

**ARTS 4371 –
Advanced Art History: Latin American Art**
Fall 2024, Friday 9:00am – 11:45am, N189

Instructor: Dr. Amy Von Lintel, Professor of Art History and Director of Gender Studies,
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Office Hours: Tues. 9:00am to 1:00pm; Thurs. 2:15 to 4:00pm, or by appointment

**preferred method of contact: email at the above address or through WTClass

Required Texts and Resources

Resources downloadable from WTClass

Course Description

This course will be an investigation into themes of Latin American Art, with a particular focus on the Hispanic art cultures of the Texas Panhandle and broader Southwest regions. Topics will include homelands and borderlands, Chicano art and identity, mural art, and more. This course is part of the curriculum for the Forgotten Frontera Grant received by the Center for Study of the American West (CSAW) from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).



Objectives/Student Learning Outcomes

- *Gain a complex understanding of Latin American art history
- *Recognize that this history is not a story of “elsewhere” but a story that belongs to our region, our university
- *Develop sensitivity to the complexity of the terms and histories that intersect with Latin American art
- *Develop critical thinking, writing and speaking skills in response to cultural objects and theory
- *Engage creatively with the materials of the class

The **Course Objectives** meet the following **Program Learning Outcomes**:

(1) Concept: Quality of Idea, Use of Theory; (2) Craft: Use of Media, Quality of Work; (3) Design: Use of Elements and Principles of Art (4) Professionalism: Quality of Presentation and Communication (5) Historical and Cultural Relevance. **This course is designed to meet numbers 1, 3, 4, and 5 of the above Learning Outcomes.**

Course Requirements and Evaluation

1. Attendance and Participation: (approx. 20%) This class will involve lectures, discussions, and site visits so student participation will be essential. During each class period, students will be asked to complete in-class assignments (such as individual or group writings) and participate in discussions. Those assignments will be given points in the gradebook so missing class will directly result in a lower grade. ****Because the class meets once per week, missing one class is like missing an entire week of class.** Being present and in attendance will be essential to success in this class.

2. Art Focus Project: (100 points) Students will select a focus artist from a list provided (or propose a different one to get approval from the professor). They will put together a 5-10 min. presentation on this artist to share with the class. This presentation will include an application of at least 3 readings or topics covered in class, plus 3 additional published resources on the chosen artist (which can include artist or museum websites, video interviews, online magazines or journal, as well as printed publications).

Presentation dates will be either Oct. 25 or Nov. 1.

3. Impress the Prof Project: Regional Murals - (100 points) Students will select at least one regional mural and will upload a statement on how this mural draws on the various Latin American art influences that we are studying in class. The deadline for this assignment is a rolling deadline throughout the semester, and students can turn in their statements to get points toward the 100 total for this assignment. If they receive less than 100 for one submission, they can continue to change or add onto their submission until they reach the total number of points (or even get extra credit if they continue to impress the professor!). **Dead Day is the Last Day to turn in these submissions.**

3. Final Project: (150 points) students will create a work of art or creative project that responds to how Latin American art has influenced our region and local area. This work can be a painting, drawing, sculpture, video production, performance art piece, etc. Students will present their project in place of a final exam on the assigned final exam date, **final class meeting of Friday Dec. 13 at 10:15 am.** and we will complete a peer review activity in response to everyone's project. Students must present an artist's statement with their project, explaining how they pulled from at least 3 readings we covered in class as inspiration for their project. Students will turn in a PROJECT PLAN for approval by the professor prior to beginning their project. **Plans are due NOV. 22**

