

SCHOOL OF FINE ART AND MUSIC
Winter Semester 2018
ARTH*2120-01
INTRODUCTION TO MUSEOLOGY



INSTRUCTOR: Dr Susan Douglas
TIME: Monday 2:30 pm - 5:20 pm
LOCATION: MacKinnon Building, Rm. 114
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OFFICE HOURS: TBA

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

The course will examine the history of collections, traditions of cultural representation and display, and constructions of authenticity, trade and exchange.

Prerequisite(s): 1 of ARTH*1220, ARTH*1510, ARTH*1520

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An overview of contemporary museum studies exploring the history of museums and how modern museums seek to impact the contemporary world. We look at the changing definitions and functions of the great public museums, museum practices, and the development and deterioration of collections. We will also look at the many concepts behind collecting and curating and at how the art and ceremonial objects of non-European peoples have been acquired and displayed. Contexts will include 17th century cabinets of curiosities, the inception of modern art museums after the French Revolution, contemporary dynamics of display in museums and art galleries, and recent attempts to integrate museums into city life. Case studies will illustrate how museums evolve over time.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Recognize the varying functions of museums
- Identify and distinguish between different types of museums
- Learn and apply fundamental terms and concepts relevant to museum professionals
- Analyze how both individuals and institutions produce cultural meaning and value via practices of collecting, documentation and display
- Engage in the ethics and professional practices of museums
- Write a formal or visual analysis of an object in a museum
- Articulate orally and/or in writing a clear and cohesive statement about the value of museums in cultural life

REQUIRED TEXT

Edward and Mary Alexander, *Museums in Motion: An Introduction to the History and Functions of Museums*, 2nd edition. AltaMira Press, 2008
Available in the Co-op Bookstore or go online to Rowan and Littlefield Publishers, Inc to purchase ebook.

EVALUATION

ASSESSMENT	Weight	Due Date
Discussion (online &/or in class).....	30%	Weekly
In-class assignments.....	30%	Weekly
Take-home exam.....	40%	April 11

ACCESSIBILITY

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact Student Accessibility Services as soon as possible.

For more information, contact SAS at 519-824-4120 ext. 56208 or email SAS@uoguelph.ca or refer to the [SAS website](#).