

Introduction to Museology

ARH + 6938

Tuesday, 10:30-1:30 EST

Online

Fall 2020

Instructor:

Rose Paquet, MA PhD Candidate ABD

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Office Hours: Weekdays by appointment (online)

Course Description

This course considers museums not as stand-alone organizations but as dynamic institutions that interact with their communities and their surroundings. Consequently, this course is divided into two areas: museum theory and museum practice. In museum theory, students become acquainted with the latest literature about museums and their roles in society. The museum practice section of the course consists of meetings with professionals in the field. Emphasis is placed on the variety and diversity of job opportunities. Short field trips supplement the course content (3 credits).

Course Pre-Requisites / Co-Requisites

There are no Pre-Requisites/Co-Requisites.

Course Objectives

Learning objectives include the following:

- Knowledge of the historical context of museums, their contested definition and purposes, how they operate, how they communicate to the public, and how they relate to the community
- Knowledge of the contemporary landscape of museum discourses and practices and how this contemporary landscape calls us to creatively reimagine museum structures, work, and business models
- Demonstration of high standards of scholarship through the application of analytical and critical thinking skills, as well as competency in written and verbal communication
- Introduction to a range of select museum topics that may be explored in greater depth in future courses and/or may be influential in future scholarship and practice
- Establishment or enhancement of a network of professional connections and/or resources

Textbooks

- Anderson, Gail. *Reinventing the Museum: The Evolving Conversation on the Paradigm Shift*. Second Edition. Walnut Creek, CA: AltaMira Press, 2012. (ISBN 0-7591-0170-1)
[Required]
- Walhimer, Mark. *Museums 101*. New York: Rowan and Littlefield, 2015. (ISBN 978-1-4422-3018-7)
[Required]

- MASS Action Toolkit. Free download at: <https://www.museumaction.org/resources>
[Required]
- Macdonald, Sharon. *A Companion to Museum Studies*. Oxford: Blackwell, 2011. (ISBN 978-1-4443-3405-0)
[Highly suggested. Chapters from this book will be scanned and uploaded to Canvas]

We will also rely on a diversity of reading materials and media (e.g., podcasts, videos, etc.) from a host of online sources. These will be accessed on each session’s Canvas page.

Course Schedule

- Week 1: Welcome + Introductions
- Week 2: Historical Overview and Context
- Week 3: What is a Museum
- Week 4: Field Trip #1
DUE: Final Project Deliverable #1 Topic
- Week 5: Field Trip Presentations + Governance and Operations
DUE: Field Trip #1 Report and Presentation
- Week 6: Inclusion and Equity
- Week 7: Experience, Audiences, and Communications + Design Paradigms
- Week 8: Field Trip #2
DUE: Final Project Deliverable #2 Outline
- Week 9: Field Trip Presentations + Digital Worlds
- Week 10: Decolonizing Museums + Inclusion Design Workshop
- Week 11: Learning in Museums + Evaluation
- Week 12: Collections + Meetings with Rose
- Week 13: Loose Ends + “Students’ Choice” Topic
- Week 14: Student Presentations
DUE: Final Project Deliverable #3 Presentation
- Week 15: Reflections and Conclusions
- Week 16: Exam Week
DUE: Final Project Deliverable #4 Paper

Attendance Policy and Class Expectations

For each session, your attendance, preparedness (i.e., having completed readings and assignments), and contribution in course discussion are required; the success of the course depends on it. I expect you to show up on time ready to participate. On the first day of class, we will define as a group what satisfactory participation entails, along with our expectations for the course and each. Excused absences must be consistent with university policies in the [Graduate Catalog](#) and require appropriate documentation. Additional information can be found in [Attendance Policies](#). Please always be in contact with me if you have concerns or questions.

Evaluation of Grades

Assignment	Total Points	Percentage of Final Grade
Participation	100	10%
Field Trips + Reports + Presentations	100	25%
Class Facilitation	100	15%
Final Project	100	50%

<i>Assignment</i>	<i>Total Points</i>	<i>Percentage of Final Grade</i>
		100%

Grading Policy

The following is given as an example only.

<i>Percent</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Grade Points</i>
90.0 - 100.0	A	4.00
87.0 - 89.9	A-	3.67
84.0 - 86.9	B+	3.33
81.0 - 83.9	B	3.00
78.0 - 80.9	B-	2.67
75.0 - 79.9	C+	2.33
72.0 - 74.9	C	2.00
69.0 - 71.9	C-	1.67
66.0 - 68.9	D+	1.33
63.0 - 65.9	D	1.00
60.0 - 62.9	D-	0.67
0 - 59.9	E	0.00

More information on UF grading policy may be found at:

[UF Graduate Catalog](#)
[Grades and Grading Policies](#)

Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the [Disability Resource Center](#). It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing [online evaluations](#). Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students on the [Gator Evals page](#).

University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge, which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." [The Honor Code](#) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Software Use

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

Student Privacy

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see the [Notification to Students of FERPA Rights](#).

Campus Resources:

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care:

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: counseling.ufl.edu/cwc, and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)

Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or police.ufl.edu.

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling.

Library Support, Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

Student Complaints Campus

On-Line Students Complaints