

The University of Western Ontario

Department of Visual Arts

Fall 2017

VAH 2266F / CLC 2297F / SP 3902F

Pre-Contact American Art & Architecture

Wednesday 2:30 AM - 4:30 PM – AHB Room 3B04

Blended Course: Both Online and In-Person Instruction

Professors:

C. Cody Barteet

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Office Hours: Wednesday 10:00-11:00 AM and Thursday 1:00-2:00 PM or by appointment

Graduate Teaching Assistants:

Lisa Daniels

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Office Hours: Wednesday 10:00-11:00 AM

Brad Morosan

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Office Hours: Thursday 11:00-12:00 PM

Course Description:

Catalogue Description: Architecture, painting, and sculpture of the indigenous cultures of North, Central, and/or South America prior to European contact.

Prerequisites: 1.0 from VAH 1040 or two of VAH 1041A/B – VAH 1045A/B, or 0.5 or 1.0 essay course Faculties of Arts and Humanities or Social Science, or permission of the Department

Overview: This course will introduce students to the arts of the indigenous peoples of North, Central, and South America from the Prehistoric times until the early colonial era. Relying on a thematic organization, we will consider how artworks, whether weavings, baskets, ceramics, sculptures, paintings, or architecture, reflect the worldviews of the indigenous Americans who created and used them. By using an interdisciplinary approach, we will study these cultures and artworks from the perspectives of art history, anthropology, archaeology, history, and ethnography. Our interdisciplinary perspective will assist us in partially reconstructing the cultural practices of these American societies prior to contact with the Europeans who arrived in the sixteenth century.

Learning Outcomes:

This course is designed to assist you in:

- gaining knowledge about artistic and visual cultural production within a series of diverse historical contexts.
- Understanding the issues and debates pertaining to the study of art and visual culture

- gaining familiarity with terminology, stylistic classifications, methods, and theories employed in the study of art and visual culture.
- developing the ability to communicate orally and in writing the knowledge you have acquired about art and visual culture.

Textbook:

Miller, Mary Ellen. *The Art of Mesoamerica*. Fifth Edition. London: Thames and Hudson, Ltd. 2012.

Penney, David W. *North American Indian Art*. London: Thames and Hudson, Ltd., 2011.

Stone, Rebecca R. *Art of the Andes*. Third Edition. London: Thames and Hudson, Ltd, 2012.

Grade Distribution:

Online Quiz 1 (Owl)	15%
Online Quiz 2 (Owl)	15%
Online Assessments and Assignments (Owl)	20%
Essay (6-8 pages)	25%
<u>Final Exam (during Dec. Exam Period):</u>	<u>25%</u>
Total:	100%

* In accordance with Western's Evaluation of Academic Performance, one week prior to the deadline for withdrawal from a course without academic penalty, you will receive assessment of your work for at least 15% of your final grade. **November 12th** for first term courses and **November 30th** for full-year courses.

General Course & Western Policies:

1. Syllabi and other relevant course information will be posted on OWL (<https://owl.uwo.ca/portal>).
 - a. To access owl, use your student username and password.
 - b. Students requiring additional OWL support, please speak to myself or your TA or visit: <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal/site/owldocs>
2. Late Assignments: Students are expected to complete all assignments on time. Assignments are considered late after the start of class the day they are due. Extensions will be given *only* upon official notification from the student's faculty advisor documenting serious health and bereavement reasons. All other late essays are subject to a 10% penalty per day. For information relating to Western's medical policies see pages 4 & 8 of this syllabus.
3. Attendance of lectures is required and will be monitored.
 - a. Students are expected to attend all class sessions and be prepared for and to participate in all lectures, discussions and/or critiques.
 - b. Students who miss less than 3 classes are not required to seek accommodations for their absences from the lecture. For subsequent absences students will need to seek accommodations (See Medical Accommodation policy below).
 - c. Under Western's regulations, if a student misses 15% of their classes, without written corroboration for health or bereavement, they can be debarred from participation in final tests, evaluations and/or critiques.

