

# ARTH 3355

## SPANISH COLONIAL ART OF THE AMERICAS

### Fall 2014

**Course title** -Spanish Colonial Art of the Americas  
**Course prefix and number** - ARTH 3355 (CRN 17108)  
**Course meeting location** – Fox Fine Arts Room A458  
**Course meeting times** – MWF 9:30-10:20

**Instructor's name** – Anne Perry  
**Instructor's office #** - Fox Fine Arts Room A354  
**Instructor's office hours** – Mondays and Wednesdays 11:30 – 1:00  
**Instructor's phone # & email** – 747-8744  
Email: [aperry@utep.edu](mailto: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 several years.

#### **Course Description**

This course is an introduction to the rich and varied history of Spanish Colonial art and architecture of Mexico and its hinterland---the US Southwest. Major monuments and art objects in a variety of media will be studied in terms of style, iconography and original cultural 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, because some of the material presented in class is not duplicated in textbooks, regular attendance at lectures, note taking 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 Goals and Objectives**

Goals and objectives in ARTH 3355 include the following:

- Students will have classroom experience in the formal and iconographic analysis of works of art.
- Students will gain experience in art historical methods of inquiry.
- Students will gain a basic knowledge of Colonial culture of Mexico and the Southwest as revealed through the arts.
- Students will understand the importance of the visual arts and architecture in Colonial Mexico in both the historical and the aesthetic sense.

### **Course Outcomes**

Students who successfully complete this course will have:

- a basic knowledge of major monuments of Spanish Colonial art in Mexico and the US Southwest 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) Weekly readings are assigned from the following texts:**

Donna Pierce et. al., *Painting a New World: Mexican Art and Life 1521-1821*  
James Early, *Presidio, Mission and Pueblo: Spanish Architecture and Urbanism in the United States*

**2) Various readings in PDF format are available in Blackboard (Content)**

**3) Images required for exams are available in Blackboard (Content)**

**4) Some of the material presented in lectures is not available in the assigned textbooks. Students are therefore required to bring either a notebook or recording device to class.**

### **Exams**

There will be three exams in this course, which will constitute 75% of your overall grade. These exams will not be cumulative, but will only cover material from each section. Exams may consist of the following: slide identifications, short answer questions, slide comparisons, discussions and an essay. Tentative dates for the first two exams are indicated in the following calendar. Be advised that these dates can change. The final exam will be given in our regular classroom on Wednesday, December 10 from 10 am to 12:45 pm. Specific images that you are required to know for these exams are available in the BLACKBOARD Content section.

### **Paper**

25% of your course grade consists of an 8-10 page research paper on a US Southwest mission church of your choosing. Your discussion will include a brief description of the

church and its original context (the convento complex) and a comparison of your church with Mexican and other US southwestern mission churches. Your paper is due in class on Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. See page 9 for specific details of the assignment.

### **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 **Spanish Colonial Art AH 3355-001** to enter our course. Click on Content in the menu on the left. The images you must know for each exam are grouped according to century and medium. 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](mailto: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 offered by arrangement and approval of the instructor. In order to merit a makeup exam the student must meet one of the following criteria:**

- Student is absent due to his/her serious illness. The makeup request must include a doctor's note. Routine doctor and dentist visits will not be considered as valid excuses for missing an exam.
- Student is absent due to a family crisis, such as a death in the immediate family. Documentation must be provided.

**Absences due to work related and child-care issues do not entitle the student to a makeup exam. Makeups are given during the instructor's office hours. As per official UTEP policy, no makeups will be 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. 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 3355 is a grade-based course and is not available for audit or pass/fail options.

# COURSE CALENDAR

## **WEEK ONE (8/25-8/29)**

### **(M) FIRST DAY OF CLASSES**

Introduction and Syllabus Review

Read Pierce et. al., pp. 25-33

### **(W) Mexico-Tenochtitlán: City of Moctezuma and Cortés**

Read Donahue-Wallace, "Colonial Cities," available in Blackboard (PDF format may be printed)

### **(F) Colonial Mexican Cities: A Standard Plan**

Begin Early, "Friars and Indians: The Architecture of Evangelism," available in Blackboard (PDF format may be printed)

## **WEEK TWO (9/1-9/5)** Continue to read "Friars and Indians....."

### **(M) LABOR DAY – NO CLASSES**

### **(W) Colonial Mexican Cities: Plateresque style**

### **(F) The 16<sup>th</sup>-Century Mendicant Complex: Introduction**

## **WEEK THREE (9/8-9/12)** Continue to read "Friars and Indians....."

### **(M) The Atrio: Posa and Atrio Cross**

### **(W) The Atrio: Posa and Atrio Cross continued**

Census Day – Last Day to Drop without a "W"

### **(F) The Atrio: The Open Chapel**

## **WEEK FOUR (9/15-9/19)**

### **(M) The Fortress Church (San Gabriel, Cholula)**

### **(W) Exterior Decoration: Plateresque San Miguel and San Agustín**

### **(F) Basilica of Cuilapán; Purista Santiago Tecali; Tequitqui at Tepoztlán**

## **WEEK FIVE (9/22-9/26)**

### **(M) Interior Decoration of the Church: Ceilings and Altarpieces**

The Convento (claustro)

