

ANTH 312
Exhibiting Cultures in Museums

Instructor: Lisa Sorensen-Stahl **Office:** 405 Fitzelle Hall
Phone: 436-2076 **Office Hours:** M, W, F – 11 – 11:50 a.m.
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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 creation of their own exhibit. Readings, lectures and visits to nearby exhibits 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 assignments and final exam. 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:

Class Participation – 20 %	A 93-100%	C+ 77-79%	D-60-63%
Individual Reading Assignments -20%	A- 90-92%	C 74-76%	F below 60%
Final Exam - 20%	B+ 87-89%	C- 70-73%	
Class Project - 40%	B 84-86%	D+ 67-69%	
	B- 80-83%	D 64-66%	

Exam

The format for exam will be short answer and essays.

Participation

This course is comprised mostly of your participation in class time. It is **imperative** 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 necessary. 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

<u>Date</u>	<u>Theme/Activity</u>	<u>Readings</u>
August 25	Introduction: Museum History/Culture	
August 30	Overview of Class Project – Lecture	Simpson pgs. 1 - 34
Sept. 1	Discussion of reading – questions - lecture	
Sept. 6	Visit Alden Room – introduction to research materials	Simpson pgs. 35 - 69
Sept. 8	Discussion of reading – questions - lecture	
Sept. 13	Alden Room – Research	Simpson pgs. 71 - 105
Sept. 15	Discussion of reading – questions - lecture	
Sept. 20	Alden Room – Research	Simpson pgs. 107 - 135
Sept. 22	Discussion of reading – questions - lecture	
Sept. 27	Class meeting – first individual progress reports due	
Oct. 4	Alden Room – Research	Simpson, pgs. 135- 189
Oct. 6	Discussion of reading – questions - lecture	
Oct. 11	Alden Room - Research	Simpson, pgs. 191-246
Oct. 13	Discussion of reading – questions – lecture	

Oct. 18	Alden Room – Research	Simpson, pgs. 247-300
Oct. 20	Discussion of reading – questions - lecture	
Oct. 25	Class meeting – second individual progress reports due	
Oct. 27	Alden Room - Research	
Nov. 1	Class Gallery Activity	
Nov. 3	Alden Room – Research (*Last day at Alden)	
Nov. 8	Class meeting – presentation of materials (schedule of presentations – tba)	
Nov. 10	Class meeting – presentation of materials (schedule of presentations – tba)	
Nov. 15	Class meeting – presentation of materials (schedule of presentations – tba)	
Nov. 18	Individual Research Day	
Nov. 29	Production - Preparation	
Dec. 1	Production - Preparation	
Dec. 6	Production – Preparation – <i>Last day of preparation</i>	
Dec. 8	Exhibit Launch and Opening Reception	
Dec. 13	Final Exam – 8 – 10:30 a.m.	