- d. If a student is consistently absent from a three-hour class for one hour, they will exceed the 15% cut off.
 - e. It is the student's responsibility to notify me that you are tardy; otherwise the student may be marked absent.
4. Online participation is mandatory and will be assessed (see Assignments below for more details).
5. Emails:
 - a. Assignments will not be accepted through email.
 - b. Grades will not be discussed through email.
 - c. Be sure to keep emails brief and to the point and use standard formatting. Do not use short form or abbreviated expressions.
 - d. Be sure to identify your name and contact information in the email.
 - e. I will make every effort to reply to your email within one to two business days.
 - i. As I have other professional and personal responsibilities I typically respond to email Monday through Friday during normal "business hours."
 - ii. By all means, if you have not heard from me within two business days, do email me again.
 - f. Only your assigned Western email will be used for communication in this class.
 - i. If your Western email is not your primary email address, please have your Western email forwarded to your primary address, whether it is Gmail, Outlook, etc.
 - ii. For general instructions on how to set up email forwarding, see http://www.uwo.ca/its/email/account/email_forwarding.html
6. At times students may be required to attend relevant lectures and/or technical demonstrations on campus or within London. Failure to attend an important demonstration or lecture without due cause will result in the student researching the technical information for themselves.
7. Plagiarism will not be tolerated, and you are responsible for understanding how to use sources in an ethical fashion and for knowing the difference between quoting and paraphrasing. Possession of this syllabus means that you understand that you are required to comply with the Department of Visual Arts' (page 9 of this syllabus) and Western's policies regarding plagiarism. For information concerning Western's Plagiarism and Academic Offenses (Scholastic Offences) policies see <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017>.
8. Electronic Devices: You may use a computer in class to take notes. All other activities (e.g. checking email or social media sites, etc.) are discouraged, as this can be distracting to your fellow students and myself.
 - a. Students should turn off all cell phones and similar electronic devices while in the classroom, as ringing and/or vibrating phones are extremely bothersome and distracting.
 - b. Under no circumstances are cell phones or any electronic devices to be used or seen during times of examination. **If you are found to have an electronic device out during your written examinations, your test will be taken and you will receive a failing mark.**
 - c. Unless I provide it, you do not have my permission to use electronic devices to record (sound or video) my lectures, nor to live stream or blog my lectures. Aside from intellectual property concerns, such activities can be distracting and disruptive to our participatory learning environment.

9. Accommodation for Medical Illness: “Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counseling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.”
 - a. Accommodation for missed assignments totaling less than 10%, due to medical reasons, may be arranged with the instructor as long as the student contacts the instructor no later than the day after the assignment is due.
 - b. This accommodation policy excludes the course’s attendance and participation marks. The instructor will NOT make considerations on attendance and participation marks, whether totaling more than 10% or less than 10%, unless the student has arranged accommodation through their Dean's Office.
 - c. For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/rights_responsibilities.html
 - i. For downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC); see Medical Documentation heading
10. Mental Health: “Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.”
11. Disabled Student Policy: For Western’s Policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities see <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017>: “In its efforts to accommodate disabilities appropriately, the approach adopted by the University is collaborative, involving the student requesting the accommodation, the instructor, department (or school or program where applicable), and/or Faculty which provides the accommodation, and Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in the Student Development Centre which coordinates the request for and provision of accommodation.”
12. Student Absences on Religious Holy Days: For purposes of this policy “the University has approved a list of dates which are recognized religious holidays which require members of those religions to be absent from the University; this list is updated annually and is available at departmental, Deans' and Faculty advising Offices.” For Western’s Policy on Religious Holidays see <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017>.
13. All students will conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the Code of Student Conduct and treat all members of the Western community with respect (<http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017>).
14. Enrollment in the course constitutes an agreement to participate in class (both in the classroom and online) and to take complete all assignments and exams. Makeup exams will not be given except under extreme circumstances.
1. Online Responses:
 - a. Each of you will be required to respond to seven online assignments that can be accessed through the assignment links on Owl. You will be asked to address either a packet of readings or specific questions relating to art works and artists.
 - i. Although the Assignment’s box allows for copying and pasting from word processing programs, text and encoding errors occur; you will need to proofread and edit each entry carefully before posting it to the class website.

