

Pre-Columbian Art and Architecture Syllabus: Summer I, 2018

Course Information

Course title: Pre-Columbian Art and Architecture

Course prefix and number: ARTH 3353-001; CRN 31402

Course meeting location: FFA 458

Course meeting times: MTWR 12:00-2:30 p.m.

Instructor Contact Information

Instructor's name: Anne Perry

Instructor's office: FOXA 354

Instructor's office hours: By appointment

Instructor's email: aperry@utep.edu (Best way to reach me)

Instructor Introduction

Professor Perry has a long-standing passion for the visual arts. She studied art history at the University of New Mexico, where she received her M. A. in Pre-Columbian art. She has taught a variety of art history courses at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and here at UTEP. She and her family have lived in El Paso for many years.

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the rich and varied history of art and architecture of ancient Mesoamerica and South America. Major monuments and art objects in a variety of media will be studied in terms of style and original socio-political or sacred context. This class is geared to students at the Junior-Senior level from all academic disciplines with an interest in the artistic heritage of Latin America. Students need not have had any prior experience in art to succeed in this class; however, attendance at all lectures and participation in class discussions are critical to your understanding of the material presented in this course.

Course Format

Course material is presented in a lecture format, utilizing digitized images of artworks. Images of specific works the student must be able to identify and discuss for each exam are also available on Blackboard; they are located in the Content folder, arranged according to examination period and culture. Students will not be responsible for works that do not appear in the Content folders.

Course Prerequisite Information

Students with Junior or Senior status and above may enroll in this course. Graduate students will be required to complete additional work in order to receive graduate credit for this course.

Course Outcomes

Students who successfully complete this course will have:

- a basic knowledge of major monuments of Pre-Columbian art in a variety of media, including architecture.
- basic competency in the fields of stylistic and iconographic analysis of works of art, which they may apply to further classroom or viewing experiences.
- the opportunity to improve written expression and critical thinking skills, leading to increased competency and confidence in the articulation of ideas.
- a deeper understanding of the methods of making and issues surrounding the creation of works of art.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Required Texts and Materials

1) Readings are assigned from the following texts:

Rebecca Stone, *Art of the Andes: From Chavin to Inca*, 3rd edition
Michael Coe, *Maya*, 8th edition
Mary Ellen Miller, *The Art of Mesoamerica*, 5th edition

2) Reading on Blackboard:

Carolyn Dean, "The Inka Married the Earth..." PDF

3) Images required for exams are in texts and BLACKBOARD Content

4) Students are required to bring either a notebook or recording device to lectures.

Exams

There will be three exams in this course, which will constitute your overall grade. These exams will not be cumulative, but will only cover material from each unit. Exams may consist of any of the following: slide identifications, short answer questions, slide comparisons, discussions and an essay. The first exam will cover South American cultures. The second exam covers Pre-Classic Olmec and West Mexican styles and Pre-Classic through Classic period Teotihuacan and Zapotec cultures, as well as the Mesoamerican ballgame and Classic Veracruz style. Tentative dates for the first two exams are indicated in the following calendar. Be advised that these dates can change. The final exam will cover Classic Maya, Epi-Classic and Post-Classic cultures and will be given in our regular classroom on Monday, July 9th at 1:00 p.m. **All students must take the final exam at that time. NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Specific images that you are required to know for all of these exams are available as Powerpoints in BLACKBOARD. Images may be downloaded or printed at your convenience. Essay assignments, an assigned reading and informational handouts are also available in the BLACKBOARD Content section.

Grading Standards and Criteria

Evaluation of student performance for this course is done in the following manner:

All grades are calculated using percentages and converted into letter grades according to the following scale:

90% & above = A - excellent work

80% & below 90% = B - above average work

70% & below 80% = C - average work

60% & below 70% = D - below average work

Below 60% = F - unsatisfactory work, failing

Computer Access to Blackboard

All of the images you are required to know for exams will be delivered via BLACKBOARD, which you access by following the steps outlined below:

Go to UTEP portal at <https://my.utep.edu> and log in.

Your user name is your e-mail id and your password is your e-mail password. If you do not have an id and password, call the Helpdesk at 747-5257. You MUST have a UTEP email ID to access BLACKBOARD.

Once you are in the **My.Utep** space, you can find the link to BLACKBOARD near the top of the webpage. Your courses appear on the BLACKBOARD homepage. Click on **Pre-Columbian Art AH 3353-001** to enter our course. Click on Course Content in the menu on the left. Powerpoints with required images for each exam are located in the Content section, arranged by unit and culture.

Course Policies

Attendance Policy:

Because attendance at lectures is crucial to your successful completion of this course, the following policy has been adopted:

Students are required to attend all class meetings, as per the College of Liberal Arts attendance policy. Students must arrive on time and remain in class the entire time to be counted as present. Any absence will result in your final grade being lowered by 5 percentage points.

Classroom Etiquette:

- All students must bring a notebook or laptop with them to class and take notes during the lecture.
- Recording of lectures is suggested, especially if a student has no prior experience in art history courses.

- Cell phone usage during the lecture is prohibited.
- Each of us is responsible for maintaining a clean and pleasant learning environment. Please make sure all trash in your area is picked up before you leave the classroom.
- Students are expected to be in their seats when class begins at 12:00.

