



"Medio Balboa" Mola Panel, cotton cloth, 20th century. University of Florida Libraries.

ARH3614 Indigenous Arts of the Colonial Americas

Syllabus Draft (final version available to students on Canvas)

Professor Maya Stanfield-Mazzi

University of Florida, Fall Semester, August 22–December 4, 2024 (3 credit hours)

Mondays Periods 5–6 (11:45–1:40) and Wednesdays Period 5 (11:45–12:30) in FAC 201

Final exam: December 11, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm in FAC 201

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Office hours: Mondays Periods 7–8 (1:55–3:50) in Fine Arts C 117, or by appointment

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 and arguably is still ongoing, was one of struggle for many native peoples. Nevertheless, many compelling works of art emerged out of native traditions and were used to communicate native perspectives and 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 postcolonial and decolonial 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 research paper on an Indigenous art form.

Assigned Reading

Selections from these three books will be available to students on reserve and as pdf's. Purchase is optional.

- Elena Phipps, Johanna Hecht, and Cristina Esteras Martín. *The Colonial Andes: Tapestries and Silverwork, 1530–1830*. New York: Metropolitan Museum of Art, 2004.
- Jill Ahlberg Yohe and Teri Greeves. *Hearts of Our People: Native Women Artists*. Minneapolis: Minneapolis Institute of Art, 2019.
- Emil Her Many Horses. *Unbound: Narrative Art of the Plains*. Washington, DC: National Museum of the American Indian, 2024.



- Other required readings are available on Canvas under Files.

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 on Sept. 16
- (5) attend the lecture by Dr. Andrew Hamilton at the Harn Museum of Art on September 26 and answer a questionnaire about it
- (6) complete a response to a film about Indigenous arts, history, or culture, due Oct. 21

(7) assemble a bibliography, figures list, and abstract for a research paper, due Oct. 28

(8) write a research paper (5–7 pages) discussing an Indigenous art form by way of select examples, due Nov. 20

(9) 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): 10%

Map quiz: 5%

Hamilton lecture and questionnaire: 5%

Midterm examination: 15%

Film response: 5%

Bibliography, figures list, and abstract for research paper: 10%

Research paper: 20%

Final examination: 20%

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 catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/

Students who do not complete requirements 7–9 (see above) will fail the course. Written assignments should be submitted as Word documents on Canvas unless otherwise stated. Assignments are due at midnight on the due dates.

Students should arrive to class on time and ready to speak, and should refrain from eating in class. Laptops should be used ONLY for taking notes and consulting readings in electronic format. Taking notes on paper is highly recommended. During lectures phones should be stowed. Students are expected to bring hard or electronic copies of the class readings to the appropriate class sessions (if electronic, they should be on laptops or tablets, not phones). 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.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-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, and students can use Canvas to send messages to the professor. 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, August 26

Introduction to the class and to the region.

How do we define indigenous art? What terms were used, and which should we use today? What are some contemporary Indigenous perspectives on colonization and continuity?

Assignment:

- This syllabus. Read it thoroughly and consult the schedule on Canvas each week.
- Readings assigned by professor on final syllabus (see Canvas).

Wednesday, August 28 & Wednesday, September 4

Collecting, Museums, and Curation

What are the issues involved in collecting and interpreting Indigenous art? How are approaches to Indigenous art changing?

Assignment:

- Readings assigned by professor on final syllabus (see Canvas).

Monday, September 9 & Wednesday, September 11

Maps: Conceiving and Claiming Territories

STUDY GUIDE FOR MAP QUIZ HANDED OUT

How was Indigenous space mapped, and how does this contrast with settler mapping?

Assignment:

- Readings assigned by professor on final syllabus (see Canvas).

Monday, September 16 & Wednesday, September 18

Featherwork: A Native Art Used to Define the Americas

MAP QUIZ MONDAY THE 16TH

Assignment:

- Readings assigned by professor on final syllabus (see Canvas).

