ARH 4930
Special topics
Fall 2015

University of Florida, College of the Arts, School of Art and Art History
Tuesdays 9:35-10:25am (period 3) and Thursdays 9:35-11:30am (periods 3 & 4)
Fine Arts C (FAC) 201

Dr. Ingrid Anna Greenfield
Visiting Assistant Professor
Email: greenfield@ufl.edu
Walk-in Office Hours: Tuesday and Wednesday, 2-3 pm, and by appointment
Office: Fine Arts C (FAC) 119a

Course Description:
This course examines the visual content of collections, as well as the cultural forces that drove the collecting and display of artworks, artifacts, animals, people, and much more from the 15th to the 18th centuries in Europe. We will consider the interpretation of visual and material cultures in the context of private (and later public) collections, paying special attention to the role of social, religious, political, and economic ideologies. The course aims to introduce students to the history and theory of collecting in the early modern period by approaching collections and the institution of the museum from a series of critical perspectives. Building on a tradition of ‘critical museology’, the course seeks to provoke students into questioning what a collection is, how it functions in the production of knowledge, and how it may react to, sustain, or produce certain ideologies. Lectures and discussions based on assigned readings will provide broader historical and theoretical contexts to enable students to engage critically with contemporary museum practices.

Course Objectives:
• Students will become familiar with the established knowledge related to the history of collecting in the early modern period.
• Students will be able to apply knowledge in familiar and new situations for academic purposes, and will develop their capacity for critical thinking and independent inquiry.
• Students will demonstrate an ability to read and understand a wide range of academic writing, and to speak and write accurately on academic topics in an academically rigorous manner.
• In weekly discussions of readings and in a final presentation on their research to the class, students will show an ability to lead discussions and make oral presentations.

Course Policies:
Readings. Class meetings will include lecture and discussion structured around weekly themes and assigned readings. There are no textbooks for the course; instead, readings will be drawn from journal articles, book chapters, and essays that will be made available for download via electronic reserves.
Attendance and due dates. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policy that can be found at: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx. Please identify any potential conflicts as early as possible, and contact Dr. Greenfield.

Prompt attendance is required at all classes, and students are expected to attend all class sessions. One unexcused absence is allowed. Further absences and any late assignments will require a legitimate documented excuse if you wish to avoid lowered grades.

Classroom comportment. The use of laptop computers is permitted during class, but strictly for note-taking purposes. Please do not write emails, read the newspaper, check Facebook, etc., as this can be hugely distracting to those sitting around you. If you are observed using your computer (or phone, ipad, etc.) for something irrelevant to the class, your participation grade will suffer.

Email. Please check your UF email account regularly for course announcements or replies to any emails you send. Dr. Greenfield will email you through your UF email account. Emails sent to the instructor usually will be answered within 24 hours, especially if they require a brief response. Substantive issues are best dealt with in-person, and it is recommended that if you have a question that requires some discussion you meet with the instructor during her office hours.

Students with disabilities. To request accommodations, please contact the Dean of Students Office and register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

University Counseling & Wellness Center
Phone: (352) 392-1575 (line open 24/7)
Web: http://www.counsel.ufl.edu

Grading Scale:

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<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>A-</th>
<th>B+</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>B-</th>
<th>C+</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>C-</th>
<th>D+</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>D-</th>
<th>E</th>
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<tr>
<td>% Equivalent</td>
<td>93+</td>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>83-86</td>
<td>80-82</td>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>73-76</td>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>63-66</td>
<td>60-62</td>
<td>59-</td>
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Course Requirements:
Section attendance and participation —25% of the final grade
Short paper (2 pages) —5% of the final grade
Creative assignments —15% of the final grade
Annotated bibliography —10% of the final grade
First draft of the research paper —10%
Presentation—10% of the final grade
Research paper — 25% of the final grade
There will not be a final exam. The largest components of the final grade come from participation in class meetings (25%) and a research paper (25%). Participation will be evaluated based on the quality of engagement in the activities and discussion undertaken over the course of the semester. Students will begin to work on the research paper early in the semester, and are required to meet with Dr. Greenfield at least once during office hours within the first three weeks of the semester in order to discuss possible topics. After establishing a general topic, students will prepare an annotated bibliography of relevant sources to be handed in (10%). In early November, a draft of the paper-in-progress (10%) will be turned in for evaluation of research progress, and subsequently one class meeting will be devoted to discussing writing style and the development of an argument. Students will exchange drafts and prepare constructive criticism that will aid their partners in moving forward with research and writing. The last class meetings will be devoted to student presentations (10%). This presentation need not be written out in prose form; rather, students are encouraged to prepare notes that will accompany a slideshow of images relevant to their research topic, to which classmates will respond with questions. The final, polished research paper (25%) is due on December 14th.

**Academic Honesty:**
For the purposes of the research paper, we will spend one class meeting discussing appropriate use of sources and we will go over examples of plagiarism. All students are required to abide by the Academic Honesty Guidelines which have been accepted by the University. For information on what constitutes plagiarism, consult the UF Plagiarism Guide at [http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/msl/07b/studentplagiarism.html](http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/msl/07b/studentplagiarism.html) and <“Misuse of Sources”> on the course web site.
LECTURE AND SECTIONS SCHEDULE

WEEK 1: Introduction to the History of Collecting
August 25 — Introduction to the course
August 27 — Thinking about Things

WEEK 2: Collecting in the Middle Ages
September 1 — Medieval Relics and Sacred Commodities
September 3 — Abbot Suger and the Legacy of Antiquity in the Middle Ages

WEEK 3: The Space of the Studiolo in the 15th century
September 8 — Petrarch, Pliny, and the Classical Exempla
September 10 — The Rise of the Merchant Class in Florence

WEEK 4: Shaping a Public Identity in the Renaissance
September 15 — Lorenzo ‘il Magnifico’ de’ Medici
September 17 — Pope Leo X and Rome

WEEK 5: How is Art History Itself a Collection?
September 22 — Giorgio Vasari, Paolo Giovio, and the writing of history
September 24 — Vasari’s Lives of the Artists as a collection

WEEK 6: Portraiture, Lineage, Power
September 29 — Portrait Collections across Europe
October 1 — Museum visit: Meet at the Harn!

WEEK 7: Global Exchanges
October 6 — Moving Objects in the Age of Discovery
October 8 — The Early Atlantic Slave Trade

WEEK 8: Cont’d
October 13 — Renaissance Collections and the Beginnings of Ethnography
October 15 — Museum visit: Meet at the Museum of Natural History!

WEEK 9: Possessing Nature and Ordering Knowledge
October 20 — Artificalia and Naturalia
October 22 — Order and Arrangement

WEEK 10: Curiosity and Wonder
October 27 — Cabinets of Curiosities and Wunderkammern
October 29 — Discussion of paper drafts

WEEK 11
November 3 — Research paper: Citing your sources
November 5 — No class: Homecoming!

**WEEK 12: The University as a Repository of Knowledge**
November 10 — Ulisse Aldrovandi, Fernando Cospi, and the University of Bologna
November 12 — Oxford University: the Bodleian Library and the Pitt Rivers Museum

**WEEK 13: The Museum as a Public Institution**
November 17 — The French Revolution and the Opening of the Louvre
November 19 — Sir Hans Sloane and the Creation of the British Museum

**WEEK 14: The Ethics of Collecting**
November 24 — Contemporary issues: Cultural patrimony, looting, and repatriation
November 26 — NO CLASS! Happy Thanksgiving!

**WEEK 15**
December 1 — Student presentations
December 3 — Student presentations cont’d

**WEEK 16**
December 8 — Student presentations cont’d

*Research paper due December 14th by 5pm*
Helpful Texts:


