

ART

An Introduction to African Art

- I. ART FUNDAMENTALS 20%
- A. Introduction to Art History
1. Methods and Inquiries of Art History
 - a. The Nature of Art Historical Inquiry
 - b. Sources, Documents, and the Work of Art Historians
 - c. The Development of Art History
 2. Brief Overview of Art in the Western World
 - a. Ancient Civilizations
 - b. Greek and Roman Art
 - c. Early Christian and Medieval Art
 - d. The Renaissance and Baroque
 - e. Rococo, Neoclassicism, and Romanticism
 - f. Realism and Impressionism
 - g. Post-Impressionism and Other Late Nineteenth-Century Developments
 - h. The Emergence of Modernism
 - i. Abstraction
 - j. Pop Art, Minimalism, and Photo Realism
 - k. Earthworks, Installations, and Performance
 3. Brief Overview of Non-Western Art
 - a. Asian Art
 - b. African and Oceanic Art
 - c. Islamic Art
 - d. The Americas
- B. Elements of Art
1. Formal Qualities of Art
 - a. Line
 - b. Shape and Form
 - c. Perspective
 - d. Color
 - e. Texture
 - f. Composition
 2. Processes and Techniques
 - a. Drawing
 - b. Printmaking
 - c. Painting
 - d. Photography
 - e. Sculpture
 - f. Mixed Media
 - g. Performance

- h. Craft and Folk Art
- i. Architecture

- II. SOUTHERN AND EASTERN AFRICA 15%
- A. Southern and Eastern Africa—Overview
 - 1. General Issues Concerning the Study of African Art
 - 2. Trans-African Aesthetics and Characteristics
 - 3. Southern Africa—Geography and Cultures
 - 4. Eastern Africa—Geography and Cultures
 - B. SELECTED ARTWORK: STONE AGE PETROGLYPHS, NAMIBIA, c. 4000 BCE–1 CE
 - 1. Prehistoric Art—General Issues and Concerns
 - 2. Prehistoric Rock Art in Southern and Eastern Africa
 - 3. Stone Age Petroglyphs: Analysis
 - C. SELECTED ARTWORK: LYDENBURG HEAD, SOUTH AFRICA, c. 500 CE
 - 1. The Establishment of Bantu-Speaking Cultures in South Africa
 - 2. The “Lydenburg Heads”—Discovery and Reconstruction
 - 3. Lydenburg Head: Analysis
 - D. SELECTED ARTWORK: GREAT ZIMBABWE, SHONA, MASVINGO PROVINCE, ZIMBABWE, c. ELEVENTH–FIFTEENTH CENTURIES
 - 1. African Architecture—Overview
 - 2. The Shona People of Southern Zimbabwe
 - 3. Great Zimbabwe Analysis
 - E. SELECTED ARTWORK: LYRE (*KISSAR*), NUBIA, SUDAN, LATE NINETEENTH CENTURY
 - 1. Music in African Art and Culture
 - 2. The Nubian People of Northern Sudan
 - 3. Lyre (*Kissar*): Analysis
- III. CENTRAL AFRICA 25%
- A. Central Africa—Overview
 - 1. Central Africa—Geography and Cultures
 - 2. European Influence on Central Africa
 - 3. Central Africa in the Postcolonial Era
 - B. SELECTED ARTWORK: NAIL FIGURE, KONGO CULTURE, 1875/1900
 - 1. The Kongo People of the Congo Basin
 - 2. *Nkondi*—“Nail Figures”
 - 3. Nail Figure: Analysis
 - C. SELECTED ARTWORK: SCULPTURAL ELEMENT FROM A RELIQUARY ENSEMBLE: HEAD (*THE GREAT BIERI*), FANG PEOPLES, BETSI GROUP, GABON, NINETEENTH–EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURIES
 - 1. Reliquary Figures in African Art—Form and Function
 - 2. The Fang of Gabon
 - 3. Sculptural Element from a Reliquary Ensemble: Head (*The Great Bieri*): Analysis
 - D. SELECTED ARTWORK: MASK: FEMALE (PWO), CHOKWE PEOPLES, ANGOLA, NINETEENTH–EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURIES
 - 1. Masquerade in African Art—Form and Function
 - 2. The Chokwe Peoples of Angola

