

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for ARHS 2
ART OF THE ANCIENT AMERICAS
Effective: Fall 2019

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

ARHS 2 — ART OF THE ANCIENT AMERICAS — 3.00 units

Survey of visual culture within the historical context of select ancient civilizations in Mexico, Central American, and South America up to European contact.

3.00 Units Lecture

Strongly Recommended

ENG 1A - Critical Reading and Composition
with a minimum grade of C

Grading Methods:

Letter or P/NP

Discipline:

- Art History

	MIN
Lecture Hours:	54.00
Expected Outside of Class Hours:	108.00
Total Hours:	162.00

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 1

III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

Before entering this course, it is strongly recommended that the student should be able to:

A. ENG1A

1. Critically read texts and materials from a variety of academic and cultural contexts, demonstrating in writing and discussion the ability to:
 - a. Summarize a thesis and main points;
 - b. Analyze main ideas;
 - c. Evaluate the validity and logic of the text's reasoning and support;
 - d. Relate ideas and information in the text to his/her own experience as well as other texts;
2. Write multiple-paragraph papers that:
 - a. Accurately and appropriately respond to a given assignment;
 - b. Develop a relevant, focused thesis;
 - c. Are well-organized and coherently move from coordinating to subordinating points;
 - d. Are well-developed with sufficient and relevant evidence;
 - e. Synthesize facts and ideas originating outside his/her direct experience to develop and support a thesis;
 - f. Use standard American English correctly;
3. Research a specific topic using the Internet, databases, journals, and books demonstrating an ability to:
 - a. Review sources for relevant evidence and arguments;
 - b. Integrate researched material into his/her own writing with appropriate context, explanation, punctuation, and citation;
 - c. Document sources in an academically responsible way.

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- A. Summarize the cultural heritage of Mesoamerica and South America
- B. Develop his or her own perceptual awareness
- C. Develop a basic geographic awareness of the subject area, i.e. Lowlands and Highland plateau
- D. Introduce theoretical concepts interrelating cultural development and geography
- E. Present stylistic concepts and the awareness of basic differences that develop on a regional and chronological basis
- F. Develop the vocabulary for general art terminology and a more specific ability in the subject area
- G. Convey ideas of low and high relief and freestanding sculpture as well as the qualities of composition and interpretation
- H. Identify painted decoration of all types based on color, line, shape, and tone
- I. Explain the significance of the architecture of the regions

V. CONTENT:

- A. Identification by style and subject, social, political and economic issues, and how these impacted artists and art of the following time periods:
 - 1. Mesoamerica:
 - 2. Olmec
 - 3. Cultures of Middle to Late Formative
 - 4. West Mexico
 - 5. Teotihuacan
 - 6. Zapotec
 - 7. Classic Maya
 - 8. Classic Veracruz
 - 9. Toltec
 - 10. Aztec
 - 11. Spanish Contact:
 - 12. South America
 - 13. Pre-Ceramic Period
 - 14. Chavin
 - 15. Paracas
 - 16. Nasca
 - 17. Moche
 - 18. Tiwanaku
 - 19. Wari
 - 20. Chimu
 - 21. Inca
 - 22. European Contact

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. **Lecture** - Discussion
- B. **Lecture** - Lecture with slides, PowerPoint and videos
- C. Outlines of the art periods with images and artists' quotes
- D. **Field Trips** - A museum and a gallery visit with an appropriate exhibition
- E. **Discussion** - Large and small group discussions

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. Assigning writing activities, which may include short descriptions, paragraphs and compositions in order to help students compare and contrast, analyze and/or illustrate their observations on topics covered.
- B. Creating a study guide from the written materials, lectures, and videos.

VIII. EVALUATION:

Methods/Frequency

- A. Exams/Tests
 - 3 per semester
- B. Research Projects
 - 1 per semester
- C. Papers
 - 1 per semester.
- D. Class Participation
 - Daily.
- E. Class Work
 - Daily or weekly.

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

- 1. Charlip, Julie A. & Burns, E. Bradford (2012). *Latin America: An Interpretive History* (9th ed.). : Pearson.
- 2. Chasteen, John Charles (2011). *Born in Blood & Fire: A Concise History of Latin America* (3rd ed.). : W.W. Norton & Company.
- 3. Holloway, Thomas H. (2010). *A Companion to Latin American* (1st ed.). : Wiley-Blackwell.
- 4. Martin, Cheryl E. & Wasserman, Mark (2011). *Latin America and Its People* (3rd ed.). : Pearson.
- 5. Moya, Jose C. (2010). *The Oxford Handbook of Latin American History* (2010 ed.). : Oxford University Press, USA.
- 6. Editors of Phaidon (2013). *Art & Place: Site-specific Art of the Americas*. London: Phaidon.
- 7. Miller, Mary Ellen (2012). *The Art of Mesoamerica: From Olmec to Aztec* (5th ed.). , New York: Thames & Hudson.
- 8. O'Brien, Elaine (2013). *Modern Art in Africa, Asia, and Latin America: An Introduction to Global Modernisms*. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell.
- 9. Stokstad, Marilyn, and Michael Watt Cothren (2012). *Art: A Brief History* (5th ed.). New York: Pearson.
- 10. Finegold, A., Hoobler, E., & Pasztory, E. (2017). *Visual Culture of the Ancient Americas: Contemporary Perspectives* (First ed.). Norman, Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma Press.
- 11. Berlo, J.C. (2015). *Native North American Art* (Second ed.). Oxford, New York: Oxford University Press, 2015.
- 12. Paxton, M., & Cicero, L.S. (2017). *Constructing power and place in Mesoamerica : pre-Hispanic paintings from three regions* (1st ed.). Albuquerque, New Mexico: University of New Mexico Press.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS: