



El Camino College
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD – Official

I. GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

Subject and Number: Art History 209
Descriptive Title: History of African Art
Course Disciplines: Art History
Division: Behavioral Sciences

Catalog Description:

This course is an introductory survey of African art in relation to its historical and cultural contexts. It focuses on specific groups and regions with an emphasis on sub-Sahara West and Central Africa, stressing the different roles of the visual arts within each culture.

Conditions of Enrollment:

Recommended Preparation: eligibility for English 1A

Course Length:	X Full Term	Other (Specify number of weeks):
Hours Lecture:	3.00 hours per week	TBA
Hours Laboratory:	0 hours per week	TBA
Course Units:	3.00	

Grading Method: Letter
Credit Status: Associate Degree Credit

Transfer CSU: X Effective Date: 08/17/2020
Transfer UC: X Effective Date: Proposed

General Education:

El Camino College:

3 – Humanities

Term: Other: Approved

CSU GE:

C1 - Arts, Dance, Music, Theater

Term: Fall 2004 Other:

IGETC:

3A - Arts

Term: Spring 2004 Other:

II. OUTCOMES AND OBJECTIVES

A. COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (The course student learning outcomes are listed below, along with a representative assessment method for each. Student learning outcomes are not subject to review, revision or approval by the College Curriculum Committee)

1. **Analysis of Content** Students will be able to analyze and explain content through the historical, geographical, and chronological context of African art.
2. **Comprehend and Critique** Students will demonstrate the ability to comprehend and critique African art works in terms of form, medium, and style.
3. **Communication** Students will demonstrate the ability to effectively communicate ideas about African art verbally or by written methods.

The above SLOs were the most recent available SLOs at the time of course review. For the most current SLO statements, visit the El Camino College SLO webpage at <http://www.elcamino.edu/academics/slo/>.

B. Course Student Learning Objectives (The major learning objective for students enrolled in this course are listed below, along with a representative assessment method for each)

1. Identify major African artworks by visual recognition, providing title, period, culture, location, medium, and other pertinent data.
 - Objective Exams
2. Evaluate specific African artworks and styles and distinguish their salient characteristics.
 - Essay exams
3. Analyze and evaluate the achievements of different African cultures, regions, and historical periods as they are exemplified by their visual arts.
 - Essay exams
4. Contrast and compare the different ways African artworks are made to function within African and European contexts.
 - Essay exams
5. Formulate statements about African art using terminology that is relevant to the visual arts.
 - Essay exams
6. Evaluate sources and distinguish between substantiated and unsubstantiated opinion in the interpretation of African art.
 - Term or other papers
7. Critique Eurocentric and Afrocentric approaches to the study of African art.
 - Essay exams
8. Evaluate the formative influence of African art upon modern western art.
 - Term or other papers

III. OUTLINE OF SUBJECT MATTER (Topics are detailed enough to enable a qualified instructor to determine the major areas that should be covered as well as ensure consistency from instructor to instructor and semester to semester.)

Lecture or Lab	Approximate Hours	Topic Number	Major Topic
Lecture	3	I	Introduction to African art A. how to approach its study B. the complexity and diversity of the continent, the people, and the history C. the paucity of written records D. the reliance on archeology, linguistics, oral traditions, and ethnology. E. Eurocentric and Afrocentric approaches to the study of African art and the differing roles and functions of art within Europe and African contexts
Lecture	6	II	Rock paintings and engravings of the ancient Sahara and San (Bushmen) peoples (Tassili n'Ajjer)
Lecture	3	III	Art of the pastoral nomads of the Sahel or Sudan region: A. Fulani, Masai, Pokot B. body art and portable art
Lecture	3	IV	Art of the earliest African kingdoms: Egypt; Nubia (Kush, Meroe) A. Ethiopia (Axum) B. Islamic art of Egypt and Christian art of Nubia and Ethiopia
Lecture	3	V	Ironmaking in African cultures: central role of ironmaking A. mystical and social roles of the iron master B. gender symbols and expectations in ceramics and metalwork C. Nok culture of ironmakers in northern Nigeria, 500 BCE - 200 CE
Lecture	6	VI	Sudanic trading empires: Old Ghana, Old Mali, Songhai, 800-1600 CE A. Sudanic monumental clay architecture and ancient terracottas and bronzes of Mali (Jenne) and Niger
Lecture	3	VII	Peoples of the Western Sudan today: Dogon, Mossi, Bamana, and related ethnic groups A. educational and governmental roles of gendered associations B. role of masquerades in independent small-scale societies
Lecture	3	VIII	Art of Western Africa: the Akan Kingdoms, 1500-present A. Asante carvings and shrines B. Baule statuaries and shrines
Lecture	12	IX	Art of Nigeria, 800-present A. the role of art in religion and political power, including the Kingdoms of Ife, Owo, Oyo (Yoruba), Fon, and Benin B. Discussion of Yoruba art symbolism
Lecture	10	X	Art of Central Africa: Christian and post-Christian art of the Kongo Kingdom, 1400-1700

