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LBST 330

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**Module 1 - Fields of Interest Assessment Exercise Assignment**

**Emerging fields of Interest**

1. Outdoor education
2. Technology in the classroom
3. The evolution of approaches to education throughout history
4. What is considered basic education in different countries and why?
5. Education and Religion
6. Religion and violence
7. Art and Religion in the Late Modern period
8. The society behind the art

**Courses Related to Emerging Fields of Interest**

-AHIS 100| the History of Art I| Patricia Singer| Fall 2015

-  Looked at the history of Western Art through sculpture, painting, and architecture of Ancient Egypt and concluding with the Gothic Cathedrals and Italian fresco paintings of the High Middle Ages in Europe. Revealed how changing styles in visual culture are influenced by the historical context and the political, social and religious thought of each period.

-AHIS 210| History of Modern Art (19th century)| Sandra Seekins| Fall 2016

-  The mainstreams of modern art beginning with the paintings of Jacques Louis David produced during the French Revolution and concluding with the art of Cezanne. Aesthetic revolutions and counter-revolutions explored in conjunction with the social and political upheavals of the 19th century, where issues of class, gender, and race come to the forefront.

-AHIS 211| History of Modern Art (20th century)| Sandra Seekins| Spring 2017

- Critical history of 20th-century European art and traces the subsequent development of art in the U.S. from the 1940s to contemporary times. Art was placed within the context of the rapid aesthetic, social, economic, theoretical and political upheavals of the period.

-HIST 101| Europe Middle Ages & Renaissance| Graham Cook| Fall 2017

-European history from the 3rd century to the 15th century. Topics include the late Roman Empire and the rise of Christianity, monasticism and the church, feudal society and politics, the rise of towns, the crusades, the Black Death, and the art, culture, and society of Renaissance Italy.

-ANTH 230| Anthropology of Religion| Gillian Crowther| Spring 2017

- Anthropological study of religion by considering some of its major topics, such as magic, witchcraft, shamanism, and rites of passage. Provides rich ethnographic case studies as examples of the practice of religion in a variety of cross-cultural contexts.

-SOC 211| Sociology of the Global South| Fall 2016

- Investigating the social, economic, and political causes of development, underdevelopment, and globalization.

**Extra-Curricular Exercises Related to Emerging Fields of Interest**

North Van Rec Centre Summer Camps| Volunteer| June 2014

-This was the first experience where I was really interacting and working with kids, which sparked my interest in becoming an elementary school teacher. We would spend the day with the kids taking them out on day trips. Each week was a different theme, one week was water another week was food. So for the water-themed week we would take them to the beach, the aquarium or take them swimming at the pool in the rec center. What this experience taught me was how to manage kids in a high-stress environment. We were using public transit to get to each of our locations and we were dealing with about 30 kids ages 5-12 so it was definitely a test of my skills being that the only experience I had with kids prior was babysitting. Although I was only a volunteer and not a leader at the time I really took initiative and was willing to help out anywhere I could, trying to learn as much as I could in a short amount of time.

BC SPCA Summer Camps| Counselor| June 2018

-I worked for the BC SPCA for two months over the summer and it was one of the best experiences I've had working with kids. At the SPCA we would teach kids ages 5-12 about different animal welfare issues. It was a really good learning experience for someone who is interested in going into education because we were tasked with teaching the kids lessons in animal welfare while also making it enjoyable and fun for them. So we would play games like Salmon Spawning tag where the kids would be salmon on one side of the field and they would have to try and get to the other side to spawn without getting tagged by the fisherman in the middle of the field. If they got tagged they would then become pollution and they would have to stand where they got tagged and try to tag the salmon that were still remaining without moving their feet. This game taught the kids about the struggles that salmon in the wild face, whether it be from overfishing or pollution. No matter what the concept was our goal was always for kids to walk away each day having learned something new and hopefully change their opinions and perceptions about how we treat animals wild or domestic.

**Signature Work Analysis**

ANTH 230 – Final Research Project – Wicca

For my final project in my anthropology of religion class, we were assigned a religion and asked to compose a paper and presentation on all aspects of that religion. My assigned religion was on Wicca, which is very much based on spirituality and being one with nature; people commonly think of it as witchcraft. The main focus for me on this project was to reveal what builds this religion and how the religion's practitioners view the world around them. As well as the effects that it has on the human condition. What drew me to this religion, in particular, was that I always had a fascination with witchcraft and the "magical arts". I had always seen it as myth or fantasy. The research that I had done totally changed my perception of the religion and that’s why I loved doing this project. When I began doing research I went into the school library and rented out as many books that they had on the religion and I just read and read. A lot of the books that I found were written by an author who followed the religion. Ultimately, most of the readings gave an overview of everything that’s involved in the religion from the beliefs and practices to everything in between. What was the most interesting to me was that the religion is very subjective. Everyone’s experience is different and they can be involved in as much or as little of the religion as they want to. The Wicca religion does not have a sacred text like the bible. What they do have is something called the Book of Shadows, which contains texts and poems from various sources and includes instructions on how to perform rituals and spells. But the main intention of the book was that every copy was to be different because a student would copy from the initiators and change things that they felt to be personally ineffective. Religions are so interesting and each of them is so different. What I learned most from doing this project was how it really shapes the way that you live your life and the decisions that you make. This was one of the key components that really drew me to the topic of religion and education and what that relationship is like for an individual and how that alters a traditional school structure. This whole course along with my final project made me look at people in a different light. Though I am not religious myself I now have a better understanding of why people would be drawn to certain religions based on the type of person that they are. Due to the fact that religion plays a huge part in a person's life, you can see how some use religion as an excuse to act in a certain way…to act out in violence. I want to know more about that!

HIST 101 – Midterm Paper – Byzantine Art Under Justinian’s Rule

Throughout my first few years at Capilano University most of the courses that I had taken were Art History simply because I was in the program. This was the first course that I had taken that was just simply History. For our Midterm project, we were given a pretty broad scope as to what the topic of our research paper was going to be on. The professor’s only request was that we stick to a certain period. So because of that I thought I would stick to a topic I knew best and that was art. So much of what makes art is the society that surrounds it. Whatever is going on in the world, whatever's happening is always in represented in some way or another. For this paper, I chose to look at Byzantine Art under Justinian's rule. Justinian sought to revive the Empire's greatness and reconquer the lost western half of the historical Roman Empire and in doing so he began an ambitious building program in Constantinople and elsewhere in the empire that became one of the most substantial architectural achievements by one person in history – Society reflects the art. In doing research for this particular project I went into the library and took out books on Byzantine art. On top of that, I also went on to the library website and looked at scholarly articles on Justinian himself and the impact that he had on Byzantine. The conclusion that I came to is that with any society when there's a change in ruler you're always going to have people that either loves it or hate it and because of that there’s always going to be a clash between the opposing sides. Due to the unrest over Justinian's new policies a riot broke out in the Hippodrome of Constantinople known as the Nika Riot during the period of January 11–19, 532. This period of civil unrest resulted in the burning of several important religious and imperial buildings. Once the rioting had subdued they were tasked with rebuilding the city. At the time a huge aspect of what divided the people was religion; therefore Justinian tried to unify the empire by enforcing the Orthodox Christian doctrine, which in turn directly impacted the architecture and art at that time. Art and architecture, in particular, are physically rooted in the geographic location of that society. For the members of that society, it reflects both their aspirations, their artistic sensibility, and their economic wealth; the level of advancement of their technology and the structure of their social organization. No matter where you are in the world the one thing that you come to notice is that they have their very own unique style due to those factors. While doing my research and composing this project it really supported my argument on the huge impact that a civilization has. It also allowed me to form the very deep and important connection between art and society as well as religion and violence. All of those things together form how we see the world today.

**Sample Research Projects**

Education and Religion - Religious needs of the students. What if religion forbids some aspects of study?

When thinking about the direction that I want my Grad project/tutorials to go in I want them to be more focused on the type of career that I would like to have in the future. With that being said I still wanted to make a connection between my desired career and personal interests of mine so that’s why I chose the topic of education and religion. In today’s society, being that there are 7 Billion people on the planet about 84% are religious. That is a huge percentage and with what I have found in my studies religion plays a huge part of their life, for some it is there life, so to me it makes sense that there would some type of relationship between an individual's religious beliefs and our modern school system. How far does religion go into what teachers in a public school system are allowed to teach certain students? What if religion forbids some aspects of study?

The Society Behind the Art – The great impact that a society has on art and architecture of that time

Before Education Art History was a great interest of mine and still is. Previously I was enrolled in the Art History program so for the first few years of university at Capilano that was my main focus. That being the case I have taken many art history courses and one thing that becomes apparent throughout each course is that there is always a story behind the art. The art or architecture of a certain period can tell you all you need to know about the society at that time. Whether it was meant to or not it’s almost impossible to avoid because inspiration is found from what surrounds you. No matter where you are in the world art will always be specific to a region because art is the expression of a certain people at a given moment. Therefore society and art will always be interconnected.