

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

Jan. 20. Lecture 1. Part I. Introduction to the course and its structure. Individual projects: Developing a virtual exhibition. Round-table discussion topics.
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>

Feb. 3. Lecture 3. Part I. Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show and world expositions: reenactments and cultural cannibalism.

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."

<http://objectstories.org>

Visit BBC Radio A History of the World in 100 Objects, look at a selection of the objects, no need to do all: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/ahistoryoftheworld>

Feb. 17. Lecture 5. Collections: What to seek, what to accept, what to keep? Establishing and revising anthropology collections. The roles of the anthropology curator, collection manager and conservator.

Assignment: Ames 1992, Ch. 3 and 4; Bauman 2011; Clarke 2004; Munjeri 1991. Scan as examples: Metropolitan Museum's Collection Policy and National Museum of Natural History's Collection Policy.

Feb. 24. Lecture 6. Anthropological Exhibitions in Different Settings: The Anthropology Museum, the Art Museum, The Natural History Museum, and Visitor's Centers.

Assignment: Bouquet 2012, Ch. 5; Bunn 2007; Masco 2007; Mason *et al.* 2013; Vogel 1991.

Mar. 3. Lecture 7. The Museum in Society: Involving local diverse communities in the museum at all levels: staffing, consultants, exhibitions, public programs, informal education for all ages. Diversity training: does it work?

Round Table Discussion: Multiculturalism: the Museum's roles, responsibilities, and opportunities. Outreach and Inreach (drawing diverse audiences into the Museum).

Assignment: Dewhurst, Ramdhani, and MacDowell 2008; Klarich 2014; Simon, Ch. 1; Witz 2007.

Mar. 10. Lecture 8. Students meet at entrance to Spencer Museum of Art. Tour of ethnographic exhibitions by Curator of Global Indigenous Art Cassandra Mesick. Return to Spooner Hall, 2nd floor for tour of ethnographic collections by Collection Manager Angela Watts.

Assignment: Before tour, look at Spencer Museum of Art website, especially:

<http://www.spencerart.ku.edu/collection/ethnographic/>

Specifically visit Spencer's webpages on *Empire of Things*:

<http://www.spencerart.ku.edu/exhibitions/empire-of-things.shtml>

And the story on *Empire of Things* exhibit in the Lawrence Journal-World:
<http://www2.ljworld.com/news/2013/jan/20/spencers-newest-permanent-exhibit-puts-things-back/>

Mar. 24. Mid-term Examination. Lecture 9: Digital Anthropology: media, social networking, online databases and archives as research tools, and web exhibitions.
Assignment: Angus 2012, Were 2014, Whitney 2011, Hollinger *et al.* 2013.
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/>

Mar. 31. Lecture 10. Biological anthropology exhibitions: evolution vs. creationism, presentation of human remains, facial reconstruction, and race and ancestry issues.
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>

April 7. Lecture 11. Prehistoric, classical and historic archaeology in museums: Glass boxes, artifacts as art, dioramas, and historic buildings. Archaeology informal science education-Kids dig digs.
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/>

April 14. Lecture 12. Protecting World Heritage: UNESCO, cultural patrimony, NAGPRA, internationalism and war.
Round Table Discussion: Cultural Patrimony vs. Internationalism. Weighing the Evidence: The Pros and Cons of both sides of the issues.
Assignment: Brown 2012, Kurin 2012. Shannon and Lamar 2013 (read before Berstein and Breunig), Berstein 2013, Breunig 2013, Hopi Tribe 2013, Cuno 2005, Solomon 2005, Emmerich 2005, Polk and Schuster (eds.), misc. in one pdf.
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:

http://www.britishmuseum.org/about_us/news_and_press/statements/parthenon_sculptures.aspx?fromShortUrl

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: Kirshenblatt-Gimblett 1998, pp. 131-176; Parker 2009, Peers 2007, Introduction.

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.

1992 *Cannibal Tours and Glass Boxes: The Anthropology of Museums*. Ch. 2, The Development of Museums in the Western World: Tensions between Democratization and Professionalization, pp. 15-24; Ch. 3, Dilemmas of the Practical Anthropologist: Public Service versus Professional Interests, pp. 25-37; Ch. 4 What Could a Social Anthropologist Do in a Museum of Anthropology? The Anthropology of Museums and Anthropology, Pp. 38-48; and Ch. 14, Museums in the Age of Deconstruction, pp. 151-168. University of British Columbia Press, Vancouver.

Angus, Jim

2012 Innovations in Practice: An Examination of Technological Impacts in the Field.

Journal of Museum Education 37(2): 37-46.

