#### The Power of Things:

An Object-based Approach to

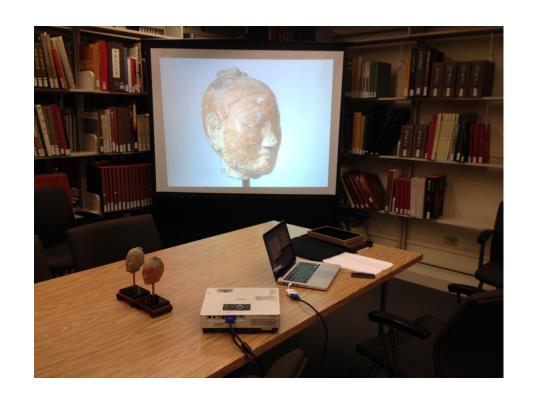
**Art History** 

Jin Xu
Department
of Art History



#### Visual Analysis + Object Study

**Engage students** with things, challenging their image-oriented mental model and encouraging them to interpret art history in its existential entirety.



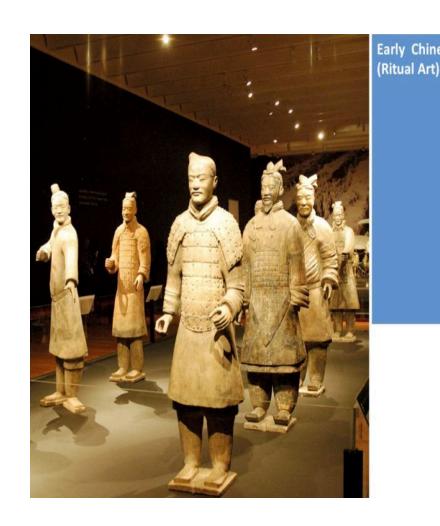
#### Goals

- Prepare students for various professions in art history --- academia, museums, galleries, auction houses etc.
- Personal enrichment and enlightenment



#### **Chronology + Materials**

- From the Neolithic to the Pre-modern period
- Each period focused on one or two distinctive art materials



**Early Chinese Art** NEOLITHIC Painted Pottery SHANG DYNAS EASTERN HA DYNASTY THREE KINGDOM SUI DYNASTY TANG DYNAS

#### **Thesis-centered Practice**



Five stages of bronze
 decoration in the Shang
 Dynasty, a classic stylistic
 theory proposed by the
 renowned late Chinese art
 historian Max Loehr



#### **Lecture Hall + Seminar Room**





### **Handling and Practicing Art**







#### **Pithy and Memorable Lecture**



# Good Questions: The key to active and effective discussions in class

• Is it beautiful?



## Questions that can strike a chord or lead to

revelations

