

# THE ART OF NONWESTERN TRADITIONS

## EXPLORING ART, HERITAGE, & EXPRESSION BEYOND "THE WEST"

Fall 2017 | ART 1317 001/002 MW 5:00-6:20pm | Room: FA 148 | Instructor: Dr. Leah McCurdy

**FINAL EXAM DATE: MONDAY, Dec 11 @ 5:30 – 8:00pm** | <https://mentis.uta.edu/explore/profile/leah-mc-curdy>

Office Hours: Mon & Wed 1:00 – 2:00pm | Office: FA 297 | 817.272.2891 | Email: leah.mccurdy@uta.edu

**Contact me via email. Weekdays: response within 24 hours. Weekends: response by next regular business day.**



Women under Wisteria. KITAGAWA UTAMARO from Japan, ca. 1790s, Woodblock print.



Buenavista Vase. Late Classic Maya from Buenavista, Belize, ca. 700 CE, ceramic.



Sande Society helmet mask. Mende from Sierra Leone, Africa, 20<sup>th</sup> century, wood and fiber.



Emperor Shah Jahan. Mughal from northern India, ca. 1660-70, paper.

This course is designed to introduce students to works of art in various media developed outside of the European tradition ("The West"), including the arts of the Near East, Asia, the ancient Americas, Africa, and Oceania. Using visual arts as a tool, this course will introduce students to the diverse social customs, religions, and beliefs of nonwestern peoples. Please note that this course is reading and memorization intensive and moves at a brisk pace. Please make use of study materials provided in class and online.

### REQUIRED TEXT

#### CHOOSE ONE OF THESE OPTIONS:

- **NWP:** Kleiner & Mamiya, *Gardner's Art Through the Ages: Non-Western Perspectives*. 12<sup>th</sup> or more recent.
- **GAA:** Kleiner & Mamiya, *Gardner's Art Through the Ages: A Global History*. 12<sup>th</sup> or more recent edition.

### STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Consider and critique the art historical conventions of "western" and "nonwestern," especially as they relate to indigenous traditions and colonial histories
- Investigate important artworks and examples of artistic practice within nonwestern traditions through geographic and historical period connections
- Analyze the religious, political, and economic context of artworks and artistic practice
- Practice art historical critique in a museum setting and communicate art historical concepts
- Develop a cross-cultural perspective on artworks and the practices of art-making

**This syllabus represents the current plans and objectives for our course. As we go through the semester, these plans may need to change. I will communicate any changes verbally and in writing. Be sure to stay up-to-date with the schedule and any changes made over the course of the semester.**

## **EARNING A GRADE IN THIS COURSE**

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### **DAILY ATTENDANCE (10%) & PARTICIPATION (10%)**

Attendance will be taken every class meeting. Attendance grades will be determined based on this rubric:

- Earned 10% - consistent and punctual attendance
- Earned 5% - exceeds 3 unexcused absences
- Earned 0% - exceeds 5 unexcused absences (i.e. the highest grade you could earn is 90%)

Absences can ONLY be excused with **documentation of an emergency, religious observance, or official university event**. Documentation must come in the form of a signed and dated doctor's or official's note. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to consult with me or another student about notes, handouts, and assignments you missed.

In addition to participation relating to note-taking and discussion, there will be a variety of in-class activities focused on review and/or application of course material that will require your participation. As a collection, these participation activities will constitute 10% of your grade. You will earn points for each activity according to its specific instructions. I will drop your lowest 2 participation grades (including 0s for unexcused absences). Participation grades can only be made-up for excused absences.