1. Avoid “stream-of-consciousness” writing.”
 2. Also, despite being completed electronically, these assignments are not to be composed in a “chat room-like” formatting; maintain a professional tone throughout your responses.
 - ii. Unless otherwise noted, you should rely upon your textbook and assigned articles to support your arguments and outcomes.
 - iii. Credibility is often achieved through succinct, clear writing, with answers supported by authoritative sources. For example, “I think grey is a depressing color” is a weaker statement than “Scientists argue that grey elicits a sad response from individuals because . . .”
 - b. As this assignment is completed online, it affords you some flexibility to work at your own speed; however, all deadlines are strict. If you’ve finished your assignment early, by all means post it early.
 - i. Here again, professionalism and courtesy to your fellow students, to the Teaching Assistants, and professor is highly recommended and appreciated. This not only pertains to appropriate tone and syntax, but also expediency and timeliness; in other words, do not wait to the last minute to respond to posts and responses.
 - c. Please have all online assignments completed by 5pm on their due date.
 - i. This is important as some assignments specifically relate to the following day’s lecture and discussion.
 - d. All responses will be assessed and marked electronically. Assessment criteria are posted on Owl.
 - e. Unless otherwise noted, all posts should be a minimum of 350 words. As a visual guideline, this section on “Online Responses” is **329** words.
2. Quizzes, Tests, and Examinations (including Final Exam):
- a. Final Exam will be cumulative and in-class
 - b. In-class quizzes, tests, and examinations:
 - i. Start at the beginning of class. Time lost due to late arrival to an in-class test will not be made up.
 - ii. Test and exam formats will typically consist of a combination of one or more of the following: multiple choice, slide identifications, and essay questions.
 - c. Online quizzes, tests, and examinations:
 - i. Will be accessed through Owl
 - ii. Must be completed during the allocated time.
 - iii. Are timed and generally consists of multiple-choice formats and/or essay questions.
 - d. Dates: **Online Quiz 1 (Oct. 4); Online Quiz 2 (Nov. 15); Final Exam (TBA)**
3. Visual Cultural Essays:
- a. Will be submitted to Turnitin.com (accessible through Owl).
 - b. Each of you will be required to write a 6 to 8-page research paper.

- i. Your papers will focus on representations of indigenous peoples of the Americas in popular culture, whether in the traditional arts (painting, sculpture, architecture, photography, etc.) or in print media, TV, movies, video games, and so forth. Your purpose is to consider the veracity of such representations and how they relate to our understandings of indigenous Americans.
 - ii. The essay should include a full discussion of the topic, including proper source citation, and a works cited page—you are required to use Chicago Manual Style formatting.
 - c. It is suggested that you consult with me about your research projects.
 - d. See Research Essay prompt on Owl for detailed guidelines and parameters.
 - e. **Date Due: Nov. 22**
4. Online Peer-Review:
- a. Each of you will submit a complete draft or at least a 2 to 3-page outline of your paper to the Forums section on Owl under the appropriate heading. More details can be found under the resources link.
 - b. You are required to review at least 2 of your classmates' papers for peer review.
 - i. You will follow the general guidelines for reviewing others' works that can be accessed under the resources link.
 - ii. Writing on our course website should be treated as all other formal writing assignments; please use an appropriate tone for each post, keep in mind that your audience is diverse, and edit all entries for clarity, grammar, and mechanics.
 - iii. Professionalism and courtesy to your fellow students, to the Teaching Assistants, and to professor is highly recommended and appreciated. This not only pertains to appropriate tone and syntax, but also expediency and timeliness; in other words, do not wait to the last minute to respond to post your papers by the due date and completing your responses during the reviewing period.
 - c. Dates: **Peer-Review paper submitted by Nov. 1; Peer-Review completed by Nov. 15**

Course Outline:

(I reserve the right to make changes to this outline throughout the term. Should a change involve rescheduling a test or an assignment, you will be given one or more weeks notice.)

Week 1 (September 13)

Lecture: Introduction to Course & Introduction to Mesoamerica and Pre-Columbian Art History

Part I: Andes

Week 2 (September 20)

Lecture: Introduction to the Ancient Andes

Reading: Stone, Chapter 1: Introduction and Chapter 2: Early and Chavín Art

Week 3 (September 27)

Lecture: The Moche and Andean Empires

Reading: Stone, Chapter 4: Moche Art and Architecture and Chapter 5: Tiwanaka and Wari Imperial Styles

Week 4 (October 4)

Online Quiz 1

Lecture: The Inca

Reading: Stone, Chapter 7: Inca Art and Architecture

Video?

