COURSE DESCRIPTION:
ARH/AFAS 339 is an introductory survey providing a selective overview of African arts, societies, and culture and individual African American artists/styles/movements. We will cover African kingdoms, slavery, reconstruction, the Harlem Renaissance, civil rights, modern, and contemporary developments in African, African-American, and African Diaspora arts. We stress critical reading, analysis, and writing.

We will begin with an overview of arts, societies, and cultures of Africa. This is followed by the exploration of the experiences of slavery as they relate to the early African American traditions in woodcarving, ironwork, pottery, architecture, quilt making, and basketry. We conclude by sampling the African American creative products that western art historians have called the “fine” arts of easel painting, murals, sculpture, photography, and architecture starting from the 18th century to the present. This semester our class will include 2 required
field trips to the University of Arizona Museum of Art to view the sculpture of El Anatsui (a contemporary African artist) and to attend a lecture ON NOVEMBER 14, 4 P.M. by Dr. O: Contemporary African Arts: Global Dialogues.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY:
ARH/AFAS 339 is an art history class—slide/power point lectures/conversations, required readings, field trips, and film/videos will comprise examination content. A comprehensive study guide will be posted on EREs 7 days before the electronic exams.

REQUIRED TEXT BOOKS AVAILABLE IN THE UA BOOKSTORE:

REQUIRED ELECTRONIC SOURCE AVAILABLE, MAIN LIBRARY:

REQUIRED READINGS ON E-RESERVES (CLASS SCHEDULE)

FIRST CLASS PROJECT: Please bring an August 2007 article (web, newspaper, journal, magazine) on Africana arts, for discussion Thursday 8/23/07. PLEASE WRITE YOUR NAME ON THE ARTICLE.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
1. Provide an unbiased, culturally relative foundation essential for understanding African, African American and African Diaspora arts (hereafter Africana arts) in their historical and cultural contexts.
2. Develop visual literacy skills and the ability to identify, describe, and analyze Africana arts.
3. Refine critical thinking, analytical, reading, and writing skills.

FINAL GRADING DISTRIBUTION/ASSIGNMENTS:
1. Attendance at all scheduled lectures and field trips, courtesy (no excessive talking, no cell phones, electronics, etc.) 20%
   (EACH STUDENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SIGNING DAILY ATTENDANCE SHEETS)
2. Field Trip Paper – Due December 4 IN CLASS 20%
3. Short writing assignments in & out of class; discussion 15%
4. Exam 1 (see schedule on EREs) 25%
5. Final Exam, 2 – 4 PM, Thursday, Dec. 13 ‘07 20%