

Arts of the Americas



ARH 2710B-01

Spring 2022
6:00 pm to 9:00 pm T

Dr. Jody Berman

Office Hours: Zoom by appointment
Email: jberman@carthage.edu

This course is an introduction to the indigenous art traditions of the Americas. By learning about certain aspects of the arts from the Andes, Mesoamerica and Native North America, students will gain basic theoretical tools that will enable them to understand certain arts from the Americas more fully. Works of art will be our primary sources. Through lectures, the viewing of films, reading of essays and weekly discussion posts students will reflect critically on how the people from these regions created and employed certain art objects in their daily lives.

Because this course is designed as an introduction to the study of the arts of the Americas, our analysis will not be exhaustive and will merely scratch the surface. This study will also serve as an introduction to the basic concepts of the field of art history. It is not necessary to have taken prior art history courses, as this course assumes no prior encounter with the discipline. This Arts of the Americas course does serve as FAR and Global Heritage credit.

UPON COMPLETION OF THIS COURSE:

1. Students will be able to explain, in well-written prose, what a work of art is about and/or how it was produced.
2. Students will be able to comment on the relationship between form and content in a work.
3. Students will be able to assess the formal aspects of their subject and put those qualities into words, using, when appropriate, specialized vocabulary employed in class and readings.
4. Students will be able to contextualize a work of art. They will be able to do so with respect to other works of art in terms of defining its place within a broader style or genre. They will also be able to contextualize a work of art in terms of contemporaneous aesthetic, social, or political concerns, discussing how these might shape the work's reception and how that reception might differ amongst various peoples and historical periods.

GRADING

Discussion Posts/Reading Responses: 25%

Film Festival Q & A Response : 6%

Formal Presentation Project: 34%

Final: 35%

Extra Credit: Points added to selected assignments as determined by professor.

Example: extra credit extracurricular activities and/or pop questions based on assigned readings

Discussion Posts/ Reading Responses 25%

Please follow directions on SCHOOLOLOGY regarding discussion post prompt. For most discussion posts, and unless otherwise stated, students will provide a reading response regarding readings and films in the Week they are assigned.

Reading responses are due on SCHOOLOLOGY by 11:59 pm on the Thursdays for the week in which the reading(s) is/are assigned (unless noted otherwise).

Five points will be deducted from a Discussion post grade for each day it is late. None are accepted beyond 7 days late.

The lowest discussion post grade of the semester will be dropped.

****Discussion post responses should be prepared so that they can be used as study aids for the Formal Presentation Project Midterm and comprehensive Final exam. The more content you cover regarding the assigned readings and films, the more detailed your notes will be when preparing for the exams and connections you will be able to easily make.**

*****Discussion Posts are to be completed INDIVIDUALLY. Not doing so is considered cheating and will be handled per Carthage's Academic Integrity Policy.*****

Art of the Americas Film Festival Q & A Response 6%

You will watch a film or films of the Americas cinematography (with class via Zoom or on own) and answer the questions posted within the associated Film Festival PPT on SCHOOLOLOGY.

No late submissions will be accepted without medical or other verifiable documentation as to why the assignment could not be completed on time.

Formal Presentation Project 34%

The Formal Project assignment will be turned in on SCHOOLOLOGY by 11:59 pm on the date on which it is due. There is only one Formal Project Midterm Exam for this course.

One point will be deducted from your Final Midterm Exam Project assignment grade for each day it is late. Beyond 11:59 on the 5th day late (and in addition to other point per day deductions), 1 point will be deducted from the final grade for every 10 minutes it is late.

Final Exam 35%

The final exam is comprehensive.

1 point will be deducted for every 10 minutes late. 6 points will be deducted from the Final Exam grade for each hour turned in late.

Make up exams will not be given. Students who are incapable of taking an exam, due to extraordinary circumstances beyond their control and for which they have documented evidence such as a note from a verifiable medical provider, will receive an Incomplete for the course and write a 5-page research paper in its place on a topic and timeline determined by/with professor.

Covid Masking Policy

In my classroom I will require that all students in attendance wear masks. I too will be wearing one to protect you all as well.

