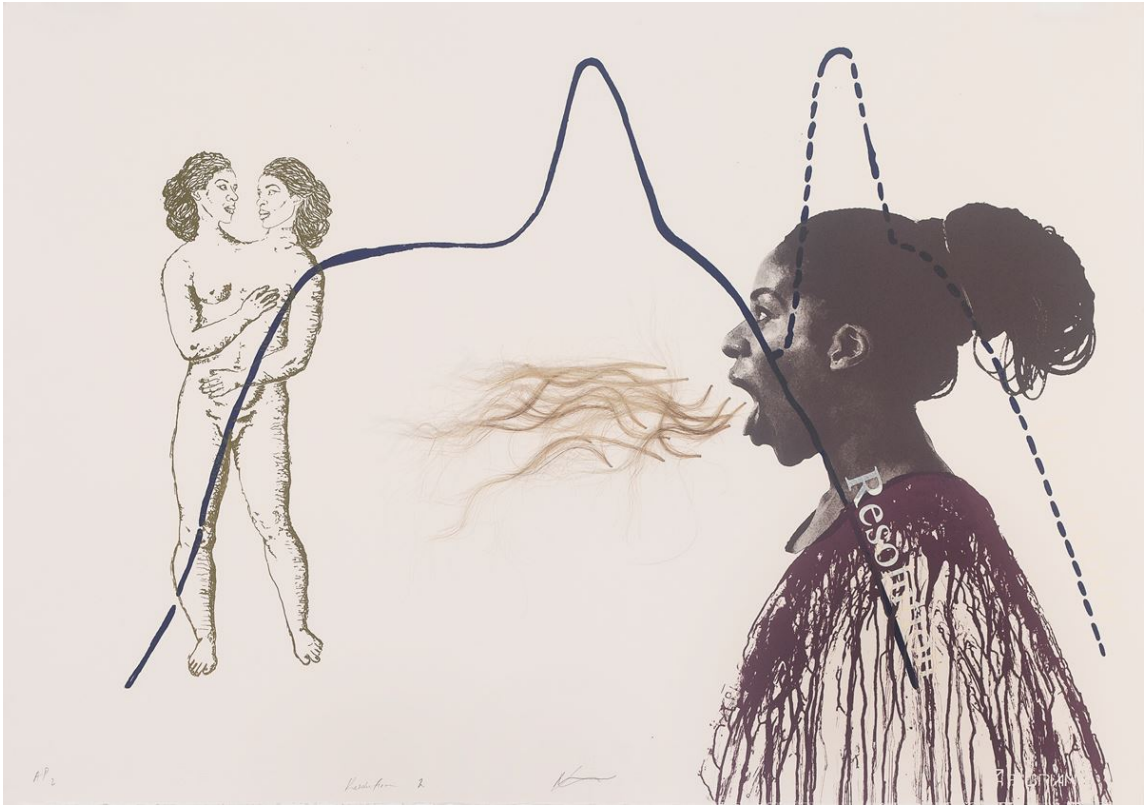
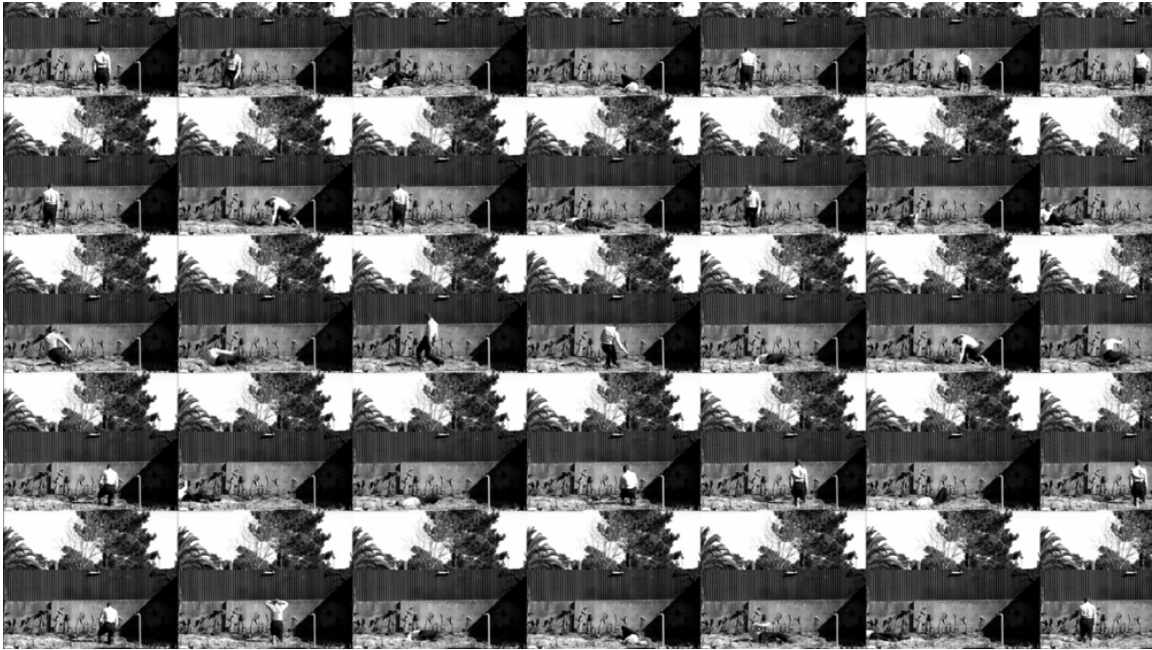


Contemporary African Art



Nandipha Mntambo, *Resolution II*, 2016.



Irineu Destourelles, *Several Ways of Falling Ordered Differently*, 2019.

**ARH 3522: Contemporary African Art**  
**ARH 6918: Graduate Cognate: Individual Study – Non-Western Art**

**Mondays | Period 5: 11:45 AM – 12:35 AM**  
**Wednesdays | Period 4 & 5: 10:40 – 12:35 AM**

**Location:** Online (Meeting will be held on Zoom. Please go to the canvas website for more information)

**Credits:** 3

**Prerequisite:** School of Art + Art History major or minor or instructor's permission.

**Additional Course Fees:** None

**Instructor:** Álvaro Luís Lima

**Contact:** [lima@ufl.edu](mailto:lima@ufl.edu) or (352)294-0556 (e-mail preferred)

**Office Hours:** Mondays | Period 7: 1:55 PM – 2:45 PM or by appointment

**Course Canvas Website:** <https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/414317>

**Course Description:** This course provides an overview of the major themes shaping contemporary art from Africa, paying special attention to the role of cross-continental dialogue, race, and sexuality. It begins by looking at the end of the Cold War as a defining turn into contemporaneity, followed by the discussion of key topics including hybridity, movement, space, time, the body, media, sexual difference, and the animal. The role of patronage, curation, and exhibiting cultures will also be discussed. By analyzing diverse artistic practices from across the continent, the course will consider the aesthetic and political constitution of a visual discourse that can be identified as “contemporary African art.”

**Course Objectives:**

- Analyze major themes and figures shaping contemporary African art through class readings, quizzes, exam, and discussion.
- Build critical skills in research methodology for contemporary African art through class readings and individual research.
- Enhance awareness about the particularities of exhibiting contemporary African art through a curatorial assignment.
- Engage with contemporary African art as producer of political, postcolonial, queer, and aesthetic theories through readings and class discussions.
- Expand visual literacy through class activities and discussion centered on formal analysis.
- Polish writing and research skills through a research assignment.

**Required Readings:** Required readings will be posted on the Canvas e-Learning Course Website and should be done in preparation for classes. Input in class discussion of the readings will be an essential part of the participation grade.