Policies and Responsibilities

1. Attendance, Participation, and In-Class Assignments – This class will be organized as a discussion-based investigation of themes and ideas, rather than purely a lecture course. Therefore, **missing more than 33% (i.e. 5 days) of the class meetings with result in a failing grade.** Presence and participation are fundamental for this course. During each class period, students will be asked to participate in quizzes and/or discussions of required readings. Grades will be given for these in-class activities, so again missing class will directly affect a student's grade. **All readings are due to be discussed on the day they are assigned in the calendar below.**
2. Late Work Policy - Turning work in on time and fully completed at the deadline shows commitment, seriousness, and professionalism needed to achieve success during and after your time at WT. Late work will not be accepted for full credit, unless prior consent from the professor has been given, or with proof of a personal or family emergency. A loss of 10% of the assignment grade will be deducted for each day past the deadline that work is turned in. Always notify the professor when you have been absent to see if you can do makeup work or extra credit to replace missing grades.
3. Covid 19 Restrictions and Rules – While West Texas A&M University has relaxed Covid-19 restrictions, we encourage you to continue practicing healthy habits, including social distancing where possible, wearing a face-covering if you choose to do so, and staying home when sick.
4. Academic Integrity - All work must be completed individually unless otherwise stated. All work must also be honestly executed. Commission of any of the following acts shall constitute scholastic dishonesty and academic misconduct: acquiring or providing information for any assigned work or examination from any unauthorized source; providing dishonest information in your assignments; informing any person or persons of the contents of any examination prior to the time the exam is given in any subsequent sections of the course or as a makeup; submission of a paper or project that is substantially the same for two courses unless expressly authorized by the professor to do so; submission of a paper or project that is not your own work; disregarding the rules of examinations, such as bringing illicit notes or cheat sheets. **Plagiarism from other students, from published materials, and from websites will constitute cheating – this means pretending as if other people's words are your own. You may quote and cite your sources, but do not take credit for ideas that are not your own.** All resources used must be properly cited using an approved method of citation (Chicago Manual, MLA, APA). If you are having trouble, before risking your college career, email your professor and ask for help. For more information, see the Student Code of Life at <https://www.wtamu.edu/webres/File/Student%20Life/Code-of-Student-Life.pdf>
5. Generative AI - Generative artificial intelligence (Generative AI) is a computer-based technology that produces a variety of data, such as pictures, videos, music, or words, which may look or sound like a person made them. Generative AI tools appear to be created by humans because they are derived from deep machine learning routines and large language models based on algorithmic comprehension of materials created by humans. West Texas A&M University recognizes that generative AI presents challenges and simultaneously offers stimulating opportunities in higher education. West Texas A&M University offers faculty members the following choice of three distinct approaches to this complex challenge, but for this class here is the policy:

No Use of Generative AI Permitted—Because writing and critical thinking skills are part of the learning outcomes of this course, it is a violation of academic integrity to employ generative AI at any point in this course.

6. Acceptable Student Behavior - Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor's ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program ([Student Handbook](#)). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. Inappropriate behavior may result in disciplinary action or referral to the University's Behavioral Intervention Team. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

7. ADA Statement - West Texas A&M University seeks to provide reasonable accommodations for all qualified persons with disabilities. This University will adhere to all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to register with the Office of Student Accessibilityⁱ and to contact faculty members in a timely fashion to arrange for suitable accommodations. Contact Information: Student Success Center, CC 106; phone (806) 651-2335.

8. Evacuation Statement - If you receive notice to evacuate the building, please evacuate promptly but in an orderly manner. Evacuation routes are posted in various locations indicating all exits, outside-assemble area, location of fire extinguishers, fire alarm pull stations and emergency telephone numbers (651.5000 or 911). In the event an evacuation is necessary: evacuate immediately and do not use elevators; take all personal belongings with you; report to outside assembly area and wait for further information; students needing assistance in the evacuation process should bring this to the attention of the instructor at the beginning of the semester.

9. Title IX Statement - West Texas A&M University is committed to providing a learning, working and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect in an environment free of sexual misconduct and discrimination. Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, etc. Harassment is not acceptable. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources here:

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- WTAMU Title IX Coordinator – Old Sub, **or** call 806.651.2389
 - WTAMU Counseling Services – Classroom Center 116, **or** call 806.651.2340
 - WTAMU Police Department – 806.651.2300, **or** dial 911
 - 24-hour Crisis Hotline – 800.273.8255, **or** 806.359.6699, **or** 800.692.4039
[NotAlone](#)

For more information, see the [Student Handbook](#)ⁱⁱ.

10. Bigoted, discriminatory, or disrespectful behavior towards any individual or group of people will not be tolerated in this class.

Names and Pronouns: Should you wish to be called by a name other than the one on the official register, please notify the professor in whatever manner is most comfortable to you. Additionally, if you use specific pronouns for self-identification, please notify me of your desired pronouns.