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### **QUIZZES & EXAMS (60%)**

Quiz and exam dates are indicated on the course schedule. Quizzes and exams will include: 1) identifications of a selection of featured artworks, including title, culture/period, location, artist (if known); 2) short answer responses focused on questions of significance with respect to individual or multiple artworks; 3) multiple choice, true/false, and matching questions. Questions will be drawn from lecture topics, reading assignments, and in-class discussions. You will need to bring a short scantron to each quiz and exam. **Please note that FEATURED ARTWORK images will be uploaded to Blackboard after each class session. Cramming is NOT recommended!** Grade percentages for each component are as follows:

**Quiz 1:** 10%

**Midterm Exam:** 15%

**Quiz 2:** 15%

**Final Exam:** 20%

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### **CULTURAL ANALYSIS PAPER (20%)**

You will conduct a cultural analysis of an artwork relevant to nonwestern art, chosen from the collections held by the Art + Art History Department (housed in the Visual Resource Commons or Center for African American Studies) or a local museum (Kimbell Art Museum, Dallas Museum of Art, etc.). You will visit the collection location and provide evidence of your in-person experience of the artwork (a selfie). You will apply the knowledge and critical thinking skills gained from lectures and readings to describe and analyze this artwork within its cultural, political, and historical context. Interpretively, your cultural analysis will focus on developing and articulating a comparison between the artwork and contemporary life. Considering our current surrounding environment (social, natural, cultural, etc.), you will discuss what this nonwestern artwork of your choice shares with an aspect of current life at home, work, on campus, within the community, or in nature. You will be writing from an academic point of view. This is not a reflection essay.

Detailed instructions regarding format, bibliography, and citations will be provided in class and on Blackboard. See class schedule for specific deadlines for components.

**OPTIONAL SERVICE LEARNING EXTRA CREDIT COMPONENT:** To be announced in class

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# COURSE POLICIES

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## GRADE SCALE

Your final grade will be calculated as a percentage according to the component percentages provided in the "Course Components" section. Your final grade percentage will be rounded to the nearest whole number, e.g. 89.2 = 89 but 89.6 = 90. Letter grades and GPA will be determined according to the following scale:

A = 90-100% (4.00 GPA) - Excellent
B = 80-89% (3.00 GPA) – Good
C = 70-79% (2.00 GPA) – Satisfactory
D = 60-69% (1.00 GPA) – Poor
F = 59-0% (0.00 GPA) - Fail

Grades will be posted on Blackboard. I recommend setting preferences to notify you about grades & announcements to track your progress throughout the semester. All students will receive Midterm Grades and Final Grades according to the university schedule.

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## LATE WORK, MAKE-UPS, & INCOMPLETES

See attendance policy in the "Course Components" section. Late submissions of the Cultural Analysis Paper will be penalized with a 10% deduction per calendar day. Make-ups for quizzes and exams will not be allowed except for excused absences (see attendance policy). Incompletes will be given only in the event of documented and extreme emergencies. There are no grade changes.

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## CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE & APPROPRIATE USE OF TECHNOLOGY

**ALL PHONES & MOBILE DEVICES MUST BE SILENCED & PUT AWAY UPON ENTERING THE CLASSROOM.** You may take notes with a laptop or tablet. Other non-class related activities on such devices are not allowed. Repeated issues with phones or electronics will result in the offending student receiving a zero on the daily grade and/or changes to no electronics use in class for all students. If you are expecting an important call or text during class, let me know beforehand.

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## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students enrolled in all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code in their courses by having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System Regents' Rule 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University. Additional information is available at <https://www.uta.edu/conduct/>.

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## UNIVERSITY ATTENDANCE POLICY

At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required but attendance is a critical indicator in student success. Each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, I have established the attendance policy described in the "Earning a Grade in this Course" section. While UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients "begin attendance in a course." UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Blackboard. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients.

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## DROP POLICY

Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/ses/fao>).

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## SUPPORT AVAILABLE TO YOU

UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, contact [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the info at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>.

- Visual Resource Commons (FA 2109) and Rita Lasater ([rlasater@uta.edu](mailto:rlasater@uta.edu))
  - UTA Library ([library.uta.edu/](http://library.uta.edu/) 817-272-3395); Art History Librarian Diane Shepelwich ([dianec@uta.edu](mailto:dianec@uta.edu))
  - The English Writing Center (**FREE** appointments and walk-in; [www.uta.edu/owl/](http://www.uta.edu/owl/) ; Central Library 411)
  - The IDEAS Center offers **FREE** tutoring ([ideas@uta.edu](mailto:ideas@uta.edu); 817-272-6593); located 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of Library
  - University Tutorial & Supplemental Instruction (UTSI) (817-272-2617; [www.uta.edu/utsi](http://www.uta.edu/utsi) ; Ransom Hall 205) offering 60 minute one-on-one tutoring sessions, Start Strong Freshman tutoring program, and Supplemental Instruction.
  - Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) ([www.uta.edu/caps/](http://www.uta.edu/caps/) ; 817-272-3671); available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives
  - On-campus Emergency – UT Arlington Police Department 817-272-3003 or 911.
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## DIFFERENTLY-ABLED ACCOMMODATIONS

UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*, *The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA)*, and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting: **The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD)** [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or calling 817-272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability).

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## NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

*The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates.* For more information, visit [uta.edu/eos](http://uta.edu/eos).

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## TITLE IX POLICY

The University of Texas at Arlington ("University") is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. For information regarding Title IX, visit [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX) or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or [jmhood@uta.edu](mailto:jmhood@uta.edu).

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## ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Info about activating and using MavMail: <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

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## CAMPUS CARRY

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>

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## **STUDENT FEEDBACK SURVEY**

At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as "lecture," "seminar," or "laboratory" are directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students' anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

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## **FINAL REVIEW WEEK**

For semester-long courses, a period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week unless specified in the class syllabus. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

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## **EMERGENCY EXIT PROCEDURES**

Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located out the sliding doors on the first floor or down the main stairwell on the second floor. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

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# ART 1317 CLASS SCHEDULE

Week 1	NO CLASS	<b>READINGS from GAA or NWP indicated by chapter title (#s will differ based on edition)</b>
M Aug 28	What is "Nonwestern"	Introduction: What is Art History
W Aug 30	Early African Art	
M Sept 4	NO CLASS - LABOR DAY	South from the Sahara: Early African Art
W Sept 6	Early African Art continued	
M Sept 11	Postcontact African Art	Traditionalism and Internationalism: 19 <sup>th</sup> & 20 <sup>th</sup> Century African Arts
W Sept 13	Postcontact African Art continued	
M Sept 18	Review, Collections Tour, Paper Overview	None
W Sept 20	<b>QUIZ 1</b>	
M Sept 25	Islamic Art	In Praise of Allah: The Art of the Islamic World
M Sept 27	Islamic Art continued	
M Oct 2	Art of Early South and Southeast Asia	Paths to Enlightenment: The Art of South & Southeast Asia before 1200
W Oct 4	Art of Early S & SE Asia continued	
M Oct 9	Art of Later South and Southeast Asia	Sultans, Kings, Emperors, & Colonists: Art of South & Southeast Asia after 1200
W Oct 11	Review & Library <b>ARTWORK CHOICE</b>	
M Oct 16	<b>MIDTERM EXAM</b>	The Silk Road and Beyond: The Art of Early China and Korea
W Oct 18	Chinese Art	
M Oct 23	Chinese Art continued	From the Mongols to the Modern: The Art of Later China and Korea
W Oct 25	Korean Art	
M Oct 30	Early Japanese Art	Shrines, Statues, and Scrolls: The Art of Early Japan
W Nov 1	Early Japanese Art continued	
M Nov 6	Later Japanese Art	From the Shoguns to the Present: The Art of Later Japan
W Nov 8	Later Japanese Art continued & Review	
M Nov 13	<b>QUIZ 2</b>	None
W Nov 15	Art of Oceania	
M Nov 20	Art of Oceania continued	The Flourishing of Island Cultures: The Art of Oceania
W Nov 22	Art of Oceania video	
M Nov 27	Arts of the Americas	From Alaska to the Andes NORTH AMERICA section
W Nov 29	<b>CULTURAL ANALYSIS PAPER DUE</b>	
M Dec 4	Arts of the Americas continued	From Alaska to the Andes MESOAMERICA & SOUTH AMERICA sections
W Dec 6	Arts of the Americas continued & Review	
M Dec 11	<b>FINAL EXAM @ 5:30 – 8:00pm</b>	None; <b>NOTE DIFFERENT START TIME</b>

**SUBJECT TO CHANGE**