

Museum and Heritage Studies MHST 201 (L01)
Introduction to Museum and Heritage Studies
Fall 2012 / TR 9.30 - 10.45 / ST 132

“The measure of a museum's success should not be its ability to represent a state, nation or company, or a particular history. It should be its capacity to reveal the humanity of individuals.” – Orhan Pamuk, novelist and museologist, 2012

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Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description:

This course introduces the field of Museum and Heritage Studies by examining heritage sites, museums, art galleries, zoos, natural parks and others. Traditional institutions will be examined along with new forms, including virtual museums. Students will gain a global perspective and understanding of the history, purpose, activities, programming, and management of museums and heritage institutions. Topics to be studied include issues relating to: the definition of museum and heritage sites; memory and history; ethics; conservation and preservation; collecting and collections; intangible heritage; and modern technology. As such, the class introduces students to many of the central issues in contemporary museum and heritage practice.

In addition to standard lectures and discussions, the class will involve invited guest speakers and tours of on-campus exhibitions and collections. These activities are not optional, as they form an integral part of the course.

Course Objectives:

- To explore the range and functions of museums and heritage institutions, both internationally and in Canada.
- To place museums and heritage institutions in an historical context.
- To introduce students to the current literature and new information technologies relating to museums and heritage institutions.
- To develop a critical understanding of the issues facing museums and heritage institutions.

- To develop and apply skills in writing, analysis and critical thinking.

Textbooks and Readings:

The required course textbook is: G. Ellis Burcaw, *Introduction to Museum Work* (3rd edition), AltaMira Press, 2007, ISBN 9780761989264, available at the University of Calgary Bookstore.

This will be supplemented by readings assigned for relevant topics not covered by the textbook; a list will be made available on Blackboard, and it will be the student's responsibility to access them.

Assignments and Evaluation :

Tuesday October 2: Written Assignment: 15%.

Tuesday October 23: Midterm exam: 25%.

Tuesday November 6: Exhibition Review: 10%

Thursday November 22: Quiz: 10%.

Final exam (registrar-scheduled): 40%

Total = 100%

For the written assignment, students will be required to write a 1500-2000 word paper on a topic to be announced.

The midterm exam will have multiple-choice and short-answer questions relating to material covered over the first half of the course.

The exhibition review will be a short essay based on an independent visit to a museum or gallery. Students will be responsible for their own transportation to and from venues and paying their own entrance fees, if applicable.

The short in-class quiz will consist of questions relating to the material covered in class and from the assigned readings, and will include written questions and slide identification.

It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment. Please hand in your essays directly to the instructor if possible. If it is not possible to do so, a drop box is available in SS110. A night drop box is also available for after-hours submission. Assignments will be removed the following morning, stamped with the previous day's date, and placed in the instructor's mailbox. The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act impacts the receipt and delivery of course material: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip/>; it is not possible to leave student work in a public place where other students' papers can be seen, and so

student work must be handed back individually and in person. Students can also provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope if they wish to have their papers returned by mail.

Registrar-scheduled Final Examination: YES.

There will be a closed-book final exam, scheduled during the fall examination period (December 10-19, 2012). The exam will consist of a choice of essay questions that will cover topics and issues related to material presented in class, field trips, and assigned readings.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act:

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP). As one consequence, students should identify themselves on all written work by using their ID number. Also you will be required to provide a piece of picture identification in order to pick up an assignment or look at a final exam. For more information, see also <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>.

Grading System

Grades will be assigned using the grading scale below. Be advised that the student does not have any 'right' to a certain grade, but is responsible for earning grades.

	Grading Scale
A+	96-100
A	90-95.99
A -	85-89.99
B+	80-84.99
B	75-79.99
B-	70-74.99
C+	65-69.99
C	60-64.99
C-	55-59.99
D+	53-54.99
D	50-52.99
F	0-49

Policy for Late Assignments:

Assignments submitted after the deadline may be penalized with the loss of a grade (e.g.: A- to B+) for each day late.

Schedule of Lectures and Readings:

Details of upcoming lecture topics and required readings will be posted to Blackboard a week in advance, but may be changed at the discretion of the instructor and the needs of the class.

Ethics:

This class does not include any research on human subjects.

Writing Skills Statement:

Students are expected to write at a university level. Students (both English second language and native speakers of English) who have trouble with writing skills can refer to Writing Support Services: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/writingsupport/> See also: Writing Across the Curriculum - <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>

Plagiarism and Academic Misconduct:

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense.

You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media, and material taken from such sources. Please consult your instructor or Writing Support Services if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.

Plagiarism and cheating on examinations or assignments is an example of intellectual dishonesty and will be dealt with according to University regulations. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Internet and electronic communication device information:

Except in exceptional circumstances, such as academic accommodation (see below), I do not permit my lectures to be recorded. For further information, please see the University policy on the recording of lectures: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-6.html>

I am committed to behaving in a professional and courteous manner at all times, and expect the same from all students. Behaviors such as lateness to lectures, talking out of turn in discussions, and calling/texting/emailing in class are disruptive for me as an instructor and to your fellow students as they engage in learning. During class time, your cell phone should be turned off, and communication with other individuals via laptop computers, tablets, phones, or other electronic devices is not allowed unless specifically permitted by the instructor. Please be considerate and refrain from using a disrespectful tone in verbal, written, and non-verbal communication with me and your colleagues.

Academic Accommodation Policy:

If you are a student with a disability who may require academic accommodation, it is your responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre (220-8237) and discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of the course. For further information, please see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/drc/node/46>

Emergency Evacuation and Assembly points:

Please note the evacuation points for this particular classroom. All classrooms on campus exit to specific places in case of emergency. The emergency assembly points differ depending upon where your classroom is located. For information on the emergency evacuation procedures and the assembly points see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

"SAFEWALK" Program:

Campus Security will escort individuals day or night: call 403-220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot booths.

Student Representation:

There are now four Arts reps because of the amalgamation, with the email addresses being arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, and arts4@su.ucalgary.ca. Please contact if you have questions related to Students Union matters, events, or concerns. For your student ombudsman, please see <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.