Monday, September 23 & Wednesday, September 25

Manuscripts Part 1 (Mexico): Contesting European Narratives and Preserving Indigenous Knowledge

STUDY GUIDE FOR MIDTERM HANDED OUT WEDNESDAY

Assignment:

- Readings assigned by professor on final syllabus (see Canvas).

Thursday, September 26: attend lecture by Dr. Andrew Hamilton at 6:00 pm at the Harn Museum of Art

Monday, September 30

Manuscripts Part 2 (Peru): Documenting and Denouncing Colonization

QUESTIONNAIRE ON HAMILTON LECTURE DUE MONDAY THE 30TH

Assignment:

- Readings assigned by professor on final syllabus (see Canvas).

Wednesday, October 2

MIDTERM EXAM

Monday, October 7 & Wednesday, October 9

FILM ASSIGNMENT AVAILABLE MONDAY

Manuscripts Part 2 (United States): Contrasting Ways of Life

Assignment:

- Readings assigned by professor on final syllabus (see Canvas).

Monday, October 14 & Wednesday, October 16

Tapestries Part 1: Survival of the Andean Craft Tradition

Assignment:

- Readings assigned by professor on final syllabus (see Canvas).

Monday, October 21 & Wednesday, October 23

FILM ASSIGNMENT DUE MONDAY

Tapestries Part 2: A New Art Form in the American Southwest

Assignment:

- Readings assigned by professor on final syllabus (see Canvas).

Monday, October 28 & Wednesday, October 30

RESEARCH PAPER ABSTRACT DUE MONDAY

Silverwork: European Influences and Native Transformations

Assignment:

- Readings assigned by professor on final syllabus (see Canvas).

Monday, November 4 & Wednesday, November 6

Ceramics: From Utility to Finery

Assignment:

- Readings assigned by professor on final syllabus (see Canvas).

Wednesday, November 13

Woodwork: Ritual Practice and Local Materials

Assignment:

- Readings assigned by professor on final syllabus (see Canvas).

Monday, November 18 & Wednesday, November 20

RESEARCH PAPER DUE WEDNESDAY NOV. 20

Appliqué Textiles: Creativity in Varied Indigenous Contexts

CLASS GOES TO SMATHERS LIBRARY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS ON MONDAY

Assignment:

For discussion Monday.

- Readings assigned by professor on final syllabus (see Canvas).

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Monday, December 2 & Wednesday, December 4

STUDY QUESTIONS FOR FINAL AVAILABLE MONDAY

Epilogue, Conclusions, Course Evaluations, and Review for Final

Assignment:

- Complete course evaluation

Wednesday, December 11

FINAL EXAM, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Critical Dates

Sept. 16: Map quiz

Sept. 25: Study questions for midterm available

Sept. 26: Dr. Hamilton lecture at Harn Museum of Art

Oct. 2: **MIDTERM EXAM**

Oct. 21: Film assignment due

Oct. 28: Research paper abstract/bibliography/figures list due

Nov. 18: Class meets at Smathers Library Special Collections

Nov. 20: **RESEARCH PAPER DUE**

Dec. 2: Study questions for final available

Dec. 11: **FINAL EXAM, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm**

Additional Information

Grading Scale

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

94–100 A	90–93 A-	87–89 B+	84–86 B	80–83 B–
77–79 C+	74–76 C	70–73 C–	67–69 D+	64–66 D
60–63 D–	59 and below F			

If you have questions about how grade points are assigned by the University, go to: catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/

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 (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Note that it prohibits the submission of academic writing that is not your own, and this applies to the use of AI tools such as ChatGPT. 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 or TAs in this class.

Students with Disabilities

I will make every attempt to accommodate students with disabilities. Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center. [Click here to get started with the Disability Resource Center.](#) It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

University Counseling & Wellness Center

3190 Radio Road

P.O. Box 112662, University of Florida

Gainesville, FL 32611-4100

Phone: 352-392-1575

Web: counseling.ufl.edu/