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# MUSEUM STUDIES

## Graduate Colloquium

ARH 6930 — Fall 2025

Professor:

**Dr. Jacque Micieli-Voutsinas**

**Office hours:** Wednesday afternoons, or by appointment. Office hours will be held in person or remotely via Zoom

This course is part of the core curriculum of Museum Studies. It is designed to prepare emerging museum professionals for a competitive job market while also contributing to our collective understanding and evaluation of cultural heritage systems.

### Course description:

As the museum sector undergoes significant structural challenges, this course engages students in professional development practices and opportunities to network with and learn from local heritage professionals. By the end of the course, you will have fostered a solid foundation of the challenges currently facing the field and be well-equipped to enter the future job market.

Through a mixture of classroom discussions, readings, course assignments, and site visits, we will explore the interdisciplinary nature of the profession and pursue pathways to strengthen pre-professional development. Some key questions will include:

- What are key issues currently shaping the Museum field and am I prepared to encounter them?
- How do I begin career mapping within the GLAM industry and identifying specific skillsets essential to the jobs that I am targeting?

- Are my experiences sufficient for the positions that I am interested in, or are there gaps that I will need to fill?
- How do I build professional connections in the field by networking?
- What tools help me market my skillsets and qualifications to future employers?

Crucially, we will navigate this learning journey together through continuous practices of self-reflection, responsiveness to evolving heritage discourse, and the acquisition of new skillsets. By co-designing a hybrid learning experience, you will tailor your journey to address the most relevant aspects of museum professionalization and your career growth.

### Course objectives:

This course provides a general overview and introduction to the museum profession. Throughout this course, students will:

- (1) Gain a more sophisticated understanding of the museum field and evolving job market.
- (2) Delve into contemporary issues within the field and explore how they are transforming the profession.
- (3) Engage in professional development initiatives.
- (4) Develop practical skillsets that effectively prepare students for future employment.

There is one assigned textbook for the course:

- 1) *So You Want to Work in a Museum?, 1st Edition*. Young, T. Rowen & Littlefield, 2022.  
(Available Online, UF Libraries)

Additional journal articles, book chapters, and/or newspaper articles may be assigned throughout the semester.

**Course evaluation:** ARH 6930 is designed to introduce students to the professional side of the museum field to help prepare them for successful employment in galleries, libraries, archives, and other museum and cultural institutions. Course evaluation will reflect this focus and will include a mixture of written assignments, project activities, participation in in-class discussions, and site visits to local GLAM institutions. I will make every effort to offer feedback on all written assignments within two weeks.

Classroom Attendance & In-class participation	20%
Head shot (Career Connection Center)	5%
Create a LinkedIn Profile	5%
Conference/Paper Abstract	5%
Draft Resume	10%
Draft Cover Letter	10%

Peer Review	5%
Apply for Internal Grant	10%
Apply for External Grant	15%
Final Work Portfolio	15%

### Grading Scale:

A	93.4 – 100	B+	86.7 – 89.9	C+	76.7 – 79.9	D+	66.7 – 69.9
A-	90 – 93.3	B	83.4 – 86.6	C	73.4 – 76.6	D	63.4 – 66.6
		B-	80.0 – 83.3	C-	70.0 – 73.3	D-	60.0 – 63.3

- an **'A'** denotes work that is exceptional, is represented by thorough and detailed engagement with ideas from course readings and lectures; careful integration of materials or concepts across themes or topics; logical reasoning; sincere reflection; and precise writing.
- a **'B'** denotes work that is above average in relationship to your peers' work and in relationship to the expectations of the assignment.
- a **'C'** denotes work that fulfills course requirements in every way, but only adequately.
- a **'D'** denotes work that does not adequately fulfill course requirements but still deserves credit.
- an **'F'** denotes work that does not deserve passing credit.
- a **ZERO** will be assigned to work not turned in. Late assignments will be penalized, if accepted at all, and plagiarism will result in an "F" for the entire course, and you will be reported to the Academic Integrity office for violating university and course policy.

