



ARTH214-001 Global Art History Study Tour 2020: Tanzania

Professor: Dr Jonathan Shirland
Email: jshirland@bridgew.edu

Cell: 617-959-6820
Office Hours: T/TH 9.30-10.30am
Tillinghast 205

Course Description

A broad range of topics in the history of art are studied in museums, architectural sites and related venues in culturally rich locations abroad. Preparatory class work is conducted on campus prior to travel and assignments are completed upon return. This course may be repeated once with different itineraries; instructor approval required.

Tanzania Study Tour Description

In this undergraduate study tour students learn about the art and culture of Tanzania, and East Africa more widely. Students work on a series of written and exhibition-based assignments based on experiences on the tour. Students work as an artist, teacher, curator, and as a community service provider. This is a unique opportunity for BSU students interested in learning about Tanzania through first-hand involvement in the community.

Objectives (Outcomes)

1. *Introduce and/or develop* skills within the visual and performing arts.
2. *Expand* knowledge of Tanzanian cultures (specifically Maasai, Makonde, Chagga, and Zanzibari).
3. *Develop* the ability to teach with limited resources.
4. *Investigate* the art and culture of Tanzania.
5. *Challenge* yourself to experience new cultures, environments and perspectives.
6. *Record* your experiences through writing and/or artworks.
7. *Develop* an exhibition for display on campus in 2020.

Requirements

1. **8-pages of written preparatory research.** Each student will complete a significant body of research to be prepared for the tour covering *major topics* related to Tanzania, including (but not limited to): history, culture, economics, health, environment, arts, geography and government. This writing will be developed through instructor feedback in two drafts.

3. **A written journal for the tour.** The journal is a major component of any person’s growth. You will keep a daily journal of your experiences, challenges, difficulties, failures, successes and thoughts while on the tour. Think of this less as an academic writing exercise and more as a way to reflect through writing and as documentation of your experiences.
4. **Materials for use in exhibition of Tanzanian culture.** The *student* will thoroughly research, and acquire an object/group of objects pertinent to Tanzanian culture and with instructor direction and peer collaboration organize an exhibit in the Maxwell Library, including all exhibition texts and curatorial decisions. You might select a sculpture, painting, mask, ceramic, jewelry, or textile. You will need to contextualize the object via a range of supporting materials including photographs of the object in cultural context/use, oral testimony based on interviews conducted by the student, plus secondary sources.
5. **8-page reflective/research paper.** Develop an eight-page paper based on your interests and related experiences on the study tour. You will not likely define your thesis until near the end of the trip. This writing will be developed through instructor feedback in two drafts.

Pre-Travel Meetings

We will meet as a group three times in order to prepare for the trip. This will give us the opportunity to discuss what you will need, information and getting to know your fellow travelers (location tbc)

Post-Travel Meetings: June, early September (Dates TBC)

Learning Methods

1. *Practice.* Students in this course primarily learn from actively engaging in the activities while on the tour. Students learn most by being open to the challenges presented to them while in the classroom and in cultural exchanges on the tour.
2. *Discussion.* Students develop their ability to discuss their topics on Tanzania and share them with the class to build group understanding.
3. *Writing.* Students develop a daily writing journal during the trip, topic research papers before the trip, and a final reflective/research paper after the trip.

Evaluation

Your grade is based on four equally weighted portions:

1. Preparatory Assignments	25%
Readings, quiz, summaries, responses and application of instructor and peer edits	
2. Participation	25%
Active engagement with culture and opportunities on the tour	
3. Reflective/Research Paper	25%
Completion of the research paper and application of instructor and peer edits	
4. Exhibition	25%
Successful presentation of objects in an exhibition in the Maxwell Library, BSU	

Course Texts

Students are directed to book excerpts and articles in order to build awareness of Tanzania and related topics on the tour. DO NOT purchase the following books—I will suggest books for purchase later. These readings include partial sections:

- General/Historical:** *Case for a Pardon: The Pete O'Neal Story*, Steve Penn
The Fate of Africa: A History of 50 Years of Independence, Martin Meredith
A Modern History of Tanganyika, John Iliffe
Ujamaa: Essays on Socialism, Julius Nyerere
Freedom and Socialism, Julius Nyerere
Africa's Liberation: The Legacy of Nyerere, Chambi Chacage & Annar Cassam
Taifa: Making Nation and Race in Urban Tanzania, James Brennan
In Search of a Nation: Histories of Authority & Dissidence in Tanzania (ed) Gregory Maddox
Imagining Serengeti: A History of Landscape Memory in Tanzania, Jan Bender Shetler
Performing the Nation: Swahili Music and Cultural Politics in Tanzania, Kelly Askew
Performance and Politics in Tanzania: The Nation on Stage, Laura Edmondson
Street Dreams and Hip Hop Barbershops: Global Fantasy in Urban Tanzania, Brad Weiss
Bodies, Politics and African Healing: The Matter of Maladies in Tanzania, Stacey Langwick
'Inventing Nationalism: The Use of Education and the Arts to Create a National Identity in Post-Colonial Tanzania', Directed Study Project 2014, Caitlin Sheehan
- Travel Guides** *Tanzania (Lonely Planet Country Guide)*, Mary Fitzpatrick
The Rough Guide to Tanzania, Jens Finke & Henry Stedman
The Rough Guide to Zanzibar, Jens Finke
- Non-Fiction/
Travel writing** *The Tree Where Man Was Born*, Peter Matthiessen
North of South, Shiva Naipaul
The Shadow of Kilimanjaro: On Foot Across East Africa, Rick Ridgeway
Memoirs of an Arabian Princess from Zanzibar, Emily Ruete Sayyida
The Worlds of a Maasai Warrior, Tepilit Ole Saitoti
Our House in Arusha, Sara Tucker
The Luckiest Bastard, Queen Banda (BSU Student!)
- Fiction** *Village in Uhuru*, Gabriel Ruhumbika
Dying in the Sun, Peter Palangyo
Paradise, Abdulrazak Gurnah
The Book of Secrets, M. G. Vassanji
A Girl Called Problem, Katie Quirk
The Gathering Storm, Hamza Sokko

Art History:

Shangaa-Art of Tanzania, (ed) Gary van Wyk
'Review of Shangaa-Art of Tanzania', *African Arts* Spring 2015, Jonathan Shirland
From Ritual to Modern Art: Tradition and Modernity in Tanzania Sculpture, (ed) Manfred Ewel
Art in Eastern Africa, (ed) Marion Arnold
Tingatinga: Kitsch or Quality, Tine Thorup & Sam Cuong
Africa's Vanishing Art: The Rock Paintings of Tanzania, Mary Leakey
Beads of Life: Eastern & Southern African Beadwork, Marie-Louise Labelle
Being Maasai: Ethnicity and Identity in East Africa, eds. Richard Waller & Thomas Spear
A Host of Devils: The History and Context of the Making of Makonde Spirit Sculpture, Zachary Kingdon
Mwana Hiti: Life and Art of the Matrilineal Bantu of Tanzania, Marc Leo Felix
The Cast-Off Recast: Recycling and the Creative Transformation of Mass-Produced Objects, Timothy Correll
Early Art and Architecture of Africa, Peter Garlake
Selected Articles on Tanzanian visual culture from the journal *African Arts*

Academic Integrity

A student must complete all the coursework individually unless directed otherwise. All sources of inspiration and/or origin should be divulged in writing or orally during critique. If you plagiarize, you fail the assignment.

Communication

You must maintain good correspondence with me before, during and (to a lesser degree) after the trip. Should troubles arise you must keep me informed so that I can help resolve problems quickly and efficiently. If for any reason you begin to have doubts (which are common for students having a first-time, travel abroad experience) you need to communicate these fears with me so that I can answer all questions.

Blackboard Site **ARTH214-001 Tanzania Study Tour**

Facebook Page <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Tanzania-Study-Tour/160072944050538>

Some Other Useful Websites:

United African Alliance Community Center
Documentary about Mama Charlotte
Documentary about Pete O'Neal
Tanzania Daily News

<http://www.uaacc.habari.co.tz>
<http://www.mamacurbanwarriorfilm.com>
<http://www.pbs.org/pov/apantherinafrica/>
<http://www.dailynews.co.tz>