsonweekly.com/tucson/poetry-of-resistance/Content?oid=6058565>

Week Six: Feb. 24, 26, 28 **Border Crossing VI (Borders of Europe)**

Prometheus and Fire: Classical Borders (10)

European borders 1

First paper Due on February 23.

Week Seven: March 2, 4, 6

Class presentation on Border Crossing

Week Eight: March 9, 11, 13

Class presentation on Border Crossing

PART TWO: VISIONS OF THE CROSSROADS (WKS NINE TO FIFTEEN)

Week Nine: March. 16-21 Spring Break

Week Ten March 23, 25, 27 **Asian American Borders;
South East Asian and Latin Diaspora**

Week Eleven : March. 30, April 1, April 3; Sexuality, Art and Psychology

Art and Symbolism—Donatelo, Michelangelo, Bernini, Caravaggio

Donatelo, Michelangelo, Bernini, Caravaggio. Artemisia Gentileschi

Carolee Schneeman Emma Amos, Faith Ringgold, Lili Bernard

SECOND PAPER DUE MARCH 30.

Week Twelve: April 6, 8, 10 Art and Symbolism

Arshille Gorky Armenian Diasporas

Egun in Transatlantic culture

Campbell: *Fabrics of Immortality* (read the last chapter).

Essay on Images of the Crossroad: 15 points

**Week Thirteen April. 13, 15, 17: Architecture of Word—Armenian and Jewish
Diasporas**

Daniel Libeskind

Word and image

Calligraphy Deconstruction

Friday, April 17: Extra credit opportunity: “Yoruba Day,” Gordon White Building, 12 noon. (3 extra points if you attend the event).

Week Fourteen April. 20, 22, 24:

Class presentations on crossroad, (6 students).

Week Fifteen: April 27, 29, May 1.

Class presentations on crossroad, (6 students).

Calligraphy Deconstruction paper (due April 27).

Week Sixteen May 4, 6, 8:

Class presentations on crossroad by (6 students).

Final Paper due: May. 10 at 12 noon by email to instructor.

Please send paper to moyo.okediji@utexas.edu