Information on current UF grading policies for assigning grade points. This may be achieved by including [a link to the University grades and grading policies.](#)

For all UF-related syllabi policies, please visit: <https://syllabus.ufl.edu/syllabus-policy/uf-syllabus-policy-links/>

***Classroom Attendance & in-class participation (20%):*** Your participation grade will be based on the following criteria:

1. This course is a seminar, or discussion-based and attendance is **MANDATORY**. You will be expected to participate fully in classroom discussions. In a seminar course, students do assigned reading and then, under your own guidance and direction—as well as the guidance of the Professor—we will grapple aloud with the ideas we've read, and the places we visit, collectively. Our seminar will be a mixture of discussion, site visits, large and small group activities. Classroom discussions and in-class activities cannot be recreated, so attending class is the only place to engage with material. The course will also require mandatory attendance at local museum and heritage sites. If you miss a class, you are responsible for connecting with a classmate to learn about what you missed, including any assignments or announcements that were made. Any handouts will be made available on the course's elearning page.

**Only 1 absence will be excused** over the course of the term unless you can provide documentation for a health or family emergency. However, more than two absences may result in failing the course in addition to lowering your overall course grade. Excessive tardiness will also impact final class averages. Attendance is worth 10 percent of your course grade.

2. **Participation in class.** Participation includes contributing to in-class discussions by *SPEAKING* and being intellectually present for each meeting of ARH 6930. Meaningful contributions to class discussion should reflect ***your engagement with the assigned reading and in-class conversation.*** At site visits, this will include being on time and asking our host institution thoughtful questions. Not participating in classroom discussions will result in a lower course grade. Participation is worth 10 percent of the course grade.
3. **General in-class preparedness.** Students are expected to bring the assigned readings to class and to complete all assigned readings prior to attending class. TV, cell phones, music, and other electronic distractions, are not permitted to be out during class time, as is doing other work while in class.

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in the course are consistent with university policies. [See UF Academic Regulations and Policies for more information regarding the University Attendance Policies.](#)

**In general, about written assignments:** Because strengthening your professional written skills is an important goal of this course, your grades for these assignments will also emphasize this objective. I encourage utilizing online tools like Grammarly to help improve writing. For your own protection, please make certain that you continuously save your written work as you write and back up those documents on a flash drive or external hard drive. You should also save all graded work until you receive your final grade in the course. In the event that work goes missing or a grade gets miscalculated, this will provide the *only acceptable* evidence that you turned in a particular assignment or received a particular grade.

**Policy on late submissions:** Unless you have provided substantial, documented evidence for need of an extension, and have discussed the situation with me well in advance of the impending deadline, late assignments will receive a 5% reduction in your grade for **each day** that exceeds the stated assignment deadline. Extensions will be given only under certain circumstances, and I do not except late work after one week past the original deadline. Malfunctioning computers, printers and so on are not reasonable grounds for an extension. Save your work regularly and in multiple locations and be prepared to print your work in a computer lab if necessary. Please note that I will be the sole judge of what constitutes an extraordinary circumstance, that in most cases my granting of an extension will require that you submit a note from a doctor or other appropriate official, and that extensions must be negotiated in advance. Please also note that sending me an email does not constitute negotiating an extension. Unless we have spoken and agreed on a new date, the original date stands.

**Student Accommodations:** Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center. [See](#)

the “[Get Started With the DRC](#)” webpage on the Disability Resource Center site. 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 evaluations:** Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online. Students can complete evaluations in three ways:

1. The email they receive from GatorEvals
2. Their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals
3. The central portal at <https://my-ufl.bluer.com>

Guidance on how to provide constructive feedback is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

**Academic Dishonesty:** Academic dishonesty includes plagiarizing, cheating, turning in counterfeit papers, stealing academic materials, knowingly falsifying academic documents, accessing confidential academic records without authorization, disclosing confidential academic information without authorization, and turning in the same work to more than one class without the expressed permission of the instructors involved. An online plagiarism checker service may be used to screen papers. Please note that recording class discussions will not be permitted under any circumstances. Students are, however, allowed to record video or audio of class ***lectures only***, but please note that the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.<sup>1</sup> In ARH 6930, all of the above are prohibited. Any student deemed to have engaged in academic dishonesty will be subject to disciplinary action from the University and will also receive a “no credit” (i.e., a zero) for the assignment.

