

ANTH 312
Exhibiting Cultures in Museums
Fitzelle Hall – Rm. 318

Instructor: Lisa Sorensen-Stahl **Office:** Physical Science Bldg., Rm. 230
Phone: 436-2076 **Office Hours:** M, W, F – 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.
E-mail: sorensla@oneonta.edu

Course Description

What are some of the challenges that museum professionals face when creating representations of other cultures? By studying several examples of exhibits in various institutions students will gain appreciation for these challenges. In this class, we will discuss theories, methodology and issues in representing other cultures in a museum setting. Participants will be engaged in several exercises that will prepare them for the eventual installation of their own exhibit. Readings, lectures and visits to local museums will also help students organize for the culminating class project. This course will provide practical experience to students interested in pursuing post-graduate education in museum studies and/or a career in the field. Prerequisites: Sophomore standing.

Course Attributes

ANTH 312: counts toward Liberal Arts credit in general education requirements and also fulfills a WS2 attribute.

Course Readings

Simpson, Moira, 2001. *Making Representations: Museums in the Post-Colonial Era*. Routledge Press.

Course Requirements and Format

Lectures, class discussions, film, field trips and eventually, hands-on activity will serve as the format for this class. The required text will provide the material for formulating an understanding of museum professions and practices, both past and present. Readings, films, lectures and field trips will guide class discussions and reflect material in quizzes and exams. Attendance is absolutely crucial for preparation and eventual execution of the class project. (exhibit). Only absences due to dire circumstances or illness are accepted by the instructor. Proper documentation may be requested to excuse such absences.

Grading for this Course

Grade Table:

Quizzes – 10%	A 93-100%	C+ 77-79%	D-60-63%
Class Participation – 20%	A- 90-92%	C 74-76%	F below 60%
Mid-term Examination – 20%	B+ 87-89%	C- 70-73%	
Final Exam – 20%	B 84-86%	D+ 67-69%	
Class Project (Exhibit) – 30%	B- 80-83%	D 64-66%	

Quizzes

Material covered in lectures, readings and field trips will be represented in quizzes. Quizzes will be administered randomly, at the discretion of the instructor.

Exams

Two exams will be given in this course. One at the mid-point of the semester and one at the end of the semester. Exams will include material from lectures, field trips and readings. The format for exams will be short answer and essays. Make-up exams will only be given to students who have experienced an illness or other dire circumstance. A make-up exam will have to be scheduled with the instructor after proper documentation regarding the absence is procured.

Participation

This course is comprised mostly of your participation in class time. It is essential that you be present and prepared to participate in class discussions and activities. Good attendance is crucial for a favorable grade.

Class Project

In order for the exhibit to be successful, your participation and presence is essential. The first half of the semester will focus on preparation for the exhibit and the second half of the semester will include the creation and installation of the project.

Academic Honesty

Please review the State University College at Oneonta's Code of Student Conduct at www.oneonta.edu/development/judicial/code.asp#conduct. This site provides an explanation of the institution's and instructor's expectations regarding academic honesty. Academic dishonesty will result in a failing grade for this course.

Schedule

Date	Theme/Activity	Readings
August 27	Introduction: Museum History/Culture	
August 29	Overview of Class Project – visit exhibit site - Milne Library	
Sept. 1	Exhibit Logs, distributed - Class Discussion of Potential Exhibit Themes & Title Individual Readings Assigned	
Sept. 3	Class activity – visit exhibit in Fine Arts	Simpson, pgs. 1- 34
Sept. 5	Discussion of reading – visit CME	
Sept. 8	Finalize Themes/Individual Assignments	Simpson, pgs. 35 - 69
Sept. 10	Discussion of reading – visit Alden Rm., Library	
Sept. 12	Class meeting/Decide Objectives/Title for exhibit	Simpson, pgs. 71- 105
Sept 15	Discussion of reading – visit Alden Rm., Library	
Sept 17	Class Activity – visit Yager Museum – Hartwick College	Simpson, pgs. 107- 135
Sept. 19	Discussion of reading – Class meeting/label progress	
Sept. 22	*Individual Research Day	Simpson, pgs. 135- 189
Sept. 24	Discussion of reading – visit Alden Rm., Library	
Sept. 26	*Individual Research Day	Simpson, pgs. 191- 246
Sept. 29	Discussion of reading – visit Alden Rm., Library	
Oct. 1	*Individual Research Day	Simpson, pgs. 247- 300
Oct. 3	Discussion of reading – visit Alden Room, Library	
Oct. 6	*Individual Research Day	
Oct. 8	Mid-Term Exam - Posted on Angel – Due Oct. 13	
Oct. 13	Exhibit Logs/ Mid-Term Exams Due - Class Meeting: Exhibit Progress	
Oct. 15	Alden Rm., Library	
Oct. 17	Guest Lecturer – In Class Assignment	
Oct. 20	Visit exhibit site – mapping and measurements	
Oct. 22	Alden Rm., Library	
Oct. 24	Last visit Alden Rm.	

Oct. 27, 29, 31	Submission of Final Text Materials for Exhibit
Nov. 3,5,7	Production – Preparation
Nov. 10,12,14	Production – Preparation
Nov. 17,19,21	Installation – Send out Opening Invitations
Dec. 1	Review/Analysis of Exhibit – Class Activity
Dec. 8	Preparations for Exhibit Opening
Dec. 10	Exhibit Opening
Dec. 12	Final Exam – Posted on Angel
Dec. 15	Final Exam Due – Angel