

Pre-Columbian Art Syllabus Fall 2014

Course Information

Course title: Pre-Columbian Art and Architecture

Course prefix and number: ARTH 3353 CRN 14446

Course meeting location: Fox Fine Arts A458

Course meeting times: MWF 8:30-9:20

Instructor Contact Information

Instructor's name: Anne Perry

Instructor's office #: Fox Fine Arts A354

Instructor's office hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 11:30 – 1:00

Instructor's phone & email: 747-8744 or 747-5181

Email: aperry@utep.edu

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 several 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 history to succeed in this class, however, regular attendance at lectures and participation in class discussions are fundamental to an understanding of the material presented in this course.

Course Format: In Class and Online

Course material is presented in a lecture format, utilizing visual material in the form of digitized images. Discussion of and an exchange of ideas about the material presented is enthusiastically encouraged. This is a technology-enhanced course: students will utilize the online environment, Blackboard, to access readings and essay assignments, to review works for exams, and to view announcements and other communications from the instructor.

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.
- the ability to reconstruct some of the key events in the rich and varied history of Mexico and South America.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Required Texts and Materials

1) Weekly readings are assigned from the following texts & articles:

Rebecca Stone-Miller, Art of the Andes: From Chavin to Inca, Third Edition
Michael Coe, Maya, 8th edition
Mary Ellen Miller, The Art of Mesoamerica, fifth edition

2) Reading on Blackboard:

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

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

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 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 and Classic Mexican cultures (including Pre-Classic Olmec and West Mexican, 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. It will be given in our regular classroom on Monday, December 8th from 10 am to 12:45 pm. **ALL STUDENTS MUST TAKE THE FINAL EXAM ON THE SCHEDULED DAY AND TIME. NO EXCEPTIONS!**

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 Content in the menu on the left. The images students must know for each exam are grouped according to culture. View a list of computer labs on campus at <http://admin.utep.edu/default.aspx?tabid=58049>.

DISABILITIES STATEMENT

Disabilities: I will make any reasonable accommodations for students with limitations due to disabilities, including learning disabilities. Please see me personally before or after class in the first two weeks or make an appointment to discuss any special needs you might have. If you have a documented disability and require specific accommodations, you will need to contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services in the East Union Bldg., Room 106, within the first two weeks of classes. The Center for Accommodations and Support Services can also be reached by:

Web: <http://sa.utep.edu/cass/>
Phone: (915) 747-5148 voice or TTY
Fax: (915) 747-8712
E-Mail: cass@utep.edu

Course Policies

Attendance Policy:

The College of Liberal Arts policy on attendance is very clear:

“The student is expected to attend all classes and laboratory sessions. It is the responsibility of the student to inform each instructor of extended absences. When in the judgment of the instructor, a student has been absent to such a degree as to impair his or her status relative to credit for the course, the instructor may drop the student from the class with a grade of “W” before the course drop deadline and with a grade of “F” after the course drop deadline.”

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

- Attendance will be taken at each class meeting.
- More than 3 absences will result in the student’s final average being lowered by 5 points.
- More than 6 absences may result in the student being dropped from the class with either a “W” or an “F”
- Information missed during an absence is the sole responsibility of the student. Borrow notes from a classmate if you miss a lecture.

Classroom Etiquette:

- Cell phone use is not allowed in this class. Turn your cell phone off.
- Food and beverages are allowed in this classroom, provided that each student takes responsibility for keeping his or her area clean.
- Chronic tardiness and early departure from class are disruptive and disrespectful behaviors. Please be courteous to others.

Exam Etiquette:

- Be in your seat and ready to begin on time. **Latecomers will not have access to the images they have missed.**
- No talking or communicating in any manner with another person during the exam. Please make sure your phone is turned off.
- Take home essays are due on exam day, unless specified otherwise.
- Take home essays are to be written in the student’s own words. Original wording and ideas taken from sources other than lectures must be cited. Using someone’s idea or original wording and passing it off as your own is plagiarism. Plagiarism is not tolerated in this course. **Students who plagiarize any portion of an essay will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution for disciplinary action.**

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.

Policy for Make-up Exams:

Make-up exams are only available by arrangement and approval of the instructor. To qualify for a makeup exam the student must meet one of these criteria:

Student missed exam due to his/her serious illness. The makeup request must include a doctor's note. A routine doctor or dentist visit will not be considered as a valid excuse for missing an exam.

Student missed exam due to a death in the immediate family. Documentation must be provided.

Absences due to work related and child-care issues will not entitle the student to a makeup exam. Make ups are given during the instructor's office hours. As per official UTEP policy, make ups are not given for the final exam. No exceptions.

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. Incompletes are issued 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.