3. Mask: Female (Pwo): Analysis
- E. SELECTED ARTWORK: FINIAL OF A ROYAL SCEPTER, YOMBE PEOPLE, KONGO OR ZAIRE, NINETEENTH CENTURY
 1. Symbols of Kingship in African Culture
 2. Ivory—In (and Out) of Africa
 3. The Yombe People of Central Africa
 4. Finial of a Royal Scepter: Analysis
- F. SELECTED ARTWORK: ROYAL PALACE OF FOUMBAN, BAFOUSSAM, CAMEROON, 1917
 1. Peoples of the Cameroon Grasslands
 2. Royal Authority in Cameroon Before 1900
 3. The Evolution of Palace Architecture in Cameroon
 4. Royal Palace of Foumban: Analysis

IV. WESTERN AFRICA

25%

- A. Western Africa—Overview
 1. Western Africa—Geography and Cultures
 2. The Transatlantic Slave Trade and Colonialism in Western Africa
 - B. SELECTED ARTWORK: NOK SCULPTURE, NOK CULTURE, NIGERIA, FIRST CENTURY BCE—FIRST CENTURY CE
 1. Nok Culture in Northern Nigeria
 2. Discovery and Excavation of Nok Sites
 3. Nok Terracotta Works
 4. Nok Sculpture: Analysis
 - C. SELECTED ARTWORK: BOWL, IGBO UKWU, NIGERIA, NINTH—TENTH CENTURIES
 1. Igbo Ukwu in the Lower Niger Region
 2. Discovery and Excavation of the Igbo Ukwu Burial Site
 3. Lost Wax Casting Technique
 4. Bowl: Analysis
 - D. SELECTED ARTWORK: BRASS HEAD, YORUBA, IFE, NIGERIA, c. TWELFTH—FOURTEENTH CENTURIES
 1. Ife Settlement in Southwestern Nigeria
 2. The Concept of Kingship in Ife
 3. Brass Head: Analysis
 - E. SELECTED ARTWORK: PLAQUE, EDO PEOPLES, NIGERIA, MID-SIXTEENTH—SEVENTEENTH CENTURIES
 1. The Benin Kingdom in Southern Nigeria
 2. Benin Bronze Work
 3. The British Benin Punitive Expedition of 1897
 4. Plaque: Analysis
 - F. SELECTED ARTWORK: KENTE CLOTH, ASHANTI PEOPLE, GHANA, TWENTIETH CENTURY
 1. The Asante (Ashanti) People of Ghana
 2. Kente Cloth—Manufacture and Materials
 3. Kente Cloth—Function and Symbolism
 4. Kente Cloth: Analysis
- V. CONTEMPORARY AFRICAN ART AND ART OF THE AFRICAN DIASPORA 15%
- A. Contemporary African Art and Art of the African Diaspora—Overview

1. Africa in the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries
 2. The African Diaspora—Definition and Overview
 3. Issues in Contemporary African Art and Art of the African Diaspora
- B. SELECTED ARTWORK: *FELIX IN EXILE*, WILLIAM KENTRIDGE, SOUTH AFRICA, 1993–94
1. History of Apartheid in South Africa
 2. William Kentridge: Biography and Artistic Career
 3. *Felix in Exile*: Analysis
- C. SELECTED ARTWORK: *SPIRIT OF SISTERHOOD*, AIDA MULUNEH, ETHIOPIA, 2000
1. Photography in Africa: Historical Overview
 2. Issues of Feminism in Contemporary African Art
 3. Aida Muluneh: Biography and Artistic Career
 4. *Spirit of Sisterhood*: Analysis
- D. SELECTED ARTWORK: *COFFIN*, WORKSHOP OF PAA WILLIE, GHANA, 2000
1. Ghanaian Funerary Practice—Traditionally and Today
 2. Twentieth-Century Fantasy Coffins
 3. Paa Joe—Biography and Artistic Career
 4. Coffin: Analysis
- E. SELECTED ARTWORK: *BETWEEN EARTH AND HEAVEN*, EL ANATSUI, GHANAIAN, BASED IN NIGERIA, 2006
1. Assemblage Art
 2. El Anatsui: Biography and Artistic Career
 3. *Between Earth and Heaven*: Analysis