Travel the World through Textiles Syllabus
Spring 2019

Instructor: Rose Kelly
Class Time: Mondays 1:00 to 3:00 pm

Overview
This class examines both historical and contemporary textile traditions from around the world. It looks at the symbolism, cultural context and techniques used in creating these textiles as well as their role in today’s economy. Participants will gain an understanding of their social, economic, ritualistic and aesthetic significance as well as gain an appreciation of the amazing skills required to create them. The course consists of illustrated lectures. After each topic, students will have the opportunity to study examples of textiles and material culture from the instructor’s collection as well as share textiles from their collections. The care and conservation of textile collections will be discussed.

Topics include:
1. April 1: Why textiles are important; Fiber, dyes, tools, patterning processes, textile care.
2. April 8: Textiles of Latin America
   • Traditional dress of Guatemala
   • Historic and Contempory textiles of Peru
3. April 15: Post-colonial Africa textiles
   • Printed and Appliquéd Fabrics of Africa; Adire, Adinkra, Asofo Flags, Mudcloth
   • Woven Textiles of Africa: Kente, Kuba, Shamanic textiles
4. April 22: India, Pakistan and Bhutan
   • Courtly textiles: The influence of Indian textiles throughout Asia
   • Master Dyers and weavers
   Tribal textiles of India and Pakistan
   • Protective textiles – Chakla, Toran
   • Dowry Textiles
   Continuity in the dress of Bhutan
5. April 29: Central Asia – Nomads and Town Dweller
   • Oasis Cities of the Silk Route
   • Adras (Ikat)
   • Suzani – Dowry Embroidery
   China & Northern Vietnam’s Ethnic Minorities
   • Textile/Dress as Cultural Identity and Status
6. May 6: Techniques and Textiles of Japan
   • Shibori, Kasuri, Katazome and Tsutsugaki
   • Sashiko and Boro
   • Kimonos and Samuri
   Clothing and customs of South East Asia
   • The legacy of Jim Thompson
   • Hill Tribes of the Golden Triangle
   • Yantra – protective symbols