

Semester at Sea, Course Syllabus
Colorado State University, Academic Partner

Voyage:	Spring 2017
Discipline:	Apparel and Merchandising
Course Number and Title:	AM 460 Historic Textiles
Division:	Upper
Faculty Name:	Mary Littrell
Semester Credit Hours:	3

Prerequisites: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Textiles provide a window to the history, culture, and contemporary life of diverse societies around the world. We will explore how textile traditions have evolved, particularly as related to trade routes, raw material availability, modes of production, enterprise scale, societal organization, religion, and ritual celebrations. We will investigate answers to these questions: From where did the vibrant reds and deep blues used in textiles originate? How does motif symbolism vary across the world? Who is allowed and not allowed or encouraged to learn a textile craft? What factors contribute to the sustainability of some of the world's most exciting textile traditions? Our ports of call offer opportunities to examine first-hand some of the world's finest resist-dyed, block printed, woven, embroidered, beaded, and quilted textile traditions in Asian and African countries. An initial overview to textile fibers, dyes, and fabrications will provide needed background for class investigations.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Understand methods of textile design and production as they progressed historically and within diverse cultures.
2. Analyze relationships between methods of textile design and production in various geographic settings and across time as related to:
 - technological innovations,
 - manipulative processes,
 - environmental factors,
 - trade routes,
 - socio-economic conditions, and
 - cultural practices.
3. Evaluate the evolution of textiles as an art form.
4. Develop a working vocabulary of textile processes and motifs used during various historical periods.
5. Understand basic preservation techniques for the care, handling, exhibition, and interpretation of historic textiles.
6. Identify, interpret, and document the historic and cultural origin of pattern, motif, form, and process as applied to selected contemporary textiles.
7. Assess the challenges and opportunities for global textile artisans to maintain their living textile craft traditions and to participate in the global marketplace.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

AUTHOR: Harris, Jennifer
 TITLE: *5000 Years of Textiles*
 PUBLISHER: Smithsonian Books
 ISBN #: 978-1-58834-307-9
 DATE/EDITION: 2010

TOPICAL OUTLINE OF COURSE**Depart Ensenada—January 5****B1—January 8:**

Topic	Textile Spotlight	Reading	Other
Course Introduction Semester Assignments		Text: Introduction	

B2— January 10:

Topic	Textile Spotlight	Reading	Other
Weaving, Tapestry, Rug Weaving		Text: I. 1, I. 2, I. 3	

Honolulu—January 12**B3— January 13:**

Topic	Textile Spotlight	Reading	Other
Dyeing, Printing		Text: I. 6	

B4—January 15**B5—January 18**

Topic	Textile Spotlight	Reading	Other
Japanese Textiles	Indigo Shibori Film: Blue Alchemy: Stories of Indigo	Text: II. 15	

No class January 19

B6—January 21:

Topic	Textile Spotlight	Reading	Other
Museums: Conservation,		<u>Intranet:</u> <i>National Park Service Museum Handbook:</i>	Overview of Independent Field

Exhibition & Interpretation		Parts A, D, J, K, L	Assignment: Museums
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B7—January 23:

Topic	Textile Spotlight	Reading	Other
Chinese Textiles	Silk Shoes	Text: Il. 14	

Kobe – January 24 - 28**B8—January 30:**

Topic	Textile Spotlight	Reading	Other
Chinese Textiles continued	Minority Group Textiles	Text: Il. 14	Overview of Independent Field Assignment: Design Application

Shanghai – January 31 – February 5**B9—February 7:**

Topic	Textile Spotlight	Reading	Other
Southeast Asia: Indonesian Textiles	Indonesian Ikat	Text: Il. 16, 161-164	

B10—February 9:

Topic	Textile Spotlight	Reading	Other
India & Pakistan	India Ajrakh Pakistan Ralli Quilts	Text: Il. 11, Il. 12, Il. 26	

Ho Chi Minh City – February 10-14**B11— February 16:**

Topic	Textile Spotlight	Reading	Other
Myanmar textiles, Artisan Enterprise Challenges	Chin Textiles	Text: Il.16, Il. 16, 153-159 <u>Intranet</u> : Littrell, M.A., and Dickson, M.A. Artisan enterprises.	

No Class - February 17**B12— February 19:**

Topic	Textile Spotlight	Reading	Other
Exam #1			Review Field Class

Preparation for Field Class in Yangon			Assignment for Yangon
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Yangon – February 20-24

B13– February 26:

Topic	Textile Spotlight	Reading	Other
Field Class Discussion Indian Textiles continued	Embroidery Film: Needlecraft: A Way of Life	<u>Intranet</u> : Edwards, E. <i>Marriage and dowry customs of the Rabari of Kutch: Evolving traditions.</i>	

B14–February 28:

Topic	Textile Spotlight	Reading	Other
Indian Textiles continued	Bandhani Sari		Field Class Assignment for Yangon due. Discuss Independent Field Assignment: Design Analysis opportunities in Cochin

Cochin – March 1-6

B15– March 8:

Topic	Textile Spotlight	Reading	Other
Embroidery: Palestine and Afghanistan	Afghan Khamak	Text: I. 4, II. 10, II. 24, 205-216	

B16–March 11:

Topic	Textile Spotlight	Reading	Other
Ottoman Empire and Central Asian Textiles	Suzani Ikat Chopan Felting	Text: I.9, II. 8, II. 9	Independent Field Assignment due: Museums

Port Louis, Mauritius – March 12

B17–March 14:

Topic	Textile Spotlight	Reading	Other
Latin American Textiles	Guatemalan Huipil Peru Knitted Jats Mexican Rebozo	Text: I. 7, II. 31 <u>Intranet</u> : Abbott, J., Opposing Corporate Theft of	Independent Field Assignment due: Design Analysis #1

		Mayan Textiles	
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No Class – March 15

B18—March 17:

Topic	Textile Spotlight	Reading	Other
North American Textiles	Northern New Mexico weaving <u>Film</u> : Woven Stories: Weaving Traditions of Northern New Mexico	Text: Il. 29-30	

Cape Town—March 19-24

B19—March 25:

Topic	Textile Spotlight	Reading	Other
European Silks: Italy, Spain, France	A Perfect Red	Text: Il. 20, 21, 22	

B20—March 27:

Topic	Textile Spotlight	Reading	Other
African textiles	Kente, Adinkra	Text: Il. 33	

No Class – March 29

B21—March 30:

Topic	Textile Spotlight	Reading	Other
African textiles continued	Wax and Fancy Prints	<u>Intranet</u> : Gott, S. (2010). The Ghanaian kaba.	Discuss Independent Field Assignment: Design Analysis opportunities in Accra

Tema – March 31-April 3

B22—April 5:

Topic	Textile Spotlight	Reading	Other
Eastern European textiles		Text: Il. 27, 28	

B23–April 7:

Topic	Textile Spotlight	Reading	Other
Eastern European Textiles continued	Macedonian Folk Textiles & Costume		

B24–April 9:

Topic	Textile Spotlight	Reading	Other
Oral Reports: Design Analysis #2 Review for Exam #2			Independent Field Assignment due: Design Analysis #2

Study Day – April 10**Casablanca – April 11-April 14****B25 Finals – April 16:**

Topic	Textile Spotlight	Reading	Other
Exam #2			

Arrive Hamburg–April 19**FIELD WORK**

Field Class attendance is mandatory for all students enrolled in this course. Do not book individual travel plans or a Semester at Sea sponsored trip on the day of your field class. Field Classes constitute at least 20% of the contact hours for each course, and will be developed and led by the instructor.

FIELD CLASS AND ASSIGNMENT

The Field Class for this course will take place on Tuesday, February 21, in Yangon, Myanmar.

Field Class Title: Textile Traditions in Myanmar**Field Class Description**

In this field class, we have been invited to meet with the founders and leaders of two textile groups in Yangon that are making significant contributions to the maintenance and innovation of Myanmar textile traditions. We will have opportunities for lively discussion with our hosts about factors that contribute to and inhibit evolution of the traditions. At the first visit to the Yoyamay Textile Gallery, Khun Shwe and Pa Mang will introduce us to the subtle differences in the textiles from various ethnic groups in Myanmar and discuss product development for international markets. At the second visit, Mai NiNi Aung, Mai Nilar Win, and their family will welcome us to their Son-Tu Showroom where they are focused on revival of the richly colored, highly symbolic weavings of the Chin people in northern Myanmar. In between the two gallery

visits, there will be time to browse the many retail stalls carrying textiles and other Myanmar crafts in the large Bogyoke Market. Lunch will be taken at a local Yangon restaurant. The day will end with a visit at dusk to the spectacular Schwedagon pagoda complex, to assess the extensive use and functions that textiles play in Buddhist practice and to view sunset over the golden pagoda spires.

Field Class Objectives

1. Understand textile design, production, use, and meaning of woven textiles for the Chin people of Myanmar.
2. Compare and contrast the approaches of two textile development organizations for reviving and promoting textiles within Myanmar and in the global market.
3. Become familiar with textiles in the many retail stalls of a large market catering to tourists.
4. Assess the contributions that textiles make toward the setting and environment of Buddhist temples.

Field Class Assignment

Students will submit a 4-5 page reflective paper that discusses: 1) challenges and opportunities for maintenance of Myanmar textile traditions, 2) fabrication technology and design details of two textiles of the student's choice, 3) approaches to product development for external markets, and 4) the role of textiles in a Buddhist pagoda complex. Students will be expected to integrate assigned readings prior to the field class with the discussions among our Myanmar hosts and from the visit to a Buddhist pagoda. Photo documentation will be expected to support the paper. The field assignment will be evaluated for thoroughness and careful analysis of discussion and photo-documentation.

INDEPENDENT FIELD ASSIGNMENTS

Museum Explorations

Students will visit two museums, one each in two different ports. A list of museums that have textile and costume exhibitions will be distributed before reaching Japan. A worksheet will be provided for photo and written documentation of the exhibitions related to: a) preservation methods (lighting, temperature, cleanliness, etc.) b) interpretation methods, and c) overall effectiveness. A written paper will be submitted that compares and contrasts the museums on a list of topics provided by the instructor and discussed in class. This assignment can be completed individually or in teams of two. If a team, both members of the team must visit both museums. The assignment will be evaluated for thoroughness in discussing the topics provided and in photo-documentation support of the museum assessments.

