

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
Department of Art and Art History
ARH 374; WGS 340; AFR 374F: **Making Africa**

Unique #: 20075

Hour: T 2:00-3.30 pm.

Room: GAR 1.134

Instructor: Moyo Okediji, Ph.D., Office: ART 3.428

Office Hours: TTH 11:30 am-12:30 pm

Email: moyo.okediji@utexas.edu Phone: 512-605-8178

Instructor available throughout the week by appointment.



Making Africa:

At the Blanton Museum of the University of Texas, an unprecedented and comprehensive exhibition of African art, titled "Making Africa: A Continent of Contemporary Art," will open from October 2018 to January 2019. This course uses the exhibition as its laboratory to examine the social and cultural contexts within which people make and use artistic images in Africa. Students will explore historical, contemporary, and diasporic aspects of African art, as part of a more massive expressive complex that includes music, dance, literature, and cinematography. Within a curatorial context of the Blanton Museum exhibition, 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 insight of the audiences.

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."

Exams and Grading:

Attendance and class participation.....20 points.
Map and proverb quiz...due Thurs. Sept. 20: 10 points
Mid-semester test, due Thursday Oct 11: 20 points
Class presentation, starts Wednesday Nov.13: 10 points, 10 minutes.
Focus artist(s) essay due Nov. 27: 15 points
FINAL RESEARCH PAPER.....25 points, due December 13 at noon

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
F.....	74 and below

Required Textbook:

Mateo Kriss and Amelie Klein, *Making Africa: A Continent of Contemporary Design*
 Abiodun: *Yoruba Art and Language: Seeking the African In African Art*

Required electronic link:

<http://makingafrica.net/exhibition/>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/200-Influential-Africana-Artists/415015031959814>

Recommended Textbooks:

Uwa Afu, *Adinkra Symbols*.

Monica Visona, et al, *History of Art in Africa*

Abiodun, Drewal and Pemberton, *The Yoruba Artist*

Harris, *Colored Pictures*

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 discussions.

Week One: Introduction: Thursday August 30:

Syllabus review

<https://onesourcelive.co/>

Xpolitan/Zeropolitan/ Deterritorialization

<https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/globalization/#Bib>

Week Two: Tuesday, September 4; Thursday, September 6

African Art: Shifting the Paradigms, Re-mapping the traditions

Emergent creative traditions: Two generations

David Adjaye, experimental architecture.

Text: **Nzegwu, Nkiru**: “When the Paradigm Shifts Africa Appears: Reconceptualizing Yoruba Art in Space and Time.”

Week Three: Tuesday, Tuesday, September 11; Thursday, September 13

GOLD COAST VISUAL DIALOGUE

Adinkra: Visualizing African languages and literatures

Artists for viewing and analysis

--El Anatsui/Owusu-Ankomah/ Wiz Kudowor/ Crazinist artist/ Ablade Glover/ Rikky Wemega-Kwaku/Larry Otoo/ Betty Acquah/Nyornuwofia Agorsor, Lynette Yiadom-Boakye

Text:Uwa Afu, *Adinkra Symbols*.

Rowland Abiodun, *Yoruba Art and Languages*, pp. 1-23

<https://video.search.yahoo.com/search/video?fr=tightropetb&p=Lynette+Yiadom-Boakye#id=1&vid=67f481ae17b62fdd8bf192e86f9cd2bc&action=click>

Week Four: Tuesday, September 18; Thursday, September 20

AFRICANA WOMEN AND GENDER MATTERS

Artists:

Ghada Amer, Esther Mahlangu, Wangechi Mutu, Peju Alatise, Elizabeth Catlett, Nandipha Mntambo, Ingrid Mwangi/Robbert Hutter

Text: Rowland Abiodun, *Yoruba Art and Languages*, pp. 1-23

Map and proverb quiz due Thurs. Sept. 20: 10 points

Week Five: Tuesday, September 25; Thursday, September 27:

Globalizing and Exhibiting African Art

(temporary and permanent installations)

WÁKATÍ: Time Shapes African Art--Art Exhibition at Oklahoma State University.

Denver Art Museum installation of African art

Africana art and sexuality--Tracy Rose, Berni Searle, Zanele Muholi, Wura-Natasha Ogunji, Rotimi Fani-Kayode, Kehinde Wiley, Grace Ndiritu, Lalla Essaydi,

Week Six: Tuesday, October 2; Thursday, October 4

AFRICANA ART AND RACE

Digital+ AFRICANA ART

Tabita Rezaire: Cyberspace, Cybertime.

Mimi Cheronu Ng'ok, *Love Song #9 (I knew you before I met you)*

The Idea Lab, The University of Texas at Austin, Gordon-White Building, 210 West 24th Street, Austin, TX 78705

October 4: Preview of Mid-semester test.

