

## UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

Department of Art and Art History

ARH 374/AFR374F: DIASPORA VISIONS: EXILES/ALIENS/NOMADS

Unique #: 20430/35825 Time: MWF, 9-10 am. Venue: DFA 2.204

Instructor: Moyo Okediji, Ph.D., Office: ART 1.210

Office Hours: MWF 12 noon-1pm.

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### Course Description

Border crossing by cultures and groups including Yorubas, Jews, Armenians, Tibetans, Hamish, Pakistanis, and Indians has generated the production of images by immigrants, exiles, and nomads in alien lands. With examples drawn from Africa, Asia, Middle East, Europe and the Americas, 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

Robin Cohen, *Global Diasporas* (GD)

J.E. Braziel & Anita Mannur, *Theorizing Diaspora* (TD)

#### Recommended

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

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

Moyo Okediji, *The Shattered Gourd* (TSG)

Moyo Okediji, Western Frontiers of African Art (WFAA)

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

### 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.**

In addition to assigned readings, each student will make a ten minute presentation are mandatory (ten points).

**Assignments and Grading**

Attendance.....	20 points
<b>Class Presentation.....</b>	<b>10 points (Weeks six or thirteen).</b>
<b>2 Essays.....</b>	<b>30 points (due Sept 25; Nov.2)</b>
<b>Calligraphy Deconstruction.....</b>	<b>10 points (due Oct. 16)</b>
<b>Research paper.....</b>	<b>30 points due December 7</b>
Total.....	100 points

A.....	95-100 points
A-.....	90-94
B+.....	89 points.
B.....	85-88
B-.....	80-84
C+.....	79
C.....	75-79 points.
C-.....	70-75
D+.....	69
D.....	65-68 points.
D_.....	60-64
E.....	50-59 points.
F.....	Below 50 points.

**COURSE SCHEDULE REVISION**

**PART ONE: CROSSING BORDERS (WEEKS ONE TO SIX)**

**Week One : Introduction**

W. Aug 29: Syllabus and class introduction  
 F. Aug 31: What Are Diaspora Visions?  
 GD, ix-30, TD 1-22; EDS 7-27; Bob Marley, “Buffalo Soldiers;”

**Week Two: Crossing Borders I: Jewish, African, Armenian**

W. Sept. 5: Traumatic Diasporas  
 GD 31-55W. TD 85-118 ; DVC 1-18  
 F. Sept 7: The African borders  
 TSG 3-31; TD 49-81. EDS 28-45, Marley, “Burn Down Babylon;”

M. Sept 10: Aesthetic and Stylistic Diasporas (Mamiwata/Scheneeman)  
CI pp. 38-60 TD

**Week Three: Crossing Borders II**

W. Sept 12: Labor Day Holiday  
F. Sept 14: Abstraction and Realism: The Armenian Border.  
GD 31-55; Jimmy Cliff, "Vietnam."  
M. Sept 17: Psychoanalysis and Art: Emma Amos

**Saturday Sept 12: Class visit to East Side Mural: Rhapsody/Sankofa**

**Week Four: Between word and Image**

W: Sept 19: Traditional and Contemporary Images: (video)  
[www.universityofafricanart.com](http://www.universityofafricanart.com); Between Word and Image: Tinuomi Afilaka  
[www.universityofafricanart.com](http://www.universityofafricanart.com)  
F. Sept 21: Between word and image: Guillaume Apollinaire, Edgar Heap of Birds, and  
Martin Firrell

**Week Five: Architecture of Words**

M. Sep 24: Daniel Libeskind  
LOF1  
W. Sep 26: Deconstructing Alphabets  
F. Sep 28: Daniel Libeskind Video  
**Essay on Border Crossing.....10 points (due Sept 25)**

**Week Six: Presentations I (Border Crossing)**

M Oct. 1: Class presentations 1  
W. Oct. 3: Class presentations 2  
F. Oct. 5: Class presentations 3

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

**Week Seven : Sexuality and Race**

M. Oct 8: Zanele Muholi  
TD 184-206  
W Oct 10: Renee Cox  
Thursday Oct 12: Zanele Muholi's lecture  
F Oct 9: Discussion of Zanele Muholi's lecture/Berni Searles

**Week Eight : Alien, Exile, Stranger**

M Oct 15: The Gates of Janus: African American borders  
EDS 122-145; TD 49-82.  
W Oct 17: Delacroix, Picasso, and North Africa  
CI 38-60, Malek Alloula, *The Colonial Harem*  
F Oct 19: Traveling Under the Mask: Turner, Duncanson and Pissaro  
DVC 57-75; TSG 139-173  
**Calligraphy Deconstruction.....10 points (due Oct. 16)**

**Week Nine: Borrowing, Appropriations, and Transformations**

M Oct 22: Prometheus

W Oct 24: Mutu and Bearden

F Oct 26: Diaspora Therapies

**Week Ten: Passages**

M Oct 29: The Middle Passage

Tom Feelings, *The Middle Passage*

W Oct. OCT 31: Transatlantic Migrations (Migrations)

F Nov. 2: Jacob Lawrence: The Migration Series

**Week Eleven: —Diaspora Videos and Film**

M Nov 5: Modernity: Deluge (Video)

**Essay on Images of the Crossroad 20 points (due Nov.2)**

W Nov 7: Sidet (Video)

F Nov 9: Tobia (Video)

**Week Twelve: Exiles, Aliens, and Strangers**

M Nov 12: Yinka Shonibare, Jean-Michel Basquiat

EDS pp 166-188

W Nov 14: Adrian Piper

DVC 1-18; DVC143-162; EDS146-165.

F Nov 16: El Anatsui, Anne Chu, Luis Cruz Azaceta, Glenn Ligon

TD pp. 233-246 (**meeting in the Blanton Museum**)

**Week Thirteen: Alienation**

M Nov 19: Presentations 4

W Nov 21: Presentations 5

F Nov 23: Presentations 6

**Week Fourteen: Departures**

M Nov 26: Diasporic Conflicts

W Nov 28: Thanksgiving holiday

F Nov 30: Thanksgiving holiday

**Week Fifteen: Presentations**

M Dec. 3: James Luna

W Dec 5: John Biggers, Bing Davies, Michal Harris

TD 207-227, TSG 139-183.

F Dec 7: Final paper preview

**Final Paper due: Monday Dec. 10, 2012.**