## **Requirements and Grading**

### **Assessments:**

- 5%: Class Attendance
- 10%: Class participation
- 15%: Quizzes (scheduled throughout the semester)
- 5%: African map quiz (9/14)  
Students will have to fill in the name of all African nations on the map.
- 15%: In-class writing assignment (10/14)  
A list of essay questions will be distributed a week before the exam. One of such questions will be part of the in-class writing assignment.
- 10%: First exhibition pitch (due 10/26) \*  
Students will compile an exhibition proposal of a relevant theme of their choice.
- 30%: Revised curatorial proposal (due 12/09) \*  
Based on the instructor's feedback and student research, the first exhibition will be revised and polished into a longer curatorial proposal. More details will be discussed in class.
- Extra credit options: attendance of lectures and exhibitions listed in the schedule followed by a brief written response on discussion board on Canvas.
- \*In lieu of the curatorial assignment, graduate students will have a presentation and research paper on a topic to be discussed with the instructor.

**Submission of Assignments:** All written assignments should be submitted at the beginning of the class in which they are due. Delays may incur in a grade penalty. Written assignments must be in Times New Roman 12-point font, double-spaced, with 1-inch margins when applicable. Any citations must be done in Chicago-style. Further details on all assignments and exams will be provided during the semester.

### **Chicago Manual of Style Quick Guide for Citations:**

[https://www.chicomanualofstyle.org/tools\\_citationguide.html](https://www.chicomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html)

### **Please note:**

- Completion of all assignments and exams is necessary to pass the course.
- Any grade of C- or below will not count toward major requirements.
- For more information on UF's grading policies and assigning grade points, see: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>% Equivalency</b>	<b>GPA Equivalency</b>
A	93 and above	4.00

A-	90 to 92	3.67
B+	87 to 89	3.33
B	83 to 86	3.00
B-	80 to 82	2.67
C+	77 to 79	2.33
C	73 to 76	2.00
C-	70 to 72	1.67
D+	67 to 69	1.33
D	63 to 66	1.00
D	60 to 62	0.67
E, I, NG, WF	59 and below	0.00

### **Course Instructions and Policies**

**Attendance:** All classes will be synchronous over Zoom and attendance is expected. Classes will not be recorded. Absence will affect the participation grade, unless the instructor is provided with appropriated documentation or doctor's note.

**Electronic Communication:** Announcements about the class may be sent by e-mail, so please check it regularly. All electronic communication regarding the class should be made should via Canvas. I will answer your e-mails as quickly as I can, but please allow forty-eight hours for replies.

**Plagiarism and Other Malpractices:** UF's policies regarding academic honesty, the Honor Code, and student conduct related to the Honor Code will be strictly enforced. This means that cheating and plagiarism will be penalized, and a report will be filed with the Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution office. For more information on the Honor Code, see: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code- student-conduct-code/>. If you have any questions or concerns on this, please feel free to speak to me.

**For Students with Disabilities:** If you need course adaptation or accommodations because of a disability you should first register with the Disability Resource Center [(352) 392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)] by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter that must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

**Diversity Statement:** This course is committed to respecting difference, including of ability, age, culture, ethnicity, gender identity, nationality, race, religion, sexuality, and socioeconomic status. As part of this effort, the intent is to present content that explores diverse points of view. As a class, we should strive to create an atmosphere in which students from all backgrounds and perspectives will be well-served by the course, and different backgrounds and perspectives will be used as a resource, strength, and benefit. It will be both my responsibility and yours to accomplish these goals. Your suggestions are encouraged and appreciated.