			A. royal arts of the Kuba Kingdom, 1600-present B. varied traditions, including initiation rites, related to the Luba and Lunda Complex C. Igbo, Cross River, and Cameroons
Lecture	2	XI	The legacies of African art A. its influence on European Modernism B. its influence on African-American Art of the 20th and 21st centuries
Total Lecture Hours		54	
Total Laboratory Hours		0	
Total Hours		54	

IV. PRIMARY METHOD OF EVALUATION AND SAMPLE ASSIGNMENTS

A. PRIMARY METHOD OF EVALUATION:

Substantial writing assignments

B. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENT USING PRIMARY METHOD OF EVALUATION:

Identify, analyze and discuss, in a typed 4-5 page essay, one example of Yoruba art used to underscore the leadership systems of the royal court and the society of elders known as Ogboni.

C. COLLEGE-LEVEL CRITICAL THINKING ASSIGNMENTS:

1. In a 3-page typed essay and/or oral-visual presentation, compare four African art objects in regard to the purposes they served within their respective culture groups.
2. Select one artwork from a museum collection as the topic for a typed three-page essay in which you describe, analyze, interpret, and evaluate the object in relation to its cultural and/or aesthetic purpose.

D. OTHER TYPICAL ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION METHODS:

Essay exams
Written homework
Multiple Choice
Completion
Matching Items
True/False
Other (specify):
Museum Report
Image Identification

V. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

Discussion
Lecture
Multimedia presentations

Note: In compliance with Board Policies 1600 and 3410, Title 5 California Code of Regulations, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Sections 504 and 508 of the Americans with Disabilities Act, instruction delivery shall provide access, full inclusion, and effective communication for students with disabilities.

VI. WORK OUTSIDE OF CLASS

Study
Answer questions
Required reading
Written work

Estimated Independent Study Hours per Week: 6

VII. TEXTS AND MATERIALS

A. UP-TO-DATE REPRESENTATIVE TEXTBOOKS

Monica Visona, et al.. A History of Art in Africa. Prentice Hall and Harry N. Abrams, Inc., 2007.
Qualifier Text: Discipline Standard,

B. ALTERNATIVE TEXTBOOKS

Bassani, Ezio. African Art. 1st ed. Skira, 2012.

C. REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS

D. OTHER REQUIRED MATERIALS

VIII. CONDITIONS OF ENROLLMENT

A. Requisites (Course and Non-Course Prerequisites and Corequisites)

Requisites	Category and Justification
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B. Requisite Skills

Requisite Skills

C. Recommended Preparations (Course and Non-Course)

Recommended Preparation	Category and Justification
Non-Course Recommended Preparation eligibility for English 1A	Students must read complex texts and write comprehensive essays on the course content.

D. Recommended Skills

Recommended Skills
Recommended Skill: Apply critical thinking skills to reading assignments and objects of art. Compose essays explaining artworks clearly and thoughtfully. Conduct research within scholarly sources. Use MLA guidelines for format and citations. ENGL A - Read and apply critical thinking skills to college-level expository prose for the purposes of writing and discussion. ENGL A - Apply appropriate strategies in the writing process including prewriting, composing, revising, and editing techniques. ENGL A - Plan, write, and revise 750 word multi-paragraph expository essays including an introduction, an explicit thesis, and a conclusion. Essays should incorporate relevant support from outside sources, exhibit coherence and unity, avoid major grammatical and mechanical errors that interfere with meaning, and demonstrate awareness of audience, purpose, and language choice.

ENGL A - Utilize MLA guidelines to format a document, to cite sources in the text of an essay, and to compile a Works Cited list.

Select and employ reading strategies to interpret the content of a college-level textbook, with special focus on constructing a thesis statement and providing valid support.

ENGL 84 - Select and employ reading strategies to interpret the content of a college-level textbook, with special focus on constructing a thesis statement and providing valid support.

ENGL 84 - Identify an implied main idea (thesis), and support with major and minor details, from a longer text or novel.

ENGL 84 - Compare and contrast college-level texts to evaluate content.

E. Enrollment Limitations

Enrollment Limitations and Category	Enrollment Limitations Impact
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Course created by Cheryl Beverly/Constance Fitzsimons on 11/01/2002.

BOARD APPROVAL DATE: 01/21/2003

LAST BOARD APPROVAL DATE: 08/17/2020

Last Reviewed and/or Revised 07/01/2020