I would like our classroom to be a place in which everyone can feel as safe as possible, and we can focus on learning about the beauty of the arts and cultures of the Americas and its diaspora.

Academic Integrity Policy

All work completed in this class is subject to the Carthage Academic Integrity Policy. Please read and make sure that you understand it. The Academic Integrity Policy is available online at <https://www.carthage.edu/academics/policies/>

In particular, please note the Academic Integrity Policy's definition of plagiarism:

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the appropriation by any means of another's work or words and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work or words in one's written [as well as oral] work offered for credit. Some ideas have such wide currency that all may use them freely; some words, such as proverbs and clichés are public property. But when the writer borrows what belongs to another, the writer must indicate the source by way of an internal reference, and she/he must enclose all distinctive words of the source within quotation marks.

Plagiarism or other infractions of the Academic Integrity Policy will result in a failure on the assignment and possibly of the course. Please ask if you have any questions regarding this policy, plagiarism, or how to properly cite work.

Grades are computed based on a 10-point scale: A 95%-100%; A- 90%-94%; B+ 87%-89%; B 84%-86%; B- 80%-83%; C+ 77%-79%; C 74%-76%; C- 70%-73%; D+ 67%-69%; D 64%-66%; D- 60%-63%; F 59% and below.

Carthage College strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately as early as possible in the quarter to discuss their specific needs. All discussions will remain confidential.

If you anticipate or experience academic barriers due to your disability (including mental health, learning disorders and chronic medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options.

To establish reasonable accommodations, you also need to register with Diane Schowalter in Learning Accessibility Services (dschowalter1@carthage.edu).

TEXTBOOKS/ COURSE MATERIALS

The following is the required textbook:

Indian Art of the Americas at the Art Institute of Chicago. Richard Townsend (Chicago: The Art Institute of Chicago, 2016).

- All readings outside of the textbook will be available as pdf documents on the SCHOOLOLOGY site for this course.

- Films on syllabus will be viewed online or in class.
- Lectures will be accessed online via SCHOODOLOGY or in class dependent on preference of students. On certain Tuesday's students have the option of attending lectures in person or viewing them online via pre-recorded formats. There is no in person attendance policy for this course.
- Dependent on local COVID caseloads, this class may at any time pivot to an online format. If the course pivots to a purely online format, students will be notified in advance by professor. Class lectures will be offered synchronously via Zoom during scheduled class time or can be viewed asynchronously via pre-recorded sessions that are already loaded into the SCHOODOLOGY site for this course.

Health Services

The Health and Counseling Center (HCC) supports students by addressing physical, mental, and emotional well-being. All services are free and confidential and are available to currently enrolled, full-time undergraduate students. Health services include the assessment and treatment of minor illness and injury. Diagnostic testing, complimentary over-the-counter medications, and referrals to off-campus providers are all available. Our licensed counselors help students with challenges that can be resolved with short-term, solution-focused counseling. Some topics discussed during counseling include depression and anxiety, traumatic experiences, gender and sexuality, relationship concerns, stress management, and academic challenges. More details - including info about appointments - can be found at carthage.edu/health-counseling.

[Uwill](#) is a free teletherapy platform for Carthage students. Uwill connects students with licensed therapists from all 50 states. Support is available in a variety of formats – video, chat, messaging, or phone. Counselors are available nights, weekends, and during holidays. Access is quick and easy: app.uwill.com.

Suggested email signature: Students receive free, immediate access to teletherapy through Uwill. It's private, secure & confidential. Click [here](#) to get started.

HCC Hours and Location

TARC 2240 / 262-551-5710

M-F 8:30-4:00

Health Services (in-person): Call to schedule a same-day appointment; walk-ins accepted

Counseling Services (in-person): Call to schedule an appointment; walk-ins accepted M-F 11:30-1:00

**Services, hours, and walk-in availability are subject to change*

Additional Info

-Nurse Practitioner: Wednesdays 2pm-4pm (appointment required; NP services are provided by a third party and billed to student's insurance)

-HCC is a Title IX confidential resource for students.