**Faculty Evaluations:** 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/>.

**Schedule:**

**8/31: Introduction**

**9/2: Contemporaneity**

**9/7: No class (Labor Day)**

**9/9: Hybridity**

**9/10, 6pm: HESCAH lecture – Kelly Jones. Attendance required**

Details: <https://arts.ufl.edu/sites/harn-eminent-scholar-chair-in-art-history/lectures-2020-2021>

**9/14: Hybridity**

- In-class African map quiz

**9/15, 6:15pm: Visiting Artist Lecture – Paul Mpagi Sepuya. Optional.**

**9/16: Movement**

**9/21: Movement**

**9/22 6:15pm: Visiting Artist Lecture – Adela Goldbarb. Optional.**

**9/23: Space**

**9/28: No class (Yom Kippur)**

**9/30: Space**

**10/5: Time**

**10/7: Curating Contemporary Africa**

**10/12: Time**

**10/13, 6:15pm: Visiting Artist Lecture – Sharon Hayes. Optional.**

**10/15, 6pm: HESCAH lecture – Aruna D’Souza. Attendance required**

Details: <https://arts.ufl.edu/sites/harn-eminent-scholar-chair-in-art-history/lectures-2020-2021>

**10/14: Time**

- In-class writing assignment

**10/19: Patronage**

**10/21: Body**

**10/22, 7pm: Achebe | Baldwin: Keynote – Alain Mabanckou. Optional.**

Details: <https://humanities.ufl.edu/event/baldwin-achebe-africa-america-40>

**10/23: 10/22, 7pm: Dance Performance – Qudus Onikeku & Company. Attendance required**

Details: <https://humanities.ufl.edu/event/baldwin-achebe-africa-america-40>

**10/26: Body**

- Deadline for first exhibition pitch assignment

**10/28: Sexual Difference**

**11/2: Sexual Difference**

**11/3, 6:15pm: Lecture by artist Fatimah Tuggar. Attendance required**

**11/4: Media**

**11/9: Media**

**11/11: No class (Veterans Day)**

**11/16: Animal**

**11/17, 6:15pm: Visiting Artist Lecture – Timothy Morton. Optional.**

**11/18: Animal**

**11/23: Biennials**

**11/25: No class (Thanksgiving Break)**

**11/30: Graduate Presentations**

**12/1, 6pm: HESCAH lecture – Gwendolyn DuBois Shaw. Attendance required**

Details: <https://arts.ufl.edu/sites/harn-eminent-scholar-chair-in-art-history/lectures-2020-2021>

**12/2: Graduate Presentations**

**12/7: Final Thoughts**

**12/9: Final Thoughts**

- Deadline for curatorial proposal assignment

**Recommended exhibitions:**

- *Funk Lessons: Adrian Piper Video Installation* at Libby Gallery
- *In, Of, From: Experiments in Sound* at University Gallery

## Campus Resources

### **Health and Wellness:**

- U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact “U Matter, We Care” so that a team member can reach out to the student. Email: [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu). Phone: (352)392-1575. Website: <http://www.umatter.ufl.edu>.
- Counseling and Wellness Center: Address: 3190 Radio Road, Gainesville, FL 32611 Phone: (352)392-1575. Website: <https://counseling.ufl.edu>.
- Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS), at the Student Health Care Center: Phone: (352)392-1161. Website: [http://www.umatter.ufl.edu/sexual\\_violence](http://www.umatter.ufl.edu/sexual_violence).

### **Academic:**

- The Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall and 339 Library West, offers help with brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers, as well as online tutoring. Phone: (352)846-1138. Website: <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio>.
- E-learning Technical Support: Email: [learningsupport@ufl.edu](mailto:learningsupport@ufl.edu). Phone: (352)392-4357 (select option 2). Website: <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.
- Library Support, for assistance in using the libraries and finding resources. Email: <http://answers.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Phone: (352)273-2805. Website: <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>.
- Teaching Center, SW Broward Hall, for tutoring and strengthening study skills. Email: [teaching-center@ufl.edu](mailto:teaching-center@ufl.edu). Phone: (352)392-6420. Website: <https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu>.
- Harn Museum of Art, 3259 Hull Road, excellent collection on campus with more than 10,000 works of art; offers free student memberships that include admission to 75+ museums nationwide, invitations to museum events, and more. Email: [membership@ufl.edu](mailto:membership@ufl.edu). Phone: (352)392-9826. Website: <http://harn.ufl.edu>.