



SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION, CINEMATIC AND CREATIVE ARTS

COURSE: ANM 4015: AESTHETICS OF THE AFRICAN STORY

FACULTY: Moses Kevin Wamalwa

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Course Introduction:

The course consists an interrogation of the Pre-colonial, colonial and Post-colonial discourses on the African Story aesthetics. It closely examines the Western perception of the (Story) of the 'Other'. It includes a discussion on the philosophical, scientific, anthropological and literary discourses employed in the defination, categorization and criticism of the African (story). Concepts like primitivism, animism, totemic, and communalism in reference to the African Story will be interrogated. Finally the course will delve into the issue of how the african story aesthetics may and does manifest within modern and technology based media such as, Film animation, the novel, radio, television, the cyberspace (Internet) and other such emerging artforms (Media forms).

Course Description

This course purposes to help a student articulate an identity in a world of Story telling specific to Africa, appreciating acutely the diversities that obtain within the African continent and its diasporic communities that of necessity gives forth to diverse worldviews and diverse and ever growing curation of new media technologies that have and conitinue to impact Africa's Story telling ecology.

Prerequisite: None

Link to University Mission Outcomes

This course is expected to help students develop skills in higher order thinking, global understanding, and multicultural perspective in the students. It is expected to develop proficiency in literacy, preparation for future careers in Film Animation, and the ability in the learners to serve the community.

The mission of the Bachelor of Arts in Film Animation will be to prepare students for the rigors of the creative industry by developing their intellectual, managerial, creative, analytical and practical skills to successfully function as professionals and team players in the film industry.

Course learning Outcomes

By the end of this course students should be able to;

1. Identify Exclusionary terms used with reference to the African Story (art)
2. Capture and represent the African story in emerging new media including the animation artform
3. Efficiently analyze African Aesthetics within the African Story as impacted by new media

Course Content

Week 1

Introduction to the course

Definition of Key concepts and movements; Art, discourse, aesthetics, Other, primitivism, animism.....

Readings:

Week 2

Political Phases in the Development of African Story

- Pre-colonial, Colonial and Post-colonial

Readings:

Week 3

The African Story heritage

- the nature of the african story

African story and intergration

Story and apprenticeship

resource material in african story

Readings:

Week 4

Aesthetics in African Story

- *African Artforms*

Readings:

Week 5

The politics of language in the African Story

Wole Soyinka

Chinua Achebe

Ngugi Wa Thiong'o

Readings:

Week 6

Negritude perspective and Black aesthetics

Readings:

Week 7

MID SEMESTER EXAMS

Week 8

Functionalism in the African story

Readings:

Week 9

Patronage in African story

Readings:

Week 10

African story Aesthetics, technology and economy

Readings:

Week 11

Contemporary issues in the African Story

Kenya and Nigeria as a case studies

Readings:

Week 12

African story aesthetics in the global village; The cyberspece

Readings:

Week 13

Class presentations

Readings:

Week 14

FINAL EXAMS

Teaching Methodology

The student will attend lectures and participate in discussions on assigned readings, group work, case studies, class presentation, expert interactions and field trips

Blackboard will be used as a learning management system to support project teams (groups), sharing of information, weekly slides, important dates, assignments, and other information about the course, as well as the facilitation of interaction among students on topics related to the course. Note that for every one (1) hour of contact, you can expect to do 3 hours of reading and preparation work on your own.

Class attendance is mandatory unless in the case of an avoidable issue in which case permission should be dully obtained. Class attendance and assignments will count as part of the final examination total mark for the course. Any student who miss more than 25% of lectures will get an “F” grade.

All assignments and exercises MUST be submitted before the expiry of stipulated time. No make-up assignments or exams will be offered. The evaluation due dates are as follows.....

Course Evaluation

Class attendance and participation 5%

Story reviews (2 Assignments) 20%
CAT 10%
Group work and presentation (Term paper) 15%
Mid Semester Exam 20%
End of semester Exam 30%

Grading System

90% -100% Grade A
87%-89% Grade A-
84%-86% Grade B+
80%-83% Grade B
77%-79% Grade B-
74%-76% Grade C+
70%-73% Grade C
67%-69% Grade C-
64%-66% Grade D+
62%-63% Grade D
60%-61% Grade D-
0%-59% Grade F

Course Text and Other recommended texts

1. Myth in Africa; A study of its Aesthetic and Cultural relevance; Isidore Okpewho (Nathan Hare)
2. Oral Literature in Africa; World Oral Literature Series, Vol. I; Ruth Finnigan; Open Book Publishers