-We provide consultation for faculty and staff. If you need to talk to a provider, call our office at 262-551-5710.

-COVID-19 Testing is available for students with signs or symptoms of illness. Please call to be screened and to schedule a testing time.

-Carthage's vaccine requirement and associated testing is not administered by HCC. Visit the [COVID-19 Update Page](#) for more information.

CLASS SCHEDULE

WEEK 1

Tuesday, February 8th

- **Class will be completely remote for Week 1 (Synchronous Zoom Introduction and lecture offered from 6-9pm)**

- **Introduction and Course Overview**

Reading:

- Gibson, Jon L. "'Formed from the Earth at That Place': The Material Side of Community at Poverty Point." *American Antiquity*, vol. 72, no. 3, 2007, pp. 509-523.

-

Film:

- **Poverty Point Earthenworks: Evolutionary Milestones of the Americas**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-sM4PyxFsKY>

Thursday, February 10th

- **Discussion Post Due on SCHOOLOLOGY**

WEEK 2

Tuesday, February 15th

- **Class will be completely remote for Week 2 (Synchronous Zoom lecture offered from 6-9pm)**

Readings:

- “The Indigenous Americas Overview of Indigenous North America; Midwest and Southeast,” p. 26-39.

Lecture: 1

- The Indigenous Americas.

Thursday, February 17th

- Discussion Post Due on SCHOOLOLOGY
- See Formal Presentation Project Instructions

WEEK 3

Tuesday, February 22nd

- Class will be offered in person from 6-9pm

Readings:

- “The Southwest,” p. 40-95.
- Armand, Claudine. “California Forgets. Luna Remembers: Sensing Contemporary Native American Realities in James Luna’s Performance Native Stories: For Fun, Profit & Guilt.” *Neohelicon (Budapest)* 44.1 (2017): 115–129.

Lecture: 2

- Part 1: Why did Pocahontas captivate people?

- Part 2: The Southwest

Video:

- Take a Picture with a Real Indian (James Luna performance)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dAa69BVwPYg>

Thursday, February 24th

- Discussion Post Due on SCHOOLOLOGY

WEEK 4

Tuesday, March 1st.

**Class will be completely remote for Week 4
(Synchronous Zoom lecture AND review of Formal Midterm
Exam Presentation Project offered from 6-9pm).**

- Review Formal Presentation Project Instructions

Readings:

- "The Far West" p. 96-115.
 - "The Northwest Coast, The Great Plains," p. 116-121.
 - Julia Bryan-Wilson. "Wendy Red Star: Crow Hands, Crow Objects." *Aperture* 240 (2020): 130-139.

Lecture: 3

- Part 1: The Far West and The Great Plains
- Part 2: The Battle of Little Bighorn

Podcast

- Indian Or Not? Fritz Scholder's Art and Identity - (7 minutes)
<https://www.npr.org/transcripts/98694678>

Videos:

- Fritz Scholder Indian/Not Indian - (10 min)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fizt99IRKZY&list=PLA3zUBaIDcu0nJPCmnunPEXgCZOV5Tsp0&index=2>
- Fritz Scholder: Painting the Paradox: (46 min)
<https://carthage.kanopy.com/video/fritz-scholder-painting-paradox>
- Wendy Red Star: (10 min)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p-ZclWrOfIk>

Thursday, March 3rd

- Discussion Post Due on SCHOODOLOGY

WEEK 5

Tuesday, March 8th

- Class will be offered in person from 6-9pm

Readings:

- "Overview of Mesoamerica; Pre-classic and Formative periods. Olmec," p. 124-133.

- "Ancient West Mexico," p. 134-165.

