

**Course Syllabus**  
Museum Studies Department

**Instructor: Derek Horton**  
**Course: Cultural Studies**  
**Credit: One Carnegie Unit**

**Course Description**

Cultural Studies is an interdisciplinary area of study that utilizes literature, visual and performing arts, and social analysis to interpret contemporary cultural phenomena. Cultural Studies teaches students to read familiar objects and media representations in order to understand their political, economic, and philosophical significance. This course is a requirement for graduation from the Museum Studies Department the Duke Ellington School of the Arts.

**Content Standards**

This course uses the following history content standard to evaluate the core skills, concepts, and knowledge of the student.

Historical inquiry, Analysis, and Judgment  
Scientific, Technological, and Economic Change  
Social Diversity and Social Change  
Religious, Ethical, and Philosophical Forces in History  
Cultural History: Tradition, Creativity, and Diversity  
Political Ideas, Turning Points, and Instructions

**Course Outline**

Defining Cultural Elements

- Demonstrate knowledge of the Elements of Culture
- Demonstrate knowledge of Principles of Civilization.
- Understand and explain the relationship between art, science and religion
- Understand connection of art and civilization

Cultural Analysis and Appreciation

- Demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of human culture through analysis of artifacts and events in human history.
- Use of a variety of tools in the researching culture.
- Catalog Ellington's private art collection

Comparative Analysis

- Demonstrate the ability to compare historical cultural elements with contemporary American culture.

- Demonstrate the ability to analyze art and its use of elements and principle
- Demonstrate the ability to compare multicultural elements with one another across geographic areas and historical periods.

### **Material**

- Handouts

### **Course Requirements**

Attendance to all classes, lecture, presentations, and field trips. Any absences must be supported by a note from home.

Arrival on class on time in mandatory

Students must take all tests and quizzes, make-up will be provided for excused absences only. Extra credit assignments will be issued only if all required work has been submitted.

Students must finish all assignment on time. Late work will only be accepted for excused absences.

### **Grading**

Attendance	10%
Class Participation	15%
Test & Quizzes	15%
Portfolio Review	20%
Assignments	40%