Week 5 (October 11): Thanksgiving Holiday and Fall Reading Week

Part II: Mesoamerica

Week 6 (October 18)

Lecture: Olmec

Reading: Miller, Chapter 1: Introduction and Chapter 2: The Olmecs

Week 7 (October 25)

Lecture: Teotihuacan

Reading: Miller, Chapter 4: Teotihuacan and Chapter 3: The Late Formative; and Doris Heyden. "An Interpretation of the Cave Underneath the Pyramid of the Sun in Teotihuacan, Mexico" *American Antiquity* 40, no. 2 (1975): 131-147

Week 8 (November 1)

Peer Review Upload

Lecture: The Ancient Maya

Reading: Miller, Chapter 6: The Early Classic Maya

Week 9 (November 8)

Lecture: The Maya

Reading: Miller, Chapter 7: The Late Classic and Chapter 8: Mesoamerica after the fall of Classic cities

***November 12, Last day to drop a 1st-term half course without academic penalty**

Week 10 (November 15)

Peer Review Completion

Online Quiz 2

Lecture: The Aztec

Reading: Miller, Chapter 9: The Aztecs

Week 11 (November 22)

Papers Due

Aztecs Continued

Part III: North American Indian and First Nations Art

Week 12 (November 29)

Lecture: Introduction to North American and First Nations Studies and the Ancient Woodlands

Reading: Penny, Chapter 2: Ancient Woodlands and TBA

Week 13 (December 6)

Lecture: U.S. Southwest

Reading: Penny, Chapter 4: Southwest and TBA

Review: Final Exam

***December 8, Fall Term classes end**

Final Exam: TBA will be held during December Final Exam Period

**The University of Western Ontario
Visual Arts Department**

POLICIES

Student Conduct:

All students will conduct themselves in a manner that will be consistent with the maturity and academic integrity expected of university students. Student conduct shall be consistent with the general laws of the community and with University regulations. Students shall show regard and respect for the rights, safety, and property of all members of the University community and are expected to act in a responsible manner within the University and the community at large.

Attendance:

A student who misses more than 15% of the course hours, without written corroboration for health or bereavement, can be debarred from writing final exams, or participation in final studio evaluations. Note that if a student consistently is absent from a

3-hour class for 1 hour, they will exceed the 15% cutoff and can be debarred.

Prerequisites:

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as basis of appeal. If you are not eligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time, and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. These decisions cannot be appealed.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism, which may be defined as "The act or an instance of copying or stealing another's words or ideas and attributing them as one's own," will not be tolerated. (Citation excerpted from Black's Law Dictionary, 1999, 7th ed., p.1170). (Refer to <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg113.html> with regards to academic penalties for plagiarism.) This includes presenting the visual or aural work of another creator as your own. Visual or Aural Plagiarism may involve both hand-based media such as drawing, painting, printmaking and sculpture, as well as digital media such as photography, video and sound. It includes work subsequently manipulated or transferred between different media, as well as self-plagiarism – work submitted for assignments previously produced and graded for another course. Similar to textual plagiarism, all student work involving the visual or aural work of others must be appropriately cited/identified whether in print or orally. Failure to do so will lead to similar academic penalties as those identified in Western's Academic Calendar.

Medical Policy:

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. See course outline for specific arrangements regarding less than 10% of assignments.

Mental Wellbeing:

"Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Wellbeing http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental_health/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help."

Building Access:

The John Labatt Visual Arts Centre will be closed at 10:00pm each night Monday to Friday. There will be no after-hour access for undergraduate students. The Centre is open weekends 12:00pm-5:00pm unless otherwise posted; access by side entrances only. Students should be prepared to vacate the building promptly at 10:00pm and 5:00pm. You must also sign-in with the building monitors when working in the workshop areas outside of regular office hours.

Permission re: Promotion

You grant permission for Western University to reproduce your name, information describing your artwork, representations of your work and any other information you have provided for the purpose of display, promotion and publicity either now or in the future.

By installing your artwork in the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre, you grant Western University an irrevocable, perpetual, royalty-free world-wide licence to photograph your artwork and use such photograph(s) for the promotion of your artwork and/or Western University, including, without limitation, advertising, display, editorial, packaging, promotion, television, social media, the Department of Visual Arts website, flickr, Twitter, Instagram etc.). Students wishing to not have their work photographed should not exhibit it in the Visual Arts Centre, Arlab Gallery or Cohen Commons. As the area is open to the public, students, faculty, staff and other visitors will not be prohibited from photographing your artwork while on exhibit at the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre.

You otherwise retain all ownership in your artwork.

Artwork Installation Liability Release

You understand that the area where your artwork will be hanging or displayed is unsupervised and is in a part of the building that may be open to the public, day and evening, whether or not the building is open. Western University accepts no responsibility for damage to, or loss of, artwork at any time while on display or while being transported to or from the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre. By displaying your artwork in the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre, you accept all risk of loss or damage to your artwork. Western University does not provide insurance for the artwork on exhibition. **If you wish to insure artwork, it is your responsibility to do so.**

Removal

Western University reserves the right to dispose of artwork not picked up by April 15th of each year.

