

Department of Arts, Media and Performance Art --Los Angeles Mission College

Fall 2019

Art 109, # 24728 Online, Survey of Non-Western Art--3 Units Lecture: 3 hours



Bronze plaque of Benin Warriors with ceremonial swords. 16th–18th centuries, Nigeria.

**Prerequisite:** none

**Associate Degree Applicable:** Gen Ed. and IGETC Humanities Credit

**Transferable:** U.C., C.S.U

**Professor Nila Noushin Lavasani**

**Contact:** [lavasann@lamission.edu](mailto:lavasann@lamission.edu) (use Private Message in Canvas)

### **Online Assigned Readings:**

1. The British Museum:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/ahistoryoftheworld/about/british-museum-objects/> (sections will be indicated in the modules as part of assigned readings)

2. <http://smarthistory.khanacademy.org/> (sections will be indicated as part of assignment instructions) and Various online sources, you will have direct online access to each of these readings in the course Modules.
3. General Text: **Gardener's Art through Ages: Non-Western Perspective, 13<sup>th</sup>. Ed., we will use this text as a springboard for our topics and discussions. Please remember that the quizzes are based on the lectures provided here in canvas. A copy of this text is available to purchase at the bookstore. This is a good general textbook and is great to have if you plan to take art 105 as well. You may also find used-copies online.**

**Please note this is the up-dated and detailed syllabus which you need to read carefully and print.**

### **Course Description:**

Art 109 considers the visual arts of Africa, the Pacific Ocean areas and the indigenous populations of Ancient Americas in relation to their history, religion and general culture. We will focus on the social as well as religious contexts of art as a way of understanding the history of art as a broad cultural phenomenon greatly affecting our way of looking at the world.

My goal as your instructor is to share my knowledge and passion about the topics and the art objects in a supportive and enjoyable environment. So let's not get frustrated and overwhelmed if the first couple of weeks seem a bit rough. This might be your first online course in Canvas and navigating it smoothly could take couple of days but be patient and it will get easier. I am here to help you make this learning experience a memorable and a fun one.

## **SLO (Student Learning Outcomes):**

1. We will identify, examine and assess representative works of art and architecture from the art historical periods covered in this course employing appropriate art historical terminology.
2. Analyze, discuss and distinguish the roles of art, architecture and the artist from the art historical periods covered in this course.

## **Minimum Technology Requirements:**

**Access to a computer with a MS word Document installed, high speed or wire-less is highly recommended.**

**Please carefully review the Canvas system requirements: See below. Make sure you have configured your computer correctly *before* the course starts.**

<http://www.lamission.edu/online/>

## **Attendance and Participation Policy:**

Our class is an online class, which means that we will not face-to-face. However, there will be plenty of contact through discussions, chat-room and other activities. Please keep in mind that to be successful in this class you need to actively participate and be a collaborative student. This will require you to log in to the class site 3-4 times a week and you should be prepared to spend at least 9 hours per week working on the course material. Since all the material is provided in the modules, there is no need to consult outside sources. There is no mandatory amount of time you need to be 'logged-in'.

Throughout the week, I log in at the same time as you do. So, keep in mind, that though you may not meet me in person, I am always a click away to help you.

## **Communication and Contact with the Professor:**

By far the best way to reach me is through the Private Message in Canvas site. Once enrolled in class, please keep in mind, that I may not be able to respond to you if you send an email to my campus email -- [lavanm@lamission.edu](mailto:lavanm@lamission.edu) account in a timely manner. Please try Not to send messages to my campus email, as I may not see them in time to address your questions or concerns immediately.

I will respond to your emails within a 24 hour window but I will try my best to answer as soon as possible. Private Messages sent on a Friday afternoon will be answered by or on Monday.

I will be communicating to you through Announcements. Please review the announcements very carefully for important information.

## **Course Expectations:**

Our class is a community. We all have the same objective: to learn! It is normal for online students to feel isolated at times, but it is important to remember that you are not alone. I need each of you to approach our online class with a great attitude and willingness to help and motivate each other. Many problems and questions can be resolved by asking a fellow student. I am always here to help you, but I truly believe your experience will be more fulfilling if you establish a good level of communication with your fellow students. The subject of our first discussion forum is an introduction where we will share some things about ourselves. Use this introductory exercise as a way to get to know each other, an icebreaker, if you wish. Is there a student in the course with whom you have something in common? Let them know and share, communicate and build a rapport. Let's work together to make this semester a great one for everyone!

Let's keep the following "ground rules" in mind when beginning this course:

- I recommend you upload a picture of yourself in your Canvas account and keep it visible to class participants throughout the entire semester.
- Participation in discussion forums assignments is
- Spend time learning how to navigate in your course management
- Check the announcements
- Address technical problems
- No emailed assignments are allowed. Assignments must be submitted in Canvas correctly in order to receive a grade. No exceptions!
- If you are planning to do the extra-credit museum report and you are not in the greater Los Angeles area, you need to inform me at the beginning of the course and together we'll find an appropriate local museum for you to visit in order to complete the assignment.