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<sup>1</sup> A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and deliver by an instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentation such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or guest lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless, of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third-party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

**Academic Honesty:** 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 Conduct Code (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-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 ask me. [See the UF Conduct Code website for more information.](#)

### **Software Use**

All faculty, staff, and students at 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: <http://registrar.ufl.edu/catalog0910/policies/regulationferpa.html>

### **Additional Academic Resources:**

E-learning technical support: Contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](#) at [352-392-4357](tel:352-392-4357) or via e-mail at [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).

[Career Connections Center:](#) Reitz Union Suite 1300, [352-392-1601](tel:352-392-1601). Career assistance and counseling services.

[Library Support:](#) Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources. Call [866-281-6309](tel:866-281-6309) or email [ask@ufl.libanswers.com](mailto:ask@ufl.libanswers.com) for more information.

[Academic Resources:](#) 1317 Turlington Hall, Call [352-392-2010](tel:352-392-2010), or to make a private appointment: [352-392-6420](tel:352-392-6420). Email contact: [teaching-center@ufl.edu](mailto:teaching-center@ufl.edu). General study skills and tutoring.

[Writing Studio:](#) Daytime (9:30am-3:30pm): 2215 Turlington Hall, [352-846-1138](tel:352-846-1138) | Evening (5:00pm-7:00pm): 1545 W University Avenue (Library West, Rm. 339). Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

Academic Complaints: Office of the Ombuds; [Visit the Complaint Portal webpage for more information.](#)

Enrollment Management Complaints (Registrar, Financial Aid, Admissions): [View the Student Complaint Procedure webpage for more information.](#)

UF Student Success Initiative: Visit <https://studentsuccess.ufl.edu/> for resources that support your success as a UF student.

### **Health and Wellness:**

**UF Whole Gator Resources:** Visit <https://one.ufl.edu/whole-gator/discover> for resources that are designed to help you thrive physically, mentally, and emotionally at UF.

**U Matter, We Care:** If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) or (352) 392-1575 or visit the U Matter, We Care website to refer or report a concern, and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

**Counseling and Wellness Center:** Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

**Student Health Care Center:** Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need or visit the Student Health Care Center website.

**UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center:** For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website.

**Basic Security Needs:** Any student who is facing challenges securing food or housing is urged to contact the Dean of Students for support. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly for additional assistance in the event that these external stressors are also affecting your performance in the course.

### **Course Outline (\*subject to revision\*)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Lecture</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
Week 1  Thurs. 8/21	<b>Introduction to Course:</b>  ~ Introductions ~ Review Course Syllabus	<b>(1)</b>
Week 2  Thurs. 8/28	<b>Overview</b>  ~ Visit: ~ Read	<b>(2)</b>

Week 3		(3)
Thurs. 9/4	~ Read ~ Discussion:	
Week 4		(4)
Thurs. 9/11	~ Read ~ Visit:	
Week 5		(5)
Wed. 9/18	~ Read ~ Visit:	
Week 6		(6)
Wed. 9/25	~ Read ~ Discussion:	
Week 7		(7)
Thurs. 10/2	~ Read ~ Visit:	
Week 8		(8)
Thurs. 10/9	~ Read ~ Discussion:	
Week 9		(9)
Thurs 10/16	~ Read ~ Visit:	



Week 10		(10)
Thurs. 10/23	~ Read ~ Visit:	
Week 11		(11)
Thurs. 10/30	~ Read ~ Discussion:	
Week 12		(12)
Thurs. 11/6		
Week 13		(13)
Thurs. 11/13	~ Read ~ Visit:	
Week 14		(14)
Wed. 11/20	~ Read ~ Discussion:	
Week 15		(15)
Wed. 11/27	~ No classes, Thanksgiving Holiday	

	<b>Final Due</b>	
12/11	~ Final Work Portfolio Due	