

**COURSE CODE: IFA 3202****COURSE NAME: PRINCIPLES AND HISTORY OF ART 111 Course Description**

Principles and History of Art III (IFA 3202) explores the different mythological, symbolical, spiritual (Animism, Fetishism, Divination, Sorcery, witchcraft, black magic, white magic, cults, and occultism), political, economic and cultural way of life (i.e. material culture which ultimately defines one's cultural identity) of indigenous African civilizations and societies. Critical examination is done in order to establish the impact that the opening up of the African continent to external cultures and beliefs had on such societies.

The study of the material culture in selected African civilizations and societies that date from the 17<sup>th</sup> century to date will be the main focus of this course. Surveys of their 'art', the designing and crafting processes are studied with emphasis on African sculpture, masks, utilitarian/functional art and architecture. The elements that created social cohesion in these societies, such as their myths, legends, taboos, cultural norms and practices, spiritual beliefs and ancestral worship are comprehensively analyzed since they are the reason Africa's art and culture exists.

The relevance of sustainability and or change and the consequences of such cultural practices in light of the current time and age are analyzed. Parallels and similarities between different African civilizations and societies are studied.

This course is part of a continuous study of the History of Art that starts from the Prehistoric era, in the first year of undergraduate study, through to other art eras such as the Egyptian, Greek and Roman Civilizations, the Gothic and Renaissance period among others.

This is a core course and is meant to service the practical and studio based courses (electives) by way of sensitizing artists about the possibilities of exploring avenues for inspirational concepts and themes, application of art and design techniques derived from traditional creative approaches to their studio based practical courses and projects.

**Course Objective/Aims**

- Give students broader perspective on the general cultural and socio-religious context of the history of art. (Through art and cultural issues as described in the course content of semester two)
- Enable students identify, analyze and appreciate any work of art or architecture irrespective of its time and place in the echelons of African art history.
- Develop student's written linguistic skills and ability and to enhance students oral skills and ability to adequately present one self in a dialogue. (Through projects researched on course related subjects and issues which are presented as PowerPoint's)
- Provoke students into further independent inquiry and analysis. (Through research on given assignments and projects)
- Encourage independent judgment and objective criticism. (Through discussions, contributions of ideas and appraisal of each group's PowerPoint presentations)

- Develop student's intellectual and imaginative skills and power of creative thinking.

### **Course Outline: Week 1: Introduction**

Defining and Understanding the issues that determine an African society's material culture and identity

### **Week 2: Introduction**

Exploring 'internal' factors that determined and continue to determine the definitive shaping of Africa's ethnic societies e.g. Geographical locations,

Ethnic migrations, diseases of catastrophic dimensions, traditional religious beliefs, taboos, myths, legends among others.

### **Week 3: Introduction**

Exploring 'external' factors that determined and continue to determine the definitive shaping of Africa's ethnic societies e.g. Slave trade and economic trade along the ancient trade routes, Christian and Islamic religious influences, formal education among others

### **Week4: Formation of Student Research Groups**

Electing group leaders, assigning project tasks, spelling out project expectations, establishing dates for power point presentations in , submission of power point presentations for assessment and grading((Based on student-teacher discussion and evaluation)

**Week 5: Research and preparation of PowerPoint's within the framework of the project expectations guide. .(This is a process that begins at the start of the semester)**

### **Week 6: Power point Presentations**

The art and material culture of the Bobo of West Africa and the Swazi of Southern Africa

### **Week 7: Power point Presentations**

The art and material culture of the Mossi of West Africa and the Zulu of Southern Africa

### **Week 8: Power point Presentations**

The art and material culture of the Lobi of West Africa and the Xhosa of Southern Africa

### **Week 9: Power point Presentations**

The art and material culture of the Fulani of West Africa and the Mandinka of West Africa

### **Week 10: Power point Presentations**

The art and material culture of the Ndebele of Southern Africa and the Senufo of West Africa

### **Week 11: Power point Presentations**

The art and material culture of the Nguni of Southern Africa and the Sotho of Southern Africa

