

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

Department of Art and Art History

ARH 374: Introduction to African Art (#20135)

MWF 11:00-12:00noon; Class: DFA 2.204

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

Office Hours: MWF 9:00-10:00am.

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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>.

http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/scholdis_multisub.php.

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.....15 points.

Map quiz...Friday Sept 11, 2009.....10 points.
Formal analysis essay due Sept 23, 2009.....20 points.
Mid-semester exam: Wed. October 7, 2009.....25 points.
Final Exam Wed. December 9, 2009.....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+.....69
D.....65-68 points.
D_.....60-64
E.....50-59 points.
F.....

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)
Okediji, *African Renaissance* (AR)

Course Schedule:

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

Week One (HOAIA, 10-19)

Wed: 08/25/10: Syllabus

Fri: 08/27/10

An introduction to the arts of Africa

Week Two (HOAIA, 20-43)

Mon: 08/30/10

Study of art in Africa
Cultural and Geographical Expressions
Maps of African art.

Wed: 09/01/10

Central Sahara Rock Art
Rome, Christianity and Islam

Fri:09/03/10

Contemporary Art of North Africa: the postcolonial cannon.

Week Three (HOAIA, 44-75)

Mon:09/06/10

Labor Day Holiday

Wed: 09/08/09

Early Nile Culture and Kemet
Kush, Axum, Nubia and Ethiopia

Fri: 09/10/10

Map quiz

Contemporary Ethiopian Art (Ibrahim El Salahi)

Week Four (HOAIA, 76-103)

Mon: 09/13/10

Ancient Terracotta Art

Wed: 09/15/10:

Art of Small Communities.

Fri: 09/17/10:

Contemporary African artist (El Anatsui)
Class meeting in the Blanton Museum.

Week Five (HOAIA, 104-129)

Mon: 09/20/10:

Art of Ancient Empires (HOAIA, 107-113).

Wed: 09/22/10

Formal analysis essay due

Recent Mande Art (HOAIA, 113-121).

Fri: 09/24/10

Contemporary African Art (Amin Nour)

Week Six (HOAIA, 130-165)

Mon: 09/27/10

Dogon Art

Wed:09/29/10

Senufo

Fri: 10/01/10

Kehinde Wiley.

Week Seven HOAIA, 166-195)

Mon: 10/04/10

Masking traditions.

Wed: 10/06/10

Exam preview

Fri: 10/08/10

Mid-semester exam

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Week Eight (HOAIA, 196-227)

Mon: 10/11/10

Art of Ghana Part One

Wed: 10/13/10

Ghana Part Two

Fri: 10/15/10

Contemporary Art of Ghana (Ablade Glover)

Week Nine (HOAIA, 228-271)

Mon: 10/18/10

Yoruba Art Part One

Wed: 10/20/10

Yoruba Art Part Two

Fri: 10/22/10

Contemporary Yoruba Art.

Week Ten (HOAIA, 274-315)

Mon: 10/25/10

Benin, Ibibio, Kalabari

Wed: 10/27/10

Igbo Art

Fri: 10/30/10

Contemporary Uli Art (Uche Okeke).

Week Eleven (HOAIA, 318-349)

Mon: 11/01/10

Cross Rivers Art

Wed: 11/03/10

Cameroon Art

Fri: 11/05/10

Contemporary African Art (Victor Ekpuk)

Week Twelve (HOAIA, 350-380)

Mon: 11/08/10

Kongo kingdom Art

Wed: 11/10/10

Kongo Basin Art

Fri: 11/12/10

Rene Stout

Week Thirteen (HOAIA, 381-427)

Mon: 11/15/10

Kuba, Luba cultures

Wed: 11/17/10

Eastern Congo Societies.

Fri: 11/19/10

Contemporary Central African Art

Week Fourteen (HOAIA, 428-463)

Mon: 11/22/10

The Swahili Coast.

Wed: 11/24/10

Thanksgiving holiday

Fri: 11/26/10

Thanksgiving holiday

Week Fifteen (HOAIA, 464-495)

Mon: 11/28/10

Ancient Arts of South Africa.

Wed: 12/01/10

Ndebele, Shona, Bantu, and Zulu Art

Fri: 12/03/10

Contemporary Art of South Africa.

Final Exam: Wednesday Dec. 9 2010, (9.00am -12:00 noon).