**AH 393/592. Arts of Teotihuacan and the Maya**  
Undergraduate / Graduate Seminar  
Mondays and Wednesdays, 8:30-9:45am  
Carlos Hall 212  

**Professor:** Dr. Megan O’Neil  
Emory University, Department of Art History  
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Office hours: Mondays 3:00-4:00, Wednesdays 10:00-11:00, or by appointment  

**Course Description:** This course explores the city of Teotihuacan in Central Mexico and the Classic-period Maya civilization of the southern Maya lowlands, studying the artistic and architectural traditions of both regions and examining evidence for artistic exchange and political connections between these civilizations.  

**Course Requirements:** Attendance; Weekly Readings; Reading Responses; Short Papers; Research Paper and Presentation. Additional Meetings, Readings, and Assignments for Graduate Students will be announced.  

**Grading (total 100%):** Reading Responses: 10%; Short Paper # 1: 15%; Short Paper # 2: 20%; Class Participation: 15%; Research presentation: 5%; Research Paper: 35%. All assignments must be completed in order to pass the class.  

**Weekly Readings:** Reading of assigned texts (listed in “Schedule”) is required and will give you the necessary background for participating in class and completing assignments. Please complete the readings BEFORE the class in which it is listed.  

- **Book (at B&N at Emory Bookstore; on Reserve at Woodruff Library):**  
- **Articles and Book Chapters (listed below) available in online course reserves.**
Writing Assignments: I will give detailed instructions in class for each of these assignments. Assignments must be turned in on time; for each 24-hour period an assignment is late, one half grade will be deducted. Appropriate medical and family excuses must be provided to establish new dates for assignments.

- **Reading Responses:** Weekly Reading Responses are required (submission information TBA). Write a one-paragraph response to one assigned reading. Evaluate arguments or respond to any aspect of the reading and write one question for class discussion.

- **Two Short Papers:** Two short essays are required. Specific instructions given in class.
  - Short Paper # 1 (2 pages, typed and double-spaced) (due Sept. 12, in class).

- **Research Paper:** One research paper (15 pages, typed and double-spaced) is required. You will complete the project in the following stages:
  - Paper topic (one paragraph): paper copy due October 24, in class.
  - Rough draft: paper copy due November 14, in class.
  - Research Presentations: December 10, in class.

Class Participation: All students should come to seminar each week with ideas, questions, and topics to discuss related to the weekly readings.

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance: Students are expected to attend all class sessions. If you are not able to attend a session, please make arrangements with another student to get notes and announcements. Because this is a seminar, excessive absences will result in a lower grade.

Cell phones, laptops, and other electronic devices: Cell phones must be turned OFF during class. You are welcome to use an electronic device for note-taking, but please focus on class materials so as not to distract yourself or others. Texting, emailing, and web browsing are not allowed in class.

Honor Code: Familiarize yourself with Emory’s Honor Code regarding plagiarism and academic integrity. There is zero tolerance for cheating and plagiarism in this course. If you have questions about what constitutes cheating or plagiarism, please consult your professor.

Office of Accessibility Services: Emory provides all persons an equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs and services afforded to others. Students needing accommodations for this course are encouraged to see Professor O’Neil as soon as possible in the semester (and at least one week before the test or assignment due date). Students must also register with Emory’s Office of Accessibility Services; see http://accessibility.emory.edu/students/new-to-oas/registering.html.

Religious Accommodations: Any student who is absent because of his or her religious beliefs will be given an opportunity to make up examination, study, or work requirements. As soon as possible (and at least one week in advance), please inform me of religious observances that are likely to conflict directly with this class so that we can make any necessary accommodations.

Office hours: Mondays 3:00-4:00, Wednesdays 10:00-11:00, or by appointment. If you are having problems or want to discuss any aspect of the course, please see me during office hours or make an appointment. Email is a good way to communicate with me for brief questions.
Schedule of Topics and Readings
*Additional Meetings, Readings, and Assignments for Graduate Students will be announced.*

Weds. 8/29   Introduction to the Maya and Teotihuacan

Weds. 9/5   Maya Deities and Origin Myths

Mon. 9/10   Introduction to Maya Writing

Weds. 9/12   Painting the Cave of Sustenance at the Preclassic Maya Site of San Bartolo
   **Short Paper # 1, due September 12. Bring paper copy to start of class.**

Mon. 9/17   Early Classic Maya Sculpture and Architecture
   ➢ Miller and O’Neil. *Maya Art and Architecture*, pp.46-57, pp.112-121;

Weds. 9/19   Architecture and Cosmos at Teotihuacan

Mon. 9/24   Feathered Serpent Pyramid at Teotihuacan
   ➢ Taube, Karl A. The Temple of Quetzalcoatl and the Cult of Sacred War at Teotihuacan. *RES: Anthropology and Aesthetics* 21:53-87 (Spring, 1992);
Weds. 9/26  “Tlalocan,” the Tunnel Under the Feathered Serpent Pyramid

Mon. 10/1  Moon Pyramid at Teotihuacan

Weds. 10/3  Sun Pyramid at Teotihuacan
➢ Heyden, Doris. An Interpretation of the Cave Underneath the Pyramid of the Sun in Teotihuacan, Mexico. *American Antiquity* 40(2):131-147 (1975);
** Short Paper # 2, due October 3. Bring paper copy to start of class**

Weds. 10/10  Teotihuacan Apartment Compounds

Mon. 10/15  Maya at Teotihuacan

Weds. 10/17  Mythological Narratives in Teotihuacan Painted Murals and Vessels

**Mon. 10/22  Teotihuacan Writing and Images**

**Weds. 10/24  Teotihuacan in the Peten: Tikal**

**Paper Topic due October 24. Bring paper copy to start of class**

**Mon. 10/29  Teotihuacan in the Peten: Holmul and La Sufricaya**

**Weds. 10/31  Teotihuacan and Copan**

**Mon. 11/5  Class visit to Michael C. Carlos Museum: Maya and Teotihuacan Ceramics**
Weds. 11/7   Flower Mountain
➢ Taube, Karl A. Flower Mountain: Concepts of Life, Beauty, and Paradise among the Classic Maya. RES: Anthropology and Aesthetics 45:69-98 (Spring, 2004);

Mon. 11/12   Teotihuacan and the Pacific Coast
➢ Berlo, Janet Catherine. Art historical approaches to the Study of Teotihuacán-Related Ceramics from Escuintla, Guatemala. New Frontiers in the Archaeology of the Pacific Coast of Southern Mesoamerica, ed. F. Bove and L. Heller, pp.147-165. Arizona State University (1989);

Weds. 11/14   Fall of Teotihuacan

***Research Paper Draft due November 14. Bring paper copy to start of class. ***

Mon. 11/19   Late Classic Maya and the Memory of Teotihuacan: Piedras Negras

Weds. 11/21: No class. Individual meetings about Research Papers (to be scheduled)

Mon. 11/26   Teotihuacan War Serpent at Tikal and Yaxchilan
➢ Martin, Simon and Nikolai Grube. Chronicle of the Maya Kings and Queens, pp. TBA.

Weds. 11/28   Dynastic Architecture of Copan Temples 16 and 26
➢ Miller and O’Neil. Maya Art and Architecture, pp.73-78.

**Mon. 12/3  Kaanul (Snake Kingdom)**  
➢ Additional Reading TBA.

**Weds. 12/5  Life Histories of Rulers, Buildings, and Sculptures Among Late Classic Maya**  

**Mon. 12/10  Research Presentations**  
***Research Paper due December 10. Bring paper copy to start of class***