Barker, Alex

2010 Exhibiting Archaeology: Archaeology and Museums. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 39: 293-308.

Bauman, Richard

2011 "Better than any Monument": Envisioning Museums of the Spoken Word. *Museum Anthropology Review* 5(1-2): 1-13.

Bauman, Richard and Patricia Sawin

1991 The Politics of Participation in Folklife Festivals. In Ivan Karp and Steven D. Lavine (eds.), *Exhibiting Cultures: The Poetics and Politics of Museum Display*. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, DC. Pp. 288-314.

Berstein, Bruce

2013 Consilience and Reconciling Knowledge Systems. *Museum Anthropology* 36(2):110-112.

Bouquet, Mary

2012 *Museums: A Visual Anthropology*. Ch. 3, A History of Ethnographic Museums, pp. 63-88; Ch. 4, The Ethnography of Museums, pp. 93-118; Ch. 5, Practices of Object Display, pp. 119-150. Berg, London.

Breunig, Robert G.

2013 The Sale of the "Friends": One Director's Perspective. *Museum Anthropology* 36(2): 102-103.

Brown, Michael

2012 Safeguarding the Intangible. *Museum Anthropology Review* 6(2): 93-97.

Bunn, David

2007 The Museum Outdoors: Heritage, Cattle, and Permeable Borders in the Southwestern Kruger National Park. In Ivan Karp; Corinne A. Kratz; Lynn Szwaja; and Tomas Ybarra-Frausto (eds.), *Museum Frictions: Public Cultures/Global Transformations*. Duke University Press, Durham, NC. Pp. 357-391.

Clarke, Alison

2014 Theories of Material Agency and Practice: A Guide to Collecting Urban Material Culture. *Museum Anthropology* 37(1): 17-26.

Cuno, James

2005 Museums, Antiquities, Cultural Property, and the US Legal Framework for Making Acquisitions. In Kate Fitz Gibbon (ed.), *Who Owns the Past*. Rutgers University Press, New Brunswick, NJ. Pp. 143-158.

Davenne, Christine

2012: *Cabinets of Wonder*, pp. 6-43, 82-135. Abrams, New York.

Dewhurst, C. Kurt; Nerissa Ramdhani; Marsha MacDowell

2008 Lessons Lived and Learned in Developing and Managing a Bi-National Cultural Heritage Sector Project in South Africa. *Museum Anthropology Review* 2(1): 27-43.

Di Giovine, Michael A.

2009 Review Essay: Body Worlds and Body Worlds 2: Towards the Creation of an Instructive Museum of Man. *Museum Anthropology Review* 3(1): 25-86.

Emmerich, André

2005 Improving the Odds: Preservation through Distribution. In Kate Fitz Gibbon, (ed.), *Who Owns the Past? Cultural Policy, Cultural Property, and the Law*. Rutgers University Press, New Brunswick, NJ. Pp. 247-254.

Fitz Gibbon, Kate (ed.)

2005 *Who Owns the Past? Cultural Policy, Cultural Property, and the Law*. Rutgers University Press, New Brunswick, NJ.

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

2013 *Museums and Communities: Curators, Collections, and Collaboration*. Bloomsbury, London.

Henare, Amiria J. M.

2005 *Museums, Anthropology and Imperial Exchange*, Ch. 2, Objects of Exploration. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Hinsley, Curtis M.

1991 The World as Marketplace: Commodification of the Exotic at the World's Columbian Exposition, Chicago, 1893. In Ivan Karp and Steven D. Lavine (eds.), *Exhibiting Cultures: The Poetics and Politics of Museum Displays*. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, DC. Pp. 344-365.

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

2013 Tlingit-Smithsonian Collaborations with 3D Digitization of Cultural Objects. *Museum Anthropology Review* 7(1-2): 201-253.

Hopi Tribe

2013 Press Release: The Hopi Tribe Opposes Auction of Sacred Objects in France, April 4, 2013. *Museum Anthropology* 36(2): 102.

Janes, Robert R.

2009 *Museums in a Troubled World*. Ch. 6, The Mindful Museum, pp. 147-168. Routledge, New York.

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

2007 *Museum Frictions: Public Cultures/Global Transformations*. Duke University Press, Durham, NC.

Karp, Ivan and Steven D. Lavine (eds.)

1991 *Exhibiting Cultures: The Poetics and Politics of Museum Display*. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, DC.

