

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY, SIUE

Dr. Cory Willmott

Rm. 0407A Peck Hall; Text: 618-407-2313; Phone: 650-2748; E-mail: cwillmo@siue.edu

Office Hours: Mon. 4:00 – 5:00 pm and Wed. 1:00 – 2:30 pm, or by appointment

ANTH 420 - MUSEUM ANTHROPOLOGY

COURSE CONTENT:

This course situates anthropology museums among the various types of museums, examines the roles of museums in the history of anthropology, and explores contemporary issues in North American museum anthropology in the three fields of anthropology that are currently involved with museums (archaeology, biological and cultural). Due to current trends in the field, there will be a strong emphasis on relations between museum anthropologists and Native Americans; however, some attention will also be given to international issues.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- 1) To impart upper level knowledge of anthropological approaches to the collection and display of physical, archaeological and ethnological heritage items.
- 2) To develop skills in reading comprehension, critical thinking, library research, and written communication in/about anthropological research.
- 3) To develop an understanding of the ethical issues involved in the collection, study and display of physical, archaeological and ethnological heritage items.

UNDERGRADUATE REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION:

#1) 15%	75 pts.	Textbook Homework (Online quizzes on readings – 1% each)
#2) 5%	25 pts.	Title and abstract of proposed essay topic (150-200 words)
#3) 10%	50 pts.	Project Proposal (including annotated bibliography)
#4) 15%	75 pts.	Research Essay (undergrad: 10-12 pgs.; + illustrations and bibliography)
#5) 45%	225 pts.	Two term tests and final exam (each test 30 MC questions @ 2.5 pts. each question)
#6) 5%	25 pts.	Classroom Exercises (Weekly problem sets; minute papers; reading worksheets, etc. – graded C, PC, IC)
#7) 5%	25 pts.	Participation (attendance; contributions to discussions; communications with the instructor)
#8) Bonus	25pts.	10 for assignment submission format; 15 for events
Total: 105%	525 pts.	Final grade out of 100.

GRADUATE REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION:

#1) 15%	75 pts.	Textbook Homework (Online quizzes on readings – 1% each)
#2) 5%	25 pts.	Title and abstract of proposed essay topic (150-200 words)
#3) 10%	50 pts.	Project Proposal (including annotated bibliography)
#4) 15%	75 pts.	Research Essay (15-20 pgs.; + illustrations and bibliography)
#5) 45%	225 pts.	Three oral presentations on current issues in museum anthropology (15% each)

#6)	5%	25 pts.	Classroom Exercises (Weekly problem sets; minute papers; reading worksheets, etc. – graded C, PC, IC)
#7)	5%	25 pts.	Participation (attendance; contributions to discussions; communications with the instructor)
#8)	Bonus	25pts.	10 for assignment submission format; 15 for events
Total:	105%	525 pts.	Final grade out of 100.

Detailed descriptions of assignments are on the “Assignments” handout, which is also available on the “About this Course” page of the course Blackboard site.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

IMW - *Introduction to Museum Work* (G. Ellis Burcaw, 1997)

EC - *Exhibiting Cultures* (Ivan Karp and Steven D. Levine, eds., 1991)

BB - Blackboard readings – see end of syllabus for full list of BB readings

COURSE FORMAT and EXPECTATIONS:

This is a seminar course that requires every student’s full participation in discussions and exercises. It will employ a combination of lectures, class discussions and small-group exercises.

Students are expected to:

- 1) **Read the Syllabus and Course Outline in full** and consult it regularly for directions on scheduling, readings, assignments and policies.
- 2) **Come prepared to class** by having read the assigned readings (always bring the assigned reading to class even if you haven’t read it).
- 3) **Take notes during class** on lectures and discussions.
- 4) **Regularly utilize the resources provided on Blackboard.**

Success in the course depends upon meeting these expectations - failure to do so will result in inadequate preparation for assignments and exams, and hence lower grades. **You will be tested on ALL of the lecture content (not just that on Powerpoint notes) and assigned readings.**

Blackboard:

This course is supplemented with Blackboard. In order to log-on, click on “Blackboard” icon on the SIUE homepage. Enter your SIUE UserID and password (the same as for your e-mail), then select ANTH 420.

- **Lectures** are posted in the Weekly folders so that you can print them, bring them to class, and write your class notes directly on them. You will be tested on what I say about each slide, not just what each slide says!
- **Announcements:** All important information will be posted on the “Announcement” page of this site. **Check announcements at least once a week!**
- **Grades** will be posted on this site as soon as they are available. You can access your own grades at any time.
- **Textbook Homework (“TH”)**, which is worth 15% of your grade, is posted on Blackboard. You must complete these quizzes online *before the class for which they are assigned* in order to receive points.
- **Self-study quizzes** will be posted under the “Study Tools” button as aids to studying for the tests and exams. These are valuable study tools that you should make use of!

POLICIES:

Grading:

The evaluative scale to be used in this course is as follows:

90-100 = A; 80-89 = B; 70-79 = C; 60-69 = D; 0 - 59 = F

A = excellent; B = good to very good; C = satisfactory; D = less than satisfactory; F = failing.

Enrolment:

Students who fail to come to the first class will lose their place in this section of the course.

Students who fail to come to class four consecutive times during the first ten weeks will be withdrawn from the course by the instructor.

Assignments:

Students must keep copies of all submitted assignments (on paper and/or electronically), as well as keep their returned graded work, until the end of the exam period. In the event of a disputed grade, the instructor's opinion will prevail if the student cannot produce evidence of the graded work.

Late Assignments:

Except under exceptional and documented circumstances, late assignments will not be accepted and there will be no makeup exams.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Academic misconduct, including plagiarism and cheating, is described on p. 1 of the SIUE Student Academic Code (3c2). Academic Misconduct on an assignment, paper, test or exam will result in an F in the course. Please also familiarize yourself with the University policy on penalties outlined in the Code. The Faculty reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to internet sites designed to detect plagiarism.

Classroom Behavior:

- 1) Turn cell phone ringers OFF before entering class.
- 2) Arrive on time. Do not leave before the end of class without prior permission.
- 3) Do not hold private conversations (either oral or written). Do not speak during lectures unless called upon; listen and speak respectfully to your fellow students.
- 4) Do not read extraneous materials during lectures.
- 5) Do not fall asleep in class.

Failure to obey the above rules will result in deductions from your participation grade.

I welcome questions about Textbook Homework and exam questions; however, not during class time. Instead, questions about TH questions be written in an email. They must give specific details regarding the question, including page numbers where the answer should be found, quotations from the reading, and a rationale explaining your question or argument. Questions about exam questions should be written on the Question sheet, and in an email.

Disability Support Services:

Students with disabilities are welcome in this course. Academic accommodations you may require must be arranged through SIUE Disability Support Services in Room 1270 Student Success Center (650-3726) and brought to my attention no later than the first week of term.

Contacting me:

I welcome all your comments and questions via telephone, text message, e-mail and in person during my office hours or by appointment at (almost) any time. I prefer and answer more reliably if you contact