Week Seven: Tuesday, October 9; Thursday, October 11.

AFRICANA ART AND CRAFT?

Textile design, terracotta, fashion, body ornamentation—Nike Davies, Winnie Owens Hart, Tinuomi Afilaka, Lawson Oyekan, Egbeyemi Akingbade, Fode Camara and Ibulesoro art workshop..

Thursday October 11: Mid-semester Test

Week Eight: Tuesday, October 16; Thursday, October 18

First two class visits to the Blanton Museum.

Week Nine: Tuesday, October 23; Thursday, October 25

AFRICANA ART AND POSTCOLONIAL THEORIES

Tuesday: Architecture

Kader Attia, David Adjaye, Stephen Hobbs, Meshac Gaba, James Muriuki

Thursday: Third class visit to the Blanton Museum.

Week Ten: Tuesday, October 30; Thursday, November 1

PAINTING/MIXED MEDIA/PRINT/DRAWING

Larita Engelbrecht, Tahir Carl Kamali, Vincent Michea, Mary Evans, Nii AHENE-LA, , Virginia Chihota, Federic Bruly Bouabre, Ibrahim El Salahi, Sam Nhlengethwa, Frederric Bruly Bouabre, Bruce Onobrakpeya, Abdoulaye Konate, Viye Diba, Dominique Zinkpe, Kwame Akoto (ALMIGHTY GOD), Godfrie Donkor, SOKEY EDORH, TCHIF, OUTTARA, BERRY BICKLE, JOEL MPAH DOOH, FODE CAMARA, SOLY CISSE, YOUSOUF BATH, Jimoh Buraimoh, KIMATHI DONKOR, Richard Mudariki

Week Eleven: Tuesday, November 6; Thursday, November 8

SCULPTURE/INSTALLATION/PERFORMANCE

Lekan Jeyifous, Hank Willis, Haroon Gunn-Salie, Lamidi Fakeye, Olu Oguibe, Pascale Marthine Tayou, Gonçalo Mabunda, Francis Nnaggenda, Sokari DOUGLAS CAMP, Meschac Gaba, Nari Ward, Cyprien Tokoudagba, Georges Adeagbo, Nnenna Okore, BODY ISEK KINGELEZ, GERARD QUENUM, CALIXTE & THEODORE DAKPOGAN, BILI BIDJOCKA, HENRY MUNYARADZI, KAN-SY and Muhsana Ali, MICKAEL BETHE SELASSIE, AMOUZOU-GLIKPA, ANDRIES BOTHA, GAVIN YOUNGE, ANTONIO OLE, AMAHIGUERE DOLO, TAPFUMA GUTSA;

PERFORMANCE AND TRANSDISCIPLINARY ART

Nathalie Mba Bikoro, Nick Cave, Adrian Piper, MOSHEKWA LANGA, SONYA CLARK, Olu Oguibe, Lisa Bradley, Glen Ligon, Maren Hassinger, William Pope L., BARTHELEMY TOGUO, OTOBONG NKANGA

Thursday: Fifth class visit to the Blanton Museum.

Week Twelve: Tuesday, November 13; Thursday, November 15

PHOTOGRAPHY/NEW MEDIA/VIDEO ART

Bull Doff, Fabrice Monteiro, Samuel Fosso, Malick Sidibe, Robin Rhode, George Oshodi, J. D. 'Okhai Ojeikere, Renee Cox, Deborah Willis, IKE UDE, Tony Barboza, LOLO VALEKO (NONTSIKELELO). <https://africanah.org/author/karima-boudou/>

Thursday: Sixth class visit to the Blanton Museum.

Week Thirteen: Tuesday, November 20; Thursday (Thanksgiving)
TUESDAY: FIRST CLASS PRESENTATION

Week Fourteen: Tuesday, November 27; Thursday, November 29
SECOND & THIRD CLASS PRESENTATION
Focus Essay Due.....Tuesday Nov. 27

Week Fifteen: Tuesday, November 27; Thursday, November 29
FOURTH AND FIFTH CLASS PRESENTATION

Week Sixteen: Tues. Dec. 4; Thursday, November 6
SIXTH AND SEVENTH CLASS PRESENTATIONS

Final Paper: (Due Thursday, December 13, at 12:00 noon). Send paper to
moyo.okediji@utexas.edu **by noon. Late papers will attract penalties of 2 points daily.**

Seminar Question:

The theme “Who is making Africa, when, why, how, and into what?”

Class will explore this seminar question with the examination of works and artists in the exhibition, “Making Africa,” showing at the Blanton Museum this fall.

1. The indigenous space: The work of Rowland Abiodun.
2. The aesthetics of curatorial choices.
3. Theoretical parameters.