



### **SYLLABUS**

***Subject name: Art and Anthropology***

***Subject code: EKAN116***

***Responsible lecturer:***

***Type: lecture***

***Level: BA/ MA***

***Credit: 2***

#### **Course description:**

The „Art and Anthropology” is dedicated to the study of art in different human groups, not only through the study of collections and descriptions of art, but also through field research. The researchers are looking for answers to a number of questions, including the following: 1. What is considered to be beautiful by a particular group of people? 2. What is the studied groups own interpretation of their art? 3. How dose a group interpret an others concept of beauty and what criteria is being used in this classification? The aim of the course is the introduction and analysis of the "components" of art (cultural embeddedness, socio-economic and ideological contexts, symbolic transformation, aesthetic experience, creative playfulness etc.) among tribal and “civilized” societies with the help of examples

#### **Course outline:**

Arts as a cultural category (aesthetic and function); Tribal art (ethno-aesthetics) and anthropology; Principle criteria: technology, tradition, creativity; Art and Context: Myths and rituals; Genres: graphic and plastic arts, verbal arts, music, dance, drama and body decoration; Old and New Art: examples from America, Africa, Australia and Europe; Contemporary art and anthropology: I. The roots; Contemporary art and anthropology: II. Search for Myths and ritualization

#### **Assessment:**

The students receive their grade based on their performance at the written or oral exam at the end of the semester. Home assignments might replace the exam if the instructor indicates such an option on the first lecture and in the syllabus on Coospace. If the instructor sets dates for in-

class test writing at the beginning of the semester, writing the tests is mandatory – upon failing to comply with this requirement the instructor may refuse to give a grade. The instructor is responsible for clarifying the requirements at the beginning of each semester and publishing it for the given semester on Coospace.

**Required readings:**

§ Boas, Franz 1955. *Primitive Art*. New York, Dover Publications

§ Chadwick, Whitney 2002. *Women, Art and Society*. London, Thames and Hudson

§ Goldwater, Robert 1967. *Primitivism in Modern Art*. New York, Random House

§ Greenberg, Clement 1961. *Art and Culture: Critical Essays*. Boston, Beacon Press

§ Maquet, Jacques 1986. *The Aesthetic Experience. An Anthropologist Looks at the Visual Arts*. New Haven and London, Yale University Press