Course Calendar

WEEK ONE (8/25-8/29)

(M) OUR FIRST CLASS MEETING

Syllabus overview; Introduction to Pre-Columbian art

Homework: Read Stone, Chapters 1 and 2

(W) Introduction to the ancient Andean Culture area and Chavín Culture

(F) Chavín de Huantar

Homework: Read Stone, Chapter 3

WEEK TWO (9/1-9/5)

(M) LABOR DAY - NO CLASSES

(W) Paracas Textiles

(F) Paracas Textiles continued: Nazca Ceramics

WEEK THREE (9/8-9/12)

(M) Nazca Ceramics and Geoglyphs

Homework: Read Stone, Chapter 4

(W) Moche Ceramics: Anthropomorphic Portrait Vessels

Moche Ceramics: Portrait Heads

(F) Moche Ceramics: Portrait Heads continued; Erotic Themes

Study Guide and Essay Assignment for Exam 1 available on Blackboard

WEEK FOUR (9/15-9/19) WRITE EXAM 1 ESSAY

(M) Moche: War and Sacrifice

(W) Moche War and Sacrifice continued

Homework: Read Stone, Chapter 5

(F) Tiwanaku

Homework: Read Stone, Chapter 7; Read Carolyn Dean, *The Inka Married the Earth...* available in Blackboard Course Content

WEEK FIVE (9/22-9/26)

(M) EXAM 1 ESSAY DUE IN CLASS

Inca Culture and Architecture

(W) DVD: Lost City of the Incas

(F) EXAM 1 (South America)

Homework: Read Miller, Chapters 1 and 2

WEEK SIX (9/29-10/3)

(M) Pre-Classic Olmec Culture and Style

(W) Olmec La Venta: City Planning and Buried Treasures

Homework: Read Miller, Chapter 3 to p. 64

(F) Pre-Classic Writing and Calendrics at Zapotec Monte Alban: Danzantes

WEEK SEVEN (10/6-10/10)

(M/7) Writing at Monte Alban: Mound J Conquest Slabs

Homework: Read Miller, Chapter 3 pp. 64-68

(W/9) Pre-Classic West Mexican Ceramic styles

(F/11) West Mexican Ceramics continued

Homework: Read Miller, Chapter 4

WEEK EIGHT (10/13-10/17)

(M) Pre-Classic Teotihuacan: City Planning and Monumental Pyramids

(W) Teotihuacan: Feathered Serpent Pyramid

(F) Classic Teotihuacan: Painted Walls in Palaces and Suburban Dwellings

WEEK NINE (10/20-10/24)

(M) Classic Teotihuacan: Murals, Ceramics and Masks

Homework: Read Miller, Chapter 5 to p. 116

(W) Classic Zapotec Monte Alban: Planning, Architecture & Sculpture - Main Plaza

(F) Monte Alban: Tomb Murals and Funerary Urns

Homework: Read Miller, Chapter 5 pp. 116-122

WEEK TEN (10/27-10/31)

(M) The Ballgame and Classic Veracruz Style

(W) Introduction to Classic Maya civilization

(F) EXAM 2 (Olmec through Classic Veracruz)

COURSE DROP DEADLINE – last day to drop a course with a W

Homework: Read Coe, Chapters 1 and 4 (skim 2 & 3) and Miller, Chapter 6

WEEK ELEVEN (11/3-11/7)

(M) Classic Tikal and Maya Ceramics

Homework: Read Coe, Chapter 5 to p. 131

(W) Tikal continued

Homework: Read Miller, Chapter 7

(F) Copan: The Easternmost City of the Maya realm

Homework: Continue Miller, Chapter 7

WEEK TWELVE (11/10-11/14)

(M) Palenque: Western Jewel of the Maya Realm

(W) Palenque continued

(F) Sculpture of Piedras Negras and Yaxchilan

WEEK THIRTEEN (11/17-11/21)

(M) Painted Walls of Bonampak and Courtly Figurines from Jaina

Homework: Read Coe, Chapter 6 to p. 178

(W) Puuc Style of Uxmal and the Yucatán

Homework: Read Miller, Chapter 8 to p. 205

(M) Epi-classic Cacaxtla and Xochicalco

Homework: Read Coe, Chapter 7 to p. 200 and Miller, Chapter 8, pp. 208-230

WEEK FOURTEEN (11/24-11/28)

(M) Postclassic Tula and Chichen Itza

(W) Tula and Chichen continued; Aztec History and Myth

Homework: Read Miller, Chapter 9

Final Exam Essay Topic available on Blackboard

(R/27) THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY - NO CLASSES

(F/28) THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY - NO CLASSES

WEEK FIFTEEN (12/1-12/5)

(M) Late Postclassic Aztec Sculpture

Homework: Read Miller, Chapter 8 pp. 205-207; Chapter 9 pp. 267-272

(W) Late Post-Classic Zapotec Culture: Mitla

Late Post-Classic Mixtec Culture and History in the Mixtec Codices

(F) NO CLASSES - DEAD DAY

FINAL EXAM (Classic Maya, Epi-Classic and Postclassic Cultures)

MONDAY, December 8

10:00 AM - 12:45 PM

Regular classroom

Essay will be written during exam- topic is available on Blackboard. You may bring a 3x5" card with an outline of your essay to the exam. No other information is to be included on the card.