Lecture: 4

- Part 1: The Indian Removal Act of the South and the Cherokee Nation
- Part 2: Olmec and Ancient West Mexico and its influence on Modern Mexican artists Diego Rivera and Frida Khalo

Thursday, March 10th

- Discussion Post Due on SCHOOLOLOGY

WEEK 6

Tuesday, March 15th

- Spring Break

WEEK 7

Tuesday, March 22nd

- Class will be offered in person from 6-9pm

Readings:

- Teotihuacán, p. 166-179

Lectures: 5 AND Teotihuacan: An Exceptional Multiethnic City in Pre-Hispanic Central Mexico

- Part 1: Lecture 5 Teotihuacán
- Part 2: Teotihuacan: An Exceptional Multiethnic City in Pre-Hispanic Central Mexico by Dr. Linda R. Manzanilla.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QQMxGPZ_hIE&t=2912s

Thursday, March 24th

- Discussion Post Due on SCHOODOLOGY

Sunday March 27th

- Formal Presentation Midterm Exam Project Due on SCHOODOLOGY

WEEK 8

Tuesday, March 29th

- Class will be completely remote for Week 8

Reading:

- "Maya," p. 194-217

Lecture: 6 AND The Mysteries of the Ancient Maya Civilization and the Apogee of Art in the Americas

- Part 1: Lecture 6: The Maya
- Part 2: Lecture: The Mysteries of the Ancient Maya Civilization and the Apogee of Art in the Americas by Arthur Demarest
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VfvS8ENVyJ0&t=875s>

Thursday, March 31st

- Discussion Post Due on SCHOODOLOGY

WEEK 9

Tuesday April 5th

Class will be offered in person from 6-9pm

Reading:

- "Aztec," p. 230 -243.

Lecture: 7 AND Lecture by Brittenham AND Lecture Aztec Art: How do we Know?

- Part 1: Lecture 7: The Aztec
- Part 2: Lecture: Aztec Art and the Fragility of Empire by Claudia Brittenham – (begin at 1.10)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fQ5_SMM1fOs
- Part 3: Lecture: Aztec Art: How do we Know? By Helen Burgos-Ellis (begin at 18.10)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3h9dkMfWSyl&t=1094s>

Podcast:

- Throughline: Tenochtitlan: A Retelling of the Conquest
<https://www.npr.org/transcripts/1043792004> (53 minutes)

Thursday April 7th

- Discussion Post Due on SCHOODOLOGY

WEEK 10

Tuesday, April 12th

- Class will be completely remote for Week 10

Readings:

- Overview of the "Andes Chavin, Paracas, Nasca," p. 270-309.

Lecture: 8 AND 'How to Read Nazca Ceramics'

- Part 1: Lecture 8 Andes Chavin, Paracas, Nasca," (see extra credit opportunity within lecture).
- Part 2: Andrew Hamilton Lecture: 'How to Read Nazca Ceramics'
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TOg9tY5tTR8&t=37s>

Thursday, April 14th

- Discussion Post Due on SCHOODOLOGY

WEEK 11

Tuesday, April 19th

Class will be offered in person from 6-9pm

Lecture:

- Art of the Americas Film Festival

Thursday, April 21st

- **Art of the Americas Film Festival Response Due to Schoology.**

WEEK 12

Tuesday, April 26th

- **Class will be completely remote for Week 12**

Readings:

- "Moche," p. 310 - 325.

Lecture: 9

Thursday, April 28th

- **Discussion Post due on SCHOLOGY**

WEEK 13

Tuesday, May 3rd

Class will be offered in person from 6-9pm

Reading:

- "Lambayeqe to the Inca," p. 360-377.

Lecture: 10 (online)

- The Inca and Conclusion.

Thursday, May 5th

- Discussion Post due on SCHOODOLOGY

WEEK 14

Tuesday, May 10th

- **Class will be completely remote for Week 14**

- Final Exam Review

Reading:

- Garrison, Tim Alan. 2009. *The Legal Ideology of Removal: The Southern Judiciary and the Sovereignty of Native American Nations*. Studies in the Legal History of the South. Athens, Ga.: University of Georgia Press.

Film:

[When Two Worlds Collide](#) (via Carthage library system - Kanopy)

First Run Features Exclusives, 2016. [San Francisco, California, USA] : Kanopy Streaming, 2017.

If have trouble accessing film, contact Carthage library for assistance.

Thursday, May 12th

- Discussion Post Due on SCHOODOLOGY

WEEK 15

Tuesday, May 17th

- **Final Exam Due**