#### **Week 12: Power point Presentations**

The art and material culture of the Chagga of Eastern Africa and the Nguni of Southern Africa

#### **Week 13: Discussions Week 14: Sit -in-test**

#### **Week 15: Revision and consultations with students Learning outcomes**

Upon completion of this course it is hoped that the students will be able to understand the importance of team play in order to fulfill any given task, manage their time responsibly knowing it is an indispensable resource and appreciate that shared knowledge makes for a more fulfilling learning environment. It is also hoped the students will have gained confidence and aptly display this when exercising communication skills and at the same time respecting the verbal contributions of other students. The students will have also acquired the technical competence to prepare and make a presentation using Microsoft Office PowerPoint

Upon completion of this course it is hoped that the students will be able to understand the important role that the internal and external factors played in determining the paths and boundaries that shaped and continue to shape the material culture of African societies, acknowledge the need for cultural preservation, adaptation, and documentation for cultural posterity in a global situation and become familiar and also informed about art and culture in all its richness and diversity so as to attach value, appreciation, tolerance and respect to all the worlds' cultures.

#### **Methods of Teaching/Delivery**

- The delivery methods will involve both the learner- centered and teacher- centered approaches.
- The course content will be conducted through lectures and student-group activities which will involve participatory dynamics (Team work)
- Lectures are presented by way of introductory sessions during the first few weeks of the Semester.
- Group activities entail producing PowerPoint Presentations and Video clips (Where applicable and possible)
- Students will involve themselves in research and comprehensive analysis of the material culture, political structures' and socio-religious phenomena that are typical of African Societies. (Determined by the course content)
- At the end of each PowerPoint presentation concluding remarks, added contributions, criticism and evaluation will be made by the course instructor and students. (Student- Teacher discussion)

#### **Mode of Assessment**

Course work (40%)

PowerPoint Project (35%)

Attendance (5%)

End of Semester Examination (60%)

Theory Examination 60%

Students are expected to have fulfilled all the requirements that make them eligible examinees and must also abide by the exam regulations at the time of sitting

Final total mark: 100% **Reading/ References Materials**

1. Gardner H (1996): Art Through the ages Ed 10. Brace and Company, Harcourt
2. Gombrich E.H (1995): The story of Art Ed 16. Phaid on Press London0
3. Janson H, W (1986): History of Art. Thames and Hudson London.
4. Gilbert R (2002) Living with art. Mc Graw Hill. New York
5. Osborn (1970) The Oxford Companion to art Oxford University press. Inc. New York.
6. Marcus Bach (1966): The Power of Perception. Doubleday and company, Inc., Garden City, New York, 1966.
7. Arnold Hauser: The Social History of Art (Roccoco, Classicism and Romanticism) Volume three.
8. Arnold Hauser: The Social History of Art (From Pre-historic times to the Middle Ages) Volume One.
9. Arnold Hauser: The Social History of Art (Renaissance, Mannerism and Baroque) Volume Two.
10. N H Freeman: Visual Order-The Nature and Development of Pictorial Representation. Cambridge University Press.
11. Johannes Itten (1963): Design and Form. Thames and Hudson.
12. Robert Brian (1980): Art and Society in Africa Longman.
13. Douglas Cooper (1970): The Cubist Epoch Phaidon Oxford.
14. Nikolaus Pevsner (1943): An Outline of European Architecture Penguin Books.
15. William Fagg and Margaret Plass (1964): African Sculpture -an Anthology Studio Vista/Dutton Picture Back.

16. Randall Haines: Design in Three Dimensions Davis Publications, Inc.
17. Ladislav Segy: African Sculpture Speak
18. The Royal Society of Arts Journal.
19. PhD Researches in Makerere University Main Library.
20. MA (FA) Researches in Makerere University Main Library.
21. News Papers in Makerere University Archives.
22. Under-Graduate Dissertations.
23. Primary Data through data gathering instruments like Focus Discussion Groups, Observation Guide, and Interview Guide etc.
24. Internet Sources.
25. Information recorded during study tours to Historical Sites .