Please remember:

One of the most important resources for course counselling, special permissions, course changes, grade appeals, etc., is the Undergraduate Chair of Visual Arts, Professor C. Barteet (tel. 519-661-3440; vaugc@uwo.ca). Please note, however, that should you encounter any serious difficulties due to illness, family emergency, etc., you should consult the Academic Counselor for your Faculty. Ms. Amanda Green and Mr. Ben Hakala are the academic counselors in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities located in IGA Building, Room 1N20.

The Student Development Centre (WSS room 4111; tel: 519-661-3031; www.sdc.uwo.ca) offers a wide range of useful services including workshops on learning skills, career and employment services, and an effective writing program, amongst many more.

The D.B. Weldon Library offers orientation tours from the first week of classes until Thanksgiving, where you will get acquainted with the numerous research resources available. As well, the University libraries have an extremely useful website where you can search the library system, the databases, view your circulation record, renew materials, access your UWO e-mail account, and much more. Check it out at: www.lib.uwo.ca.

Financial Aid Services is your main source of information for OSAP, bursaries, loans, scholarships, and the work-study program which offer part-time positions on campus for Western students. Tel: 519-661-2100; e-mail, finaid@uwo.ca; or check out their website at http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/student_finances/financial_counselling.html

August 21, 2017

The University of Western Ontario – Department of Visual Arts

Undergraduate Grading Guidelines - Art History

These guidelines are benchmarks that are not to be followed as rigid regulations. They will be adjusted as appropriate to take into account the level of the course and any specific instructions given by a professor. For example, grades in first-year courses are generally lower than in fourth year.

90-100 (Outstanding, A+)

The writing shows significant originality and exhibits a high degree of critical engagement. Sophisticated synthesis and analysis of the theoretical and conceptual dimensions of the topic are demonstrated. Mastery of complex material and ideas is immediately evident. The topic is treated with sensitivity and subtlety of thought. The quality of the background research is exemplary. Regarding research, all major secondary sources pertaining to the topic have been consulted and proper citation has been used.

80-89 (Excellent, A)

The writing shows originality and exhibits a high degree of critical engagement. Writing is probing through the use of comments and/or questions, and is clearly focused and logically organized. The quality of writing immediately engages the reader. Mastery of complex materials and ideas is demonstrated. The writing is of appropriate length, and demonstrates mastery of techniques so that results are meaningful and not simplistic. Regarding research, a majority of the secondary sources pertaining to the topic have been consulted and proper citation has been used.

75-79 (Very Good, B+)

The writing shows above average analysis, critical thinking and independent thought. Written claims are supported by ample evidence and the components of the topic are well-researched and presented. The work is addressed in reasonable depth and/or breadth and covers material appropriate to the course. Written analysis is organized around focal points and the development of the argument is easily followed. The writer demonstrates an above average ability to write in an intelligible style and to condense material meaningfully and with a concern for priorities of that material. Regarding research, a representative selection of secondary sources pertaining to the topic has been consulted and proper citation has been used.

70-74 (Good, B)

The writing shows a satisfactory attempt at analysis and critical thinking. Written claims are supported by reasonable evidence. The work is addressed in some depth and/or breadth, with references to the appropriate literature and course material. Written analysis is organized around focal points. The text is generally well written and well argued. Regarding research, a somewhat limited selection of secondary sources pertaining to the topic has been consulted and proper citation has been used.

60-69 (Competent, C)

The writing demonstrates adequate engagement with the topic. The writing is on topic and is a reasonable response to material covered in the course, but goes no further. Written facts are stated accurately; the quality of writing is sufficiently intelligible with enough elaboration and enough connections made between ideas to permit a reader to understand the point of the text. Regarding research, an insufficient number secondary sources pertaining to the topic has been consulted but proper citation has been used.

50-59 (Marginal, D)

The writing shows less than adequate engagement with the topic and with the material covered by the course. The writing is a less than adequate summary of sources and/or is considerably off-topic. Written facts are stated inaccurately or ambiguously; the writing style is difficult to follow; there is insufficient elaboration to permit reader's comprehension of relations among ideas; little judgment is shown in selecting detail for inclusion in the text. Regarding research, few secondary sources pertaining to the topic have been consulted; proper citation may or may not have been used.

Below 50 (Unacceptable, F)

The writing demonstrates a failure to comprehend the topic. Written material is disorganized and unintelligible. The work clearly does not meet the minimal requirements of the assignment. Regarding research, secondary sources pertaining to the topic have not been consulted and proper citation has not been used.