

Felipe Guaman Poma de Ayala. *The Arts of Painting, Sculpture, and Embroidery in the Service of God and the Church*, in *El primer nueva corónica y buen gobierno*, 673 [687]. Peru, ca. 1615. Ink on paper, 14.5 x 20.5 cm. The Royal Library of Copenhagen.

## **ARH4931 Art History Seminar: Role of the Artist**

### **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)

Wednesdays Periods 8–10 (3:00–6:00) in FAC 116A

Email address: [mstanfield@ufl.edu](mailto:mstanfield@ufl.edu). Office telephone: 352-273-3070

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

#### **Course Description**

This seminar concentrates on the biographical approach, one of the most fundamental methods of art history. We will study how the paradigm of the artist as an individual creative actor developed by way of the European authors Giorgio Vasari and Francisco Pacheco. Then we will question how their approach has been (and can be) applied to the arts and artists of colonial Latin America, ca. 1520–1820. In the course of the semester we will read Professor Stanfield-Mazzi's book co-edited with Margarita Vargas-Betancourt, *Collective Creativity and Artistic Agency in Colonial Latin America*, to see the many ways the biographical approach can be revisited and critiqued. While the focus will be on Latin America, students may choose to research artists or art worlds in other places from the fifteenth to the nineteenth centuries.

## Expected Learning Outcomes

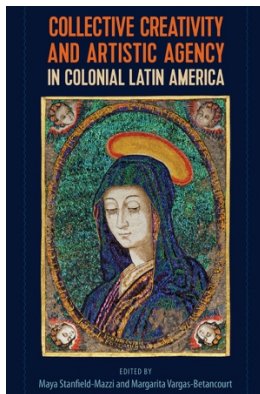
This class serves undergraduate art history majors as a capstone course drawing on their previous art history training and culminating in a substantial research paper. Students should:

- perfect their abilities to read, write about, and discuss scholarly texts.
- practice posing discussion questions and leading class discussion.
- refine their scholarly research and writing skills.
- engage critically with the biographical method and analyze its current permutations.
- master the ability to discuss artists and works of art within the discipline of art history.
- practice presenting their research orally.
- practice providing feedback as peer reviewers.
- produce a substantial research paper with all of the required elements (initial and final drafts, thesis and argument with review of literature, proper citations of relevant sources, figures with captions, and bibliography).

## Assigned Reading

**Required for purchase and available at UF Bookstore:**

- Maya Stanfield-Mazzi and Margarita Vargas-Betancourt, eds. *Collective Creativity and Artistic Agency in Colonial Latin America*. Gainesville: University of Florida Press, 2023.



A copy of this book is also on **reserve** in the Fine Arts Library.

- Other required readings are available here under Files or Course Reserves, or on reserve in hard copy in the Fine Arts Library.

## **Requirements**

All students are expected to:

- (1) attend every class and participate fully in class activities
- (2) come to class having read all of the assigned selections for that day and with a brief summary of each selection in their notes
- (3) once during the semester, read aloud their summary of an assigned reading and lead discussion on the selection using questions they have written in advance; submit the summary and questions on Canvas
- (4) complete an online tutorial for a [citation manager](#) and use the manager through the semester to gather and format sources for their paper
- (5) attend the HESCAH lecture by Dr. Andrew Hamilton on September 26 at 6:00 pm at the Harn Museum of Art and submit a short response to the lecture on Oct. 2
- (6) find an in-depth article or book that uses the biographical method and write a critical review of it, due Oct. 9
- (7) meet with the professor in office hours to select a paper topic, and submit a brief paper abstract and working bibliography on Oct. 30
- (8) present the progress of their research to the class in advance of the paper due date, using the standard conference-paper format. Incorporate oral feedback into the final paper.
- (9) submit a draft of their research paper on Nov. 13 and complete a peer review of a classmate's paper by Nov. 30.
- (10) finalize and submit a roughly 15-page research paper by Dec. 11, taking into account previous feedback.

## **Grade Breakdown**

Class attendance: 5%

Class participation: 10%

Summary and discussion questions on assigned day: 5%

Response to Andrew Hamilton lecture on Sept. 26th: 5%

Biography assignment: 10%

Research Paper Abstract and Working Bibliography: 10%

Presentation of research: 10%

Peer review of classmate's paper: 5%

First draft of final paper for review: 10%

Final draft of final paper: 30%

### **Attendance, Makeup, and Class Conduct Policies**

If illness or another dire event prevents a student from completing any work, they should speak to the professor about making up what was missed. Late written work will not be accepted except in the case of illness or accident. Unexcused absences count against both the attendance and participation grades, and are reflected in the final grade. Participation points are given each week on the basis of speaking in class.

Students should arrive to class on time and ready to speak, and should refrain from eating in class. They should come with the class readings in hard copy or electronic format, and be ready to engage with their peers and the professor. A 15-minute break will be given halfway through the class.

### **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/](http://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/](http://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/). Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at [gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/](http://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](mailto: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**

### **Wednesday, August 28**

Introduction to the class.

#### Assignment:

- This syllabus. Read it thoroughly and consult the schedule on Canvas each week.
- Purchase the textbook and read the introduction by Dr. Stanfield-Mazzi and Dr. Vargas-Betancourt.

### **Wednesday, September 4**

Historiography. What are the roots of the biographical method?

#### Assignment:

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

### **Wednesday, September 11**

Critiquing the Method for a Global Art History

#### Assignment:

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

### **Wednesday, September 18**

The Colonial Latin American Context

#### Assignment:

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

### **Wednesday, September 25**

Pre-Conquest Foundations and Object Biography

#### 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.

LECTURE RESPONSE DUE OCT. 2

### **Wednesday, October 2**

The Archive and How to Build Art History from It

Assignment:

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

BIOGRAPHY ASSIGNMENT DUE OCT. 9

### **Wednesday, October 9**

Originality and Copying

Assignment:

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

PLAN TO MEET WITH PROFESSOR ABOUT RESEARCH PAPER TOPIC

### **Wednesday, October 16**

The Status of the Artist

Assignment:

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

### **Wednesday, October 23**

Finding Women's Biographies

Assignment:

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

PAPER ABSTRACT AND BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE OCT. 30

**Wednesday, October 30**

Indigeneity and Authorship

Assignment:

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

**Wednesday, November 6**

Race and Artistic Distinction/Freedom

Assignment:

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

FIRST DRAFT OF PAPER DUE NOV. 13

**Wednesday, November 13**

Artists and Independence from Colonial Rule

Assignment:

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

PEER REVIEWS OF PAPER DRAFTS DUE NOV. 20

**Wednesday, November 20**

Research Presentations

**Wednesday, December 4**

Research Presentations

Assignment:

- Complete course evaluation

FINAL PAPERS DUE DEC. 11

## **Critical Dates**

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

Oct. 2: Lecture response due

Oct. 9: Biography assignment due

Oct. 30: Paper abstract and bibliography due

Nov. 13: First draft of paper due

Nov. 20: Peer review due

Dec. 11: Final paper due

## **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/](http://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/](http://counseling.ufl.edu/)