Exam Etiquette:

- Be in your seat and ready to begin on time. **Latecomers will not have access to the images they have missed.**
- Please make sure your phone is turned off.

Policy for Make-up Exams:

Make ups are not offered for exams. DO NOT schedule medical or dental appointments (routine or otherwise) during class time.

Policy for Extra Credit:

I do not offer extra credit for this course.

Incompletes, Withdrawals, Pass/Fail Policies

Incompletes or I grades will be considered for students completing satisfactory or better work and having serious legitimate situations beyond their control requiring additional time to complete the course requirements. All I grades are at the discretion of the instructor and the approval of the Department chair.

Students hold the full responsibility for withdrawing from this course if that procedure is elected. Withdrawals must be completed on or before the final date to drop a course with a W. Students missing this deadline will be issued a grade for their performance in the course.

ARTH 3353 is a grade-based course and is not available for audit or pass/fail options.

PLAGIARISM/ACADEMIC DISHONESTY STATEMENT

Cheating/Plagiarism: Cheating is unethical and not acceptable. Plagiarism is using information or original wording in a paper without giving credit to the source of that information or wording; it is also not acceptable. Do not submit work under your name that you did not do yourself. You may not submit work for this class that you did for another class. If you are found to be cheating or plagiarizing, you will be subject to disciplinary action, per UTEP catalog policy. Refer to <http://www.utep.edu/dos/acadintg.htm> for further information.

DISABILITIES STATEMENT

If you have a documented disability and require specific accommodations, you will need to contact the CASS Office in the East Union Bldg., Room 106, within the first two days of classes. The Center for Accommodations and Student Support Services can also be reached in the following ways:

Phone: (915) 747-5148 voice or TTY

Fax: (915) 747-8712

E-Mail: cass@utep.edu

Course Calendar

WEEK ONE (6/11-6/14)

(M) Introduction to the ancient Andean Culture area and Chavin Culture
Homework: Stone, Chapters 1, 2 and 3 to p. 72

(T) Chavin de Huantar; Paracas Textiles
Homework: Stone, Chapter 3 pp. 72- 90

(W) Nazca Ceramics and Geoglyphs
Homework: Stone, Chapter 4

(R) Moche Ceramics: Anthropomorphic Portrait Vessels and Portrait Heads
Homework: Stone, Chapter 7 and Carolyn Dean, *The Inka Married the Earth...* on BLKBD
Study for Exam 1; Write Essay for Exam 1 (Topic available on BLKBD)

WEEK TWO (6/18-6/21)

(M) The Moche Warrior Narrative; Inca Culture and Architecture
Homework: Study for Exam 1

(T/19) EXAM 1 (Chavin -Inca)

Introduction to Mesoamerica; Pre-Classic Olmec Culture and Style
Homework: Miller, Chapters 1, 2 and 3 to p. 64

(W) Olmec La Venta: Urban Planning and Buried Treasures
Pre-Classic Writing and Calendrics @ Zapotec Monte Alban: Danzantes & Conquest Slabs
Homework: Miller, Chapter 3 pp. 64-68 and Chapter 4

(R) Pre-Classic West Mexican Ceramic styles
Pre-Classic Teotihuacan: City Planning and Monumental Pyramids
Homework: Read Miller, Chapter 4; Begin reviewing for Exam 2

WEEK THREE (6/25-6/28)

(M) Teotihuacan: Feathered Serpent Pyramid; Murals and Masks
Homework: Read Miller, pp. 106-122; Study for Exam 2

(T) Classic Zapotec Monte Alban: Architecture and Sculpture; Tomb Murals and Urns
Classic Veracruz Style; The Mesamerican Ballgame
Homework: Study for Exam 2; Skim Coe Chapters 1 and 2
Read Coe, Chapter 3 to p. 68, Chapter 4 and Chapter 5 to p.131

(W) Introduction to Classic Maya Civilization; Tikal and Copan
Homework: Study for Exam 2

(R/28) EXAM 2 (Olmec-Classic Veracruz/Ballgame)

Palenque: Western Jewel of the Maya Realm

Homework: Read Coe Chapter 5 pp. 132-168; Chapter 6 to p. 178; Miller, Chapters 6 & 7

WEEK FOUR (7/2-7/5)

(M) Sculpture of Piedras Negras and Yaxchilan; Murals of Bonampak; Jaina Figurines
Puuc Style of Yucatan
Homework: Read Miller, Chapter 8 to p. 230; Coe, Chapter 7 to p. 200

(T) Epi-Classic Cacaxtla and Xochicalco; Postclassic Tula
Aztec History and Myth
Homework: Read Miller Chapter 9; Study for final exam

(W) NO CLASS - FOURTH OF JULY HOLIDAY

(R) Late Postclassic: Aztec Sculpture; Zapotec Culture @ Mitla; Mixtec Manuscripts: Codex Nuttall
Homework: Study for Final Exam

(M/9) FINAL EXAM (Maya-Mixtec) @ 1:00 pm; regular classroom
Each student may bring one 3x5" index card containing a hand-written outline for the final exam essay. No other information may be included on this index card!
The card will be submitted with the exam.
Essay topic is available on Blackboard.