Art History 4930 Indigenous Arts of the Colonial Americas

Syllabus

Maya Stanfield-Mazzi, Ph.D., Associate Professor
University of Florida, Spring Semester, January 8–April 25, 2018 (3 credit hours)
Mondays Period 7 (1:55–2:45) and Wednesdays Periods 6–7 (12:50–2:45) in FAC 201
Final exam: Monday, April 30, 7:30–9:30 am
Email address: mstanfield@ufl.edu Office telephone: 352-273-3070
Office: Fine Arts C 117 Office hours: Tuesdays Periods 6–7 (12:50–2:45)

Course Description
This course examines several types of art created by indigenous artists in the Americas during the colonial period. This time period, which began after Europeans arrived in 1492, was one of struggle for many native peoples. Nevertheless, many beautiful works of art emerged out of native traditions and were used to communicate native perspectives and/or contest colonial rule. While keeping in mind the European (as well as African and Asian) influences on these arts, this course will look at indigenous artworks from native perspectives within their historical contexts of colonialism.

Expected Learning Outcomes
• Develop a critical understanding of the category of “indigenous” art and understand how it has led to indigenous artworks’ presence in museums and libraries.
• Develop a critical understanding of the term “colonial,” especially in relation to post-colonial theory.
• Recognize, interpret, and analyze artworks from several native groups.
• Understand the historical conditions that led to the creation of such works.
• Hone critical reading skills by synthesizing and discussing scholarly texts.
• Memorize the names and geographical locations of several native groups.
• Improve research and writing skills by producing a short research paper on an indigenous art form.
**Assigned Reading**

- Angélica Afanador Pujol, *The Relación de Michoacán (1539-1541) and the Politics of Representation in Colonial Mexico*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 2105. **Required for purchase.**

Copies of these books are also on **reserve** in the Fine Arts Library.

- Other required readings are available as pdf’s on the Canvas (E-learning) site for the course, under Files. Visit [https://lss.at.ufl.edu/](https://lss.at.ufl.edu/) to log in. Additional class materials, including a copy of this syllabus, terms lists, and images, will also be posted there.

**Requirements**

All students must:

1. attend class
2. complete homework assignments and do assigned readings **before** the classes for which they are assigned
3. participate in class discussions and activities
4. take the map quiz
5. come to class meetings at the Harn Museum of Art and the Florida Museum of Natural History (see schedule)
6. assemble a bibliography, figures list, and abstract for a research paper
7. write a research paper (4–5 pages) discussing an indigenous art form by way of select examples
8. take the in-class midterm and final examinations. The exams will consist of essays that you will have prepared in advance, based on study questions and images that have been provided to you. You will need to provide identifying information for the artworks you will discuss.
Grade Breakdown*
Class attendance: 10%
Class participation (including small homework assignments): 20%
Map quiz: 5%
Midterm examination: 15%
Bibliography, figures list, and abstract for research paper: 10%
Paper: 20%
Final examination: 20%
*While individual assignment grades are posted on Canvas, the full gradebook is not available. Consult the instructor whenever you have a question about your current grade.

Attendance, Makeup, and Class Conduct Policies
Because the lectures address the most current scholarship on the field, it is vital that students attend class. In class we will often cover works of art that are not in the readings, and activities will provide opportunities for active learning.
Absences for exams and late papers will require documentation, i.e. a doctor’s note, in order to be excused. Unexcused absences count against both the attendance and participation grades, and are reflected in the final grade. There are no “free” absences, and attendance is calculated as the percentage of class days attended. For UF’s official policies on attendance, see https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx
Students who do not complete requirements 6–8 (see above) will fail the course. Written assignments should be submitted as Word documents on Canvas unless otherwise stated. Assignments are due at 12:30 pm on the due dates.
Students should arrive to class on time and ready to speak, and should refrain from eating in class. Laptops should NOT be used for taking notes, and can only be used to consult readings in electronic format. During lectures all electronics should be stowed, and notes should be taken on paper. Students are encouraged to bring hard copies of the class readings to the appropriate class sessions. A 10-minute break will be given halfway through the long class period.
Details of this syllabus are subject to change as needed. Other important information is at the end of this document in the Appendix.

Course Evaluation
Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at https://evaluations.ufl.edu. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/.

Communication
The principal form of communication for this course is email, using students’ @ufl.edu addresses. Students should be sure to check their UF email often and use it to communicate with the professor, mstanfield@ufl.edu. Emails will be responded to within 48 hours. Any important announcements posted on Canvas will also come to students as emails, but students should not use Canvas to send messages to the professor (use email instead). If you cannot come to office hours but would like to speak to the
professor, feel free to call her office number, 352-273-3070. Otherwise ask for an appointment to meet in person.

SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS

Monday, January 8
Introductions. An illustrated preview of the course.
Assignment:
• This syllabus. Read it thoroughly and always bring it to class; it is your contract with me. Purchase and download textbooks.

Wednesday, January 10 & Wednesday, January 17
How do we define indigenous art? What issues are involved in studying it? Where can it be found?
Assignment:
Students see final syllabus.

Monday, January 22, Wednesday, January 24, and Monday, January 29
A Native Art to Define the Americas: Featherwork
STUDY GUIDE FOR MAP QUIZ HANDED OUT MONDAY THE 22ND
MAP QUIZ MONDAY THE 29TH
Assignment:
Students see final syllabus.

Wednesday, January 31
Special event: Attend Dr. Stanfield-Mazzi’s UF Fulbright lecture, “Indigenous Textiles in the Colonial Latin American Home: Luxury, Lineage, and Leisure” at 1:00 pm in the UF International Center Large Conference Room.
Assignment:
Students see final syllabus.

Monday, February 5 & Wednesday, February 7
Manuscripts: Contesting European Narratives
Assignment:
Students see final syllabus.

Monday, February 12 & Wednesday, February 14
Manuscripts continued: The Florentine Codex
Assignment:
Students see final syllabus.

Monday, February 19, Wednesday, February 20, & Monday, February 26
Midterm exam study questions handed out Wednesday the 20th.
Manuscripts continued: Andean Manuscripts and North American Ledger Drawings
Assignment:
Students see final syllabus.
**Wednesday, February 28**
MIDTERM EXAM

**SPRING BREAK!**

**Monday, March 12 & Wednesday, March 14**
Woodwork: Ritual Practice and Local Materials
CLASS MEETS AT HARN MUSEUM ON MONDAY THE 12TH

**Assignment:**
Students see final syllabus.

**Monday, March 19 & Wednesday, March 21**
Silverwork: European Influences and Native Transformations
BIBLIO/FIGURES LIST/ABSTRACT FOR PAPER DUE ON CANVAS MONDAY MARCH 19TH

**Assignment:**
Students see final syllabus.

**Monday, March 26 & Wednesday, March 28**
Tapestries: Survival of the Andean Craft Tradition

**Assignment:**
Students see final syllabus.

**Monday, April 2 & Wednesday, April 4**
Tapestries cont.: A New Art Form in the American Southwest
CLASS MEETS AT DICKINSON HALL ON MUSEUM ROAD MONDAY THE 2ND

**Assignment:**
Students see final syllabus.

**Monday, April 9 & Wednesday, April 11**
Cotton Textiles: Creativity in Varied Indigenous Contexts

**Assignment:**
Students see final syllabus.
Monday, April 16 & Wednesday, April 18
Ceramics: From Utility to Finery
RESEARCH PAPERS DUE ON CANVAS MONDAY APRIL 16TH
Assignment:
Students see final syllabus.

Monday, April 23 & Wednesday, April 25
Epilogue, Conclusions, and Review for Final
Assignment:
Students see final syllabus.
• Complete course evaluation at evaluations.ufl.edu

Monday, April 30th
FINAL EXAM 7:30–9:30 am in classroom

Important Dates
Jan. 29: MAP QUIZ
Jan. 31: Prof. Stanfield-Mazzi’s UF Fulbright lecture, 1:00 at International Center
Feb. 28: MIDTERM EXAM
March 12: CLASS MEETS AT HARN MUSEUM
March 19: BIBLIO/FIGURES LIST/ABSTRACT FOR PAPER DUE ON CANVAS
April 2: Class meets at Dickinson Hall on Museum Rd.
April 16: PAPER DUE ON CANVAS
April 30: FINAL EXAM 7:30–9:30 am in classroom
Appendix

Grading Scale
Grades are tabulated on a 100-point scale and a letter grade is assigned as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>94–100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90–93</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87–89</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<tr>
<td>84–86</td>
<td>B</td>
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<td>80–83</td>
<td>B-</td>
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<td>77–79</td>
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<td>74–76</td>
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<td>70–73</td>
<td>C-</td>
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<td>67–69</td>
<td>D+</td>
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<tr>
<td>64–66</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>60–63</td>
<td>D-</td>
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<td>59 and below</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
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If you have questions about how grade points are assigned by the University, go to: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx

Academic Honesty
UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor.

Students with Disabilities
I will make every attempt to accommodate students with disabilities. At the same time, anyone requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide you with the necessary documentation, which you must then provide to me when requesting accommodation. Please make your request at least one week before the needed accommodation.

University Counseling & Wellness Center
3190 Radio Road
P.O. Box 112662, University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32611-4100
Phone: 352-392-1575
Web: http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/