11. Some content in this class will involve nudity and mature subject matter.

These aspects are an important part of the history of art and of any college-level art history class. If you do not feel comfortable with such material, you should select another course.

Copyright Statement

Copyright 2024 Amy Von Lintel as to this syllabus and all instructional material; materials may not be reproduced without the professors' written consent. Students are prohibited from selling (or being paid for taking) notes during this course to or by any person or commercial firm without the express permission.

Tentative Schedule of Class Meetings, Topics, Readings, and Due Dates

Week 1 - Introduction and Terminology

Aug. 30 – Reading: Max Benavidez, “The Roots of a Migrant Consciousness” in Cheech Marin, *Chicano Visions: American Painters on the Verge*, 2002, pp. 12-13

Field Trip: Cornette Library to see Caballero Panels

Week 2 – Borderlands and Homelands

Sept. 6 – Reading: Anzaldua, “The Homeland: Aztlán”; Oles, *Art and Architecture in Mexico*, 7-13; Constance Cortez, “Aztlán in Tejas: Chicano/Chicana Art from the Third Coast” in Marin, *Chicano Visions*, 32-42; Joel Zapata, “The Mexican Southern Plains: The Making of an Ethnic Mexican Homeland,” PhD Diss., SMU, 2019

Field Trip: PPHM Façade Discussion and murals discussion

Week 3 – Religion and Spirituality

Sept. 13 – Reading: Mabel Dodge Luhan book, several pages; Cheech Marin book, 20-21, 28-31, 35-36

Field Trip: PPHM Display outside Hazlewood Lecture Hall

Week 4 – Food and Fiesta

Sept. 20 – Reading: Fabiola Cabeza de Baca, *We Fed Them Cactus*, Sections on Food and Fiesta

Optional Pot Luck of Hispanic Foods

Week 5 – Gender, Labor, and Violence

Sept. 27 – Kerr and Hunt, “The Quitaque Killings”; Cabeza de Baca, *We Fed Them Cactus*, Sections on Violence; Tere Romo, “Mestiza Aesthetics and Chicana Painterly Visions,” in Marin, *Chicano Visions*, 22-31; Sections of Judith Baca, Laura Aguilar, and Linda Matalon from Harmony Hammond, *Lesbian Art in America: A Contemporary History*

Week 6 – Independent Work Week

Oct. 4 – NO CLASS MEETING – Dr. Von Lintel is at a conference

Week 7 – Chicano Art

Oct. 11 – Benavidez, “Chicano Art: Culture, Myth, and Sensibility,” in Cheech Marin, *Chicano Visions*, 11-21; Chavez Chapter in *Perpetual Mirage*; podcast on Zoot Suit Riots: <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/233-free-range-children/id1074507850?i=1000486606773>

Week 8 – Mural Art with Guest Lecture by Jon Revett

Oct. 18 – Benavidez, “The Precursors” in Cheech Marin, *Chicano Visions*, 13-15, 17; Excerpt from *Vida Americana* exhibition catalogue

Possible Field Trip: PPHM Mural by Blank Spaces

Week 9 – Presentations

Oct. 25 – Student Presentations

Week 10 – Presentations

Nov. 1 – Student Presentations

Week 11 –Focus Themes: Low Rider Art and Luis Jimenez

Nov. 8: various press releases for Low Rider Art shows within the last few years, links on WT Class

Week 12 – Visits to Amarillo Museum of Art with focus on Luis Jimenez and Site Visit to Downtown Amarillo to see Hoodoo Murals

Nov. 15: Meet at the WT Amarillo Center (Harrington Academic Hall) in downtown Amarillo, 720 S. Tyler St. at 9am

Week 13 – Guest Lecture with Leslie Moody-Castro on Latin American Contemporary Art

Nov. 22 – Meet in classroom for guest lecture

****FINAL PROJECT PLAN DUE**

Week 14 –THANKSGIVING BREAK, NO CLASS MEETINGS

Week 15 and 16

FINAL EXAM TIME - PEER REVIEW EVENT : Friday, Dec. 13 at 10:15 am

ⁱ <https://www.wtamu.edu/student-support/student-accessibility/index.html>

ⁱⁱ <https://www.wtamu.edu/student-life/handbook/index.html>