Museum Anthropology: Anthropology 397, Anthropology 699, MUSE 780

Spring Semester 2015
Seminar, 3 hours credit
Tuesdays 2:30-5:00
Spooner Hall, Room 6A

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Holidays
Spring Break: March 16-22

Exams and Due Dates
Mid-term Exam: March 24
Virtual Exhibit Project Due: April 21
Final Exam: 1:30-4:00 pm, Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Course Description
An introduction to the historical background, practice, and ethical issues involved in the creation, presentation, and dissemination of anthropological information in a museum setting. The course also considers current issues facing anthropologists, such as: contested rights to collections; representation and interpretation of cultures; art and artifact; conceptualization of exhibitions; and anthropological research and education in the museum.

Classes
Part II. Defining Museum Anthropology.
Assignments: Bouquet 2012, Ch. 4.
Visit website for the Council for Museum Anthropology, (Section of the American Anthropological Association): http://museumanthropology.org/

Jan. 27. Lecture 2. Explorers, presidents, royalty, and early anthropologists: early collecting and curiosity cabinets.
Assignment: Read: Ames 1992, Ch. 2, pp. 15-24; Davenne 2012, pp. 6-43, 82-115, Henare, Ch. 2.
Listen to all of the Smithsonian curators’ presentations on the website: http://anthropology.si.edu/foundingcollections.html

Part II. Colonialism and late 19th century industrialists: Transitioning from curiosity cabinets to incipient museums.

Assignment: Read: Bouquet 2012, Ch. 3; Hinsley 1991; Gangewere 2011. Visit the Field Museum’s World Fair of 1893 website: http://worldsfair.fieldmuseum.org/visit

Feb. 10. Lecture 4. The Object: its transition from original locus, new roles, and new context. Round Table Discussion: Lost in Translation? Plucking an object out of its context and shifting its role. What does it represent? What does it express? What is lost? Assignment: Kirshenblatt-Gimblett 1998, Ch. 1; Swan 2010; Simon 2010, Ch. 4. Visit this wonderful website “Objects Have Stories. Tell Us Yours.”


And the story on Empire of Things exhibit in the Lawrence Journal-World:

Mar. 24. Mid-term Examination. Lecture 9: Digital Anthropology: media, social networking, online databases and archives as research tools, and web exhibitions. 
Visit Museums and the Web: http://www.museumsandtheweb.com/
Visit the Louvre Museum website: http://www.louvre.fr/en
Visit International Museum of Women’s (IMOW) online exhibition:
http://www.imow.org/

Tour of Archaeology collections by Dr. Mary Adair, Head of the Division of Archaeology, Biodiversity Institute, Spooner Hall.
Assignment: Di Giovine 2009
Visit the NMNH human evolution exhibition website: http://humanorigins.si.edu/
Visit the website of facial reconstruction artist Elisabeth Daynes:
http://www.daynes.com/
Visit the Creation Museum website, especially the Allosaurus page:
http://creationmuseum.org/whats-here/exhibits/allosaur/
Visit the website of Stephen Asma reviewing the Creation Museum (or see pdf):
https://www.academia.edu/1312561/Dinosaurs_on_the_Ark_The_Creation_Museum?
Visit the website for the exhibition Race: Are We so Different?
http://www.understandingrace.org/home.html

Assignment: Barker 2010; Kozloff 2005; Peers 2007, Ch. 7.
Visit the website for Project Archaeo, Cahokia Mounds: http://www.projectarchaeo.com/
Visit the UNESCO World Heritage website: http://whc.unesco.org/en/about/

Round Table Discussion: Cultural Patrimony vs. Internationalism. Weighing the Evidence: The Pros and Cons of both sides of the issues.
Visit the following websites before the round-table:
BBC’s summary: http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/greeks/parthenon_debate_01.shtml
Campaign to return the marbles website: http://www.parthenonuk.com/
British Museum’s defense of retaining the marbles: 

**April 21.** Lecture 13. Museum Anthropology and Informal Science Education. Folklife Festivals. **Virtual Exhibit Projects due!**

*Assignment:*
Bauman and Sawin 1991; Kurin 1991; Simon 2010, Ch. 1; Suina 1990.
Visit website on Cultural Diversity: The Museum as Resource: 
http://www.learningdesign.com/Portfolio/museum/museumschool.html

**April 28.** Lecture 14. Please don’t discover me! The upside and downside of cultural tourism, monuments, and visitor centers. Onsite indigenous narrators. **Presentation of student exhibits.**

*Assignment:*

**May 5.** Lecture 15. Anthropology in museums: Evolving and adapting in a changing world, final summary. **Presentations of student exhibits.**

*Assignment:*
Ames 1992, Ch. 14; Janes 2009, Ch. 6.

**May 13.** Final Examination, 1:30-4:00.

**Required Readings**
Ames, Michael M.

Angus, Jim

Barker, Alex

Bauman, Richard
Bauman, Richard and Patricia Sawin

Berstein, Bruce

Bouquet, Mary

Breunig, Robert G.

Brown, Michael

Bunn, David

Clarke, Alison

Cuno, James

Davenne, Christine

Dewhurst, C. Kurt; Nerissa Ramdhani; Marsha MacDowell

Di Giovine, Michael A.
Emmerich, André

Fitz Gibbon, Kate (ed.)

Gangewere, Robert
2011 Palace of Culture: Andrew Carnegie’s Museums and Library in Pittsburgh, Ch. 1 The Carnegie Years: “Pittsburghers Knew I was One of Themselves,” and Ch. 2, Building a Palace of Culture: “I Felt that Aladdin and his Lamp Had Been at Work”, pp. 1-45. University of Pittsburgh Press, Pittsburgh, PA.

Golding, Viv and Wayne Modest

Henare, Amiria J. M.

Hinsley, Curtis M.

Hollinger, R. Eric; Edwell John, Jr.; Harold Jacobs; Lora Moran-Collins; Carolyn Thome; Jonathan Zastrow; Adam Metallo; Günter Waibel; and Vince Rossi

Hopi Tribe

Janes, Robert R.

Karp, Ivan; Corinne A. Kratz; Lynn Szwaja; and Tomas Ybarra-Frausto (eds.)
Karp, Ivan and Steven D. Lavine (eds.)

Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, Barbara

Klarich, Elizabeth A.

Kozloff, Arielle

Kurin, Richard

Kurin, Richard

Masco, Joseph

Mason, Rhiannon, Christopher Whitehead, and Helen Graham

Munjeri, Dawson

Parker, Samuel K.

Peers, Laura

Polk, Milbry and Angela M.H. Schuster (eds.)

Shannon, Jennifer A. and Cythia Chavez Lamar

Simon, Nina

Soloman, Andrew

Suina, Joseph H.

Swan, Daniel C.

Vogel, Susan

Were, Graeme

Whitney, Katherine
Witz, Leslie