Contemporary Applications of Historic Textile Design

Students will photo document and analyze two examples, one in each of two different ports, for application of historical/cultural textiles (processes or motifs) in contemporary clothing or textiles. For each example, a written analysis will be submitted that provides photo and written examination of the contemporary textiles/clothing using topics provided by the instructor and discussed in class. Students will present an oral report for one of their designs. Suggestions for opportunities to carry out the assignment will be offered by the instructor. The assignment

will be evaluated for thoroughness in discussing the topics provided and in photo-documentation support of the assessments.

METHODS OF EVALUATION / GRADING SCALE

Components	
Museum Explorations Paper	20%
Contemporary Textile Applications: 1@10%, 1@15% (includes oral presentation)	25%
Field Class Reflective Paper	15%
Exam #1	20%
Exam #2	20%
Total	100%

The following Grading Scale is utilized for student evaluation. Pass/Fail is not an option for Semester at Sea coursework. Note that C-, D+ and D- grades are also not assigned on Semester at Sea in accordance with the grading system at Colorado State University (the SAS partner institution).

Pluses and minuses are awarded as follows on a 100% scale:

<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Satisfactory/Poor</u>	<u>Failing</u>
97-100%: A+	87-89%: B+	77-79%: C+	Less than 60%: F
94-96%: A	84-86%: B	70-76%: C	
90-93%: A-	80-83%: B-	60-69%: D	

ATTENDANCE/ENGAGEMENT IN THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Attendance in all Semester at Sea classes is mandatory, but it is at the instructor's discretion to assign a grade to the participation and attendance requirement.

Students must inform their instructors prior to any unanticipated absence and take the initiative to make up missed work in a timely fashion. Instructors must make reasonable efforts to enable students to make up work which must be accomplished under the instructor's supervision (e.g., examinations, laboratories). In the event of a conflict in regard to this policy, individuals may appeal using established CSU procedures.

LEARNING ACCOMMODATIONS

Semester at Sea provides academic accommodations for students with diagnosed learning disabilities, in accordance with ADA guidelines. Students who will need accommodations in a class, should contact ISE to discuss their individual needs. Any accommodation must be discussed in a timely manner prior to implementation. A memo from the student's home institution verifying the accommodations received on their home campus is required before any accommodation is provided on the ship. Students must submit this verification of accommodations pre-voyage as soon as possible, but no later than December 15, 2016 to academic@isevoyages.org.

STUDENT CONDUCT CODE

The foundation of a university is truth and knowledge, each of which relies in a fundamental manner upon academic integrity and is diminished significantly by academic misconduct. Academic integrity is conceptualized as doing and taking credit for one's own work. A pervasive attitude promoting academic integrity enhances the sense of community and adds value to the educational process. All within the University are affected by the cooperative commitment to academic integrity. All Semester at Sea courses adhere to this Academic Integrity Policy and Student Conduct Code.

Depending on the nature of the assignment or exam, the faculty member may require a written declaration of the following honor pledge: "I have not given, received, or used any unauthorized assistance on this exam/assignment."

RESERVE BOOKS AND FILMS FOR THE LIBRARY

AUTHOR: Gott, S., & Loughran, K. (Eds.)
 TITLE: Contemporary African Fashion
 PUBLISHER: Indiana University Press
 ISBN #: 978-0-253-22256-5
 DATE/EDITION: 2010

FILMS TO BE SHOWN IN CLASS

Blue Alchemy: Stories of Indigo
 Needlecraft: A Way of Life
 Woven Stories: Weaving Traditions of Northern New Mexico

ELECTRONIC COURSE MATERIALS

AUTHOR: National Park Service
 ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Part I: Museum Collections (available online as a pdf)
 JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Appendix K
 DATE:
 PAGES: Parts A, D, J, K, L

AUTHOR: Littrell, M.A., and Dickson, M.A.
 ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Artisan Enterprises (section of a chapter)
 JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: *Artisans and Fair Trade: Crafting Development*
 DATE: 2010, Sterling, VA: Kumarian Press
 PAGES: 42-50

AUTHOR: Edwards, E.
 ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Marriage and dowry customs of the Rabari of Kutch: Evolving traditions
 JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: *Wedding Dress across Cultures*. Eds. Foster, H, and Johnson, D.C
 DATE: 2003, Oxford: Berg

PAGES: 67-83

AUTHOR: Gott, S.
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: The Ghanaian kaba
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Contemporary African fashion
DATE: 2010, Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press
PAGES: 11-27

AUTHOR: Abbott, J.
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Opposing Corporate Theft of Mayan Textiles, Weavers Appeal to Guatemala's High Court.

www.truth-out.org/news/item/37213-opposing-corporate-theft-of-mayan-textiles-weavers-appeal-to-guatemala-s-high-court