**Quizzes:** There will be several "open-book", not-timed quizzes, one for each module except for the last module. Each week, you will have a quiz on the Module we are covering--except for the week when you will be visiting a museum. The quizzes are not timed but they have a deadline to submit. They are due by midnight on Sundays.

This will give you plenty of time to carefully take the quizzes while studying the Modules. In rare cases, I may change the deadlines. But, that is very unlikely!

There will be true/false, matching and multiple-choice questions, all drawing on factual information in assigned websites. Also, please check the value point for each question in all the quizzes. If a question has 5 points, it means it has more than one correct answer. You can treat the quizzes like guided reading, if you like, read with the quiz open answer the questions as you encounter the facts on the assigned websites. (Use two browsers if you do this--Firefox for Canvas, and Internet Explorer or Safari for the websites.)

**Discussions: The discussions are the heart of the course**, the place you practice critical thinking most directly. You will post at least **two times for each module**, and will have the opportunity to read what others have posted.

Make sure you pay attention to the number of the Discussions required each week. You can find this information at the very last section of each Module. For example, you may see 5 Discussions due for one module, remember I will give you options to choose the topics and you are NOT required to answer all of them. So, please read the last section of each Module very carefully.

I will not post very often--generally only if issues of fact arise. Usually, there will be three topics to respond to in each module, except for the last module. I'll almost always be asking you to point out something you can see in an image. Here are important things to remember when participating in discussions:

- Ask a question that generates more discussion
  - Provide a statement of clarification
  - Provide a point of view with rationale
  - Challenge a point of discussion while providing specific examples
  - Make relationship between one or more points of the discussion
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- Participation is an opportunity for me to see what you have learned and for you to demonstrate your comprehension of the material. Substantive discussion should include the use of:

-Relevant vocabulary words, correct terminology, though I am not looking for 'a literary masterpiece', remember you are sharing your thoughts, opinions and formulated statements in a professional academic environment. Feel at ease expressing yourself. I will not penalize for minor grammar or spellings of foreign names.

-Specific examples and appropriate documentation

-Concepts from the modules demonstrating a command of the subject matter

**Please note that a simple, "I agree," "I like it when ...," or any sort of one liner does not count as a substantive participation.**

**Museum Short Report Extra-Credit:** I will assign two objects/topics related and/or from a local museum here in Los Angeles. You will then need to choose one topic/object only and write a report. **More details will be announced by the fourth week of class.** If you have never written a museum report, no need to panic. You are here to learn and I am here to help you. Please keep in mind, that in order to succeed in writing your report you need to physically visit the assigned museum on your own. I encourage you to go with a classmate or a friend from this class. **The exact dead- line will be announced in Canvas course shell.** In addition, you could take the Museum report test and answer the questions under Quizzes. You will get extra points for doing this as well. I strongly encourage you plan to visit the museum as soon as I announce the objects/topics.

## **Los Angeles Mission College Policies:**

### **Students with Disabilities: Disabled Students Programs and Services (DSP&S) at Los Angeles**

Mission College is a support system that enables students to fully participate in the college's regular programs and activities. DSP&S provides a variety of services from academic and vocational support to assistance with Financial Aid. If you are a disabled student and need a modification, special assistance or accommodation in order to participate in this class, alert the instructor promptly and contact the DSP&S office at 818 364--7732 or 818 364--7861. Modifications, special assistance or accommodations can only be made with proper documentation and coordination with DSP&S.

**Standards of Student Conduct:** Students are expected to maintain a professional level of conduct to facilitate a learning environment. Use of profanity in class is not appropriate and will not be tolerated.

**Cheating and Plagiarism:** The instructor reserves the right to determine if cheating or plagiarism has occurred; if it does the student will received a "F" on the assignment or exam, and may receive a "F" for the course. Please review the following document:  
<https://lamission.edu/library/docs/Plagiarism.pdf>

**Explore!**  
**As long as you don't click "submit" anywhere, you are just looking.**

**A complete on-line version of this syllabus is available in Canvas for you to study and accept once you are enrolled in class.**

**Welcome!**

**Please Respect and Enjoy Our Class Time and Space!**

***“MANAGEMENT OF STRESS AND MENTAL HEALTH:***

*As a student, not only do you have the pressure of succeeding in school, you may also be contending with work, financial issues, relationships, managing time effectively, getting enough sleep, etc. The staff and faculty of Los Angeles Mission College are here to provide support that will help you to be successful in your academic pursuits. You can learn more about the broad range of confidential student services offered on campus, including counseling and mental health services, by either visiting the Student Health Center (SHC), which is currently located in the Bungalow just west of the Collaborative Studies Building\*, checking out the SHC webpage at: <https://www.lamission.edu/healthcenter/> or calling: 818 362-6182.*

*I also encourage you to enter the **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline number (1-800-273-8255)** into your cell phone in case you or someone you know is in distress and needs someone with whom to talk.*

***\*Please note that the SHC has moved into its new location, between the President’s Office and Administrative Service,.”***