Kirshenblatt- Gimblett, Barbara

1998 *Destination Culture: Tourism, Museums, and Heritage*, Ch. 1 Objects of Ethnography, pp. 17-78. University of California Press, Berkeley.

Klarich, Elizabeth A.

2014 Crafting, Community, and Collaboration: Reflections on the Ethnographic Sala Project at the Pukara Lithic Museum, Peru. *Museum Anthropology* 37(2): 118-132.

Kozloff, Arielle

2005 The Antiquities Market, When, What, Where, Who, Why, and How Much? In Kate Fitz Gibbon (ed.), *Who Owns the Past*. Rutgers University Press, New Brunswick, NJ. Pp. 183-190.

Kurin, Richard

1991 Cultural Conservation through Representation: Festival of India Folklore Exhibitions at the Smithsonian Institution. Ch. 17 in Ivan Karp and Steven D. Lavine (eds.), *Exhibiting Cultures: The Poetics and Politics of Museum Displays*. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, DC. Pp. 315-343.

Kurin, Richard

2012 Tangible Progress: A Response to “Safeguarding the Intangible” by Michael F. Brown. *Museum Anthropology Review* 6(2): 98-101.

Masco, Joseph

2007 Document, 5:29:45 AM. In Ivan Karp; Corinne A. Kratz; Lynn Szwaja; and Tomas Ybarra-Frausto (eds.), *Museum Frictions: Public Cultures/Global Transformations*. Duke University Press, Durham, NC. Pp. 102-106.

Mason, Rhiannon, Christopher Whitehead, and Helen Graham

2013 One Voice to Many Voices? Displaying Polyvocality in an Art Gallery. In Viv Golding and Wayne Modest (eds.), *Museums and Communities: Curators, Collections, and Collaboration*. Bloomsbury, London. Pp. 163-177.

Munjeri, Dawson

1991 Refocusing or Reorientation? The Exhibit or the Populace: Zimbabwe on the Threshold. In Ivan Karp and Steven D. Lavine (eds.) *Exhibiting Cultures: The Poetics and Politics of Museum Display*. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. Pp. 444-456.

Parker, Samuel K.

2009 Renovation, Disposal, and Conservation of Hindu Temples and Images: The Institutionalization of Creativity in South Indian and American Art World. *Museum Anthropology Review* 3(20): 107-134.

Peers, Laura

2007 *Playing Ourselves: Interpreting Native Histories at Historic Reconstructions*, Introduction, pp. xiii-xxxiii, and Ch. 7, The Living and the Dead: Conclusions, pp. 169-180. Altamira Press, Lanham, MD.

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

2005 *The Looting of the Iraq Museum, Baghdad: The Lost Legacy of Ancient Mesopotamia*. Harry N. Abrams, New York, NY.

Shannon, Jennifer A. and Cythia Chavez Lamar

2013 Introduction to Commentary: The April 2013 Auction in Paris, France. *Museum Anthropology* 36(2): 101.

Simon, Nina

2010 *The Participatory Museum*. Ch. 1, Principles of Participation, pp. 1-31, and Ch. 4, Social Objects, pp. 127-182. MUSEUM, Santa Cruz.

Soloman, Andrew

2005 Art in Jeopardy. In Kate Fitz Gibbon (ed.), *Who Owns the Past*. Rutgers University Press, New Brunswick, NJ. Pp. 239-246.

Suina, Joseph H.

1990 Museum Multicultural Education for Young Learners. *Journal of Museum Education*. Volume 15, Number 1: 12-15.

Swan, Daniel C.

2010 Objects of Purpose—Objects of Prayer: Peyote Boxes of the Native American Church. *Museum Anthropology Review* 4(2): 156-189.

Vogel, Susan

1991 Always True to the Object, in our Fashion. In Ivan Karp and Steven D. Lavine (eds.) *Exhibiting Cultures: The Poetics and Politics of Museum Display*. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, DC. Pp. 191-204.

Were, Graeme

2014 Digital Heritage, Knowledge Networks, and Source Communities: Understanding Digital Objects in a Melanesian Society. *Museum Anthropology* 37(2): 133-143.

Whitney, Katherine

2011 Going Virtual to Engage a Global Museum Community. *Journal of Museum Education*, Volume 36, Number 3, Fall 2011, pp. 289–296.

Witz, Leslie

2007 Transforming Museums on Postapartheid Tourist Routes. *In* Ivan Karp; Corinne A. Kratz; Lynn Szwaja; and Tomas Ybarra-Frausto (eds.), *Museum Frictions: Public Cultures/Global Transformations*. Duke University Press, Durham, NC. Pp. 107-134.