

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

Department of Art and Art History

ARH 374: Introduction to African Art (#20889)

TTH 9:30-11:00Am Class: DFA 2.204

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

Office Hours: TTH 11:00-12.15pm. Available other times by appointment

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Course Description

This course is a comprehensive study of the visual arts of Africa, in the social and cultural contexts within which people make and use these images. Students will explore historical, contemporary, and diasporic aspects of African art, as part of a larger expressive complex that includes music, dance, literature, and cinematography. The course will present the works of major artists, art groups, ethnicities, and communities, as a lively dialog between the creative imaginations of those who make the objects, and the philosophical responses of those to whom the artists address the objects.

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 15 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."

Exams and Grading:

Attendance and class participation.....20 points.

Map quiz...Friday **January 30**.....10 points.

Formal analysis essay due **February 13**.....15 points.

Mid-semester exam...**March 4**, 25 points.

Performance art workshop with Jelili Atiku **April 7 to 11** (10 points extra credit).

Final paper.....**Dec. 5**...30 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.....65-69

F.....64 and below

Required Textbook: Monica Visona, et al, *History of Art in Africa*

Recommended Textbooks:

Abiodun, Drewal and Pemberton, *The Yoruba Artist* (YA)

Lewis, *African American Art and Artists* (AAAA)

Harris, *Colored Pictures* (CP)

Willet, *African Art* (AA)

Vansina, *Art History in Africa* (AHIA)

D'Azevedo, *Traditional Artist in African Societies*. (TAAS)
Okeke-Agulu, & Enwenzor, *Contemporary African Art Since 1990*.

Course Schedule:

This course schedule is subject to change to accommodate unforeseen developments and to facilitate rigorous class presentations.

Week One (HOAIA, 10-19)

Tuesday, January 14: Syllabus

Thursday, January 16

An introduction to Africana art

Week Two (HOAIA, 20-43)

Tuesday, January 21

Study of art in Africa

Cultural and Geographical Expressions

Maps of African art.

Thursday, January 23

Central Sahara Rock Art

Rome, Christianity and Islam

Contemporary Art of North Africa: the postcolonial cannon.

Week Three (HOAIA, 44-75)

Tuesday, January 28

Early Nile Culture and Kemet

Kush, Axum, Nubia and Ethiopia

Thursday, January 30

Map quiz

Week Four (HOAIA, 76-103; (Okeke-Agulu, & Enwenzor, *Contemporary African Art Since 1990*;)

Tuesday, February 4

Terracotta Art (indigenous traditions)

Thursday, February 6

Terracotta Art (contd).

Week Five (HOAIA, 104-129)

Tuesday, February 11:

Contemporary African artist (El Anatsui)

Class meeting in the Blanton Museum.

Thursday, February 13

Formal analysis essay due

Found and repurposed materials

Recent Mande Art (HOAIA, 113-121).

Week Six (HOAIA, 228-271)

Tuesday, February 18

Yoruba Art Part One

Thursday, February 20

Yoruba Art Part Two

Week Seven HOAIA, 166-195)

Tuesday, February 25

Masking traditions.

Thursday, February 27

Mid-semester test preview

Week Eight (HOAIA, 196-227)

Tuesday, March 4

Mid-semester test.

Thursday, March 6

Art from Ghana

Week Nine (HOAIA, 516-541; Harris, *Colored Pictures* (CP))

Tuesday, March 18

Diasporic African Art (Afri-Cobra)

Thursday, March 20

Diasporic African Art (Altars, installations)

Week Ten (HOAIA, 274-315)

Tuesday, March 25

Candomble art

Africana Photography

Thursday, March 27

Santeria Art

Igbo Art

Week Eleven

Tuesday, April 1

Fri. Oct. 28

Indigenous sacred painting

Thursday: April 3

Indigenous sacred painting

Week Twelve (HOAIA, 350-380)

Tuesday: April 8

Performance art

Thursday: April 10

Performance art

Fri. Nov. 11

Performance by Jelili Atiku

Week Thirteen (HOAIA, 381-427)

Tuesday, April 15

Kuba, Luba cultures

Thursday, April 17

Eastern Congo Societies and art

Week Fourteen (HOAIA, 428-495)

Tuesday, April 22

Ndebele, Shona, Bantu, and Zulu Art

Thursday, April 24

Contemporary art in southern Africa

Week Fifteen (HOAIA, 464-495)

Tuesday, April 29

Film and video art

Thursday, May 5:

Film and video art

Final Paper: . 5 2011, (Due May 5 --12:00 noon). Send paper by email to moyo.okediji@utexas.edu