Read Edgerton, "Christian Murals by Indian Artists," available in Blackboard

### **(W) Fresco Decoration of the Missions: Acolman, Ixmiquilpan, Actopán**

### **(F) Frescoes continued: Huejotzingo, Epazoyucán, Malinalco**

Read Pierce et. al., pp. 95-117

**Exam 1 Essay is available on Blackboard**

## **WEEK SIX (9/29-10/3)**

### **(M) Frescoes continued**

Featherwork of the Mission Schools

### **(W) Painted Manuscripts of the Early Colonial Period**

### **(F) EXAM 1 ESSAY DUE IN CLASS**

Manuscripts continued

Read Pierce et. al., pp. 17-23; 47-63; 118-122

**WEEK SEVEN (10/6-10/10)**

(M) Panel Painting: 16<sup>th</sup>-Century European Style

(W) 16<sup>th</sup>-Century Panel Painting continued

(F) **EXAM 1: The Sixteenth Century in Mexico**

Read Pierce et. al., pp. 17-23; 33-45; 61-68; 126-170

**WEEK EIGHT (10/13-10/17)**

(M) Baroque painting of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century

(W) Baroque painting continued

Read Pierce et. al., pp. 17-23; 179-186

(F) High Baroque painting

Review Pierce et. al., pp. 33-45

**WEEK NINE (10/20-10/24)**

(M) Baroque Architecture of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Centuries

(W) Baroque Architecture continued

Read Early, "Baroque Religious Architecture II," available in Blackboard

(F) High Baroque Architecture and Sculpture of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century: Estípite

Read Pierce et. al., pp. 79-91

**WEEK TEN (10/27-10/31)**

(M) Sacred and Secular in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century: A Mexican Virgin

Read Pierce et. al., pp. 194-199; 210-211; 244-245

(W) Sacred and Secular in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century: Paintings of Las Castas

Read Pierce et. al., pp. 206- 209; 222-229; 238- 243; 256-259; 267-8

(F) 18<sup>th</sup>-Century Portraiture and Secular Subjects

**Course Drop Deadline – Last day to drop with a "W"**

**WEEK ELEVEN (11/3-11/7)**

(M) El Real Academia de San Carlos & the Neo-Classical Style

(W) Introduction: The Missions of the US Southwest

(F) **EXAM 2: 17<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> Centuries in Mexico**

Read Early, *Presidio, Mission and Pueblo*, pp. 1-10, pp. 64-72

Read Edgerton, "Religious Architecture in the Most Remote Provinces," available in Blackboard

**WEEK TWELVE (11/10-11/14)**

(M) New Mexico Mission Churches of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century: The Salinas Group

(W) Salinas Group continued

Read Early, pp. 72-77

(F) Adobe Missions of New Mexico: Acoma, Laguna, Isleta

Read Early, pp. 92-95

**WEEK THIRTEEN (11/17-11/21)**

(M) Adobe Missions of New Mexico: The High Road to Taos

Read Early, pp. 96-121

(W) Texas Missions: Concepción and San José y San Miguel de Aguayo

Read Early, pp. 154-175

(F) California Missions: San Diego de Alcalá; San Luis Rey; San Carlos Borromeo

Read Early, pp. 186-208

**WEEK FOURTEEN (11/24-11/28)**

(M) San Juan Capistrano; Mission Santa Barbara; San Juan Bautista  
Read Early, pp. 137-153

(W) Arizona Missions of the Sonoran Desert: San Xavier del Bac

**(R/27) THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY – NO CLASSES**

**(F/28) THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY – NO CLASSES**

**WEEK FIFTEEN (12/1-12/5)**

(M) San Xavier del Bac continued

**(W) PAPER DUE IN CLASS**

Colonial Santos/Santero Paintings and Sculpture in New Mexico

**(F/5) NO CLASSES – DEAD DAY**

**WEEK SIXTEEN (12/8-12/12) FINAL EXAMS WEEK**

**Final Exam – Wednesday, December 10**

**10:00 am – 12:45 pm in our regular classroom**

## PAPER ASSIGNMENT

Write an 8-10 page paper (12 pt. font, double-spaced, 1" margins) on a Colonial Mission church, of your choosing, in the US Southwest (choose from the list of missions posted on Blackboard). You will first briefly describe the general setting of the church (layout and composition of the mission complex). Then you must discuss the specific characteristics of the mission church proper, including its construction, exterior architectural style and decoration, as well as interior decoration. Consider the relationship of your chosen mission church to churches of Mexico. How is your chosen example similar to 16<sup>th</sup>-century Mexican mission churches studied in class? How is it different? Consider the stylistic influences apparent in the construction and decoration. Does it, for example, reflect Baroque or Neoclassical styles rather than 16<sup>th</sup>-century church styles? Equally important to your discussion is your church's reflection of the cultural and stylistic trends at mission complexes in the US Southwest, as summarized in lectures and in your text. Consider construction, types and significance of exterior and interior decoration, as well as any features that are specifically southwestern in nature.

This is a research paper, but your discussion must reflect YOUR observations and thoughts about the subject. I want to hear your voice as I read your text. Make sure that you cite each and every source of original thought or wording that is not your own, but do not include lengthy quotations in the body of your text. A paper that is wholly or in part copied from any text is unacceptable, and will be returned to the student. Include a proper bibliography of works consulted. If you choose to include illustrations for comparative purposes, place them at the end of the paper, not in the text. Illustrations will not count toward the required page length of your paper. Your typed, proofread and grammatically correct paper is due in class on Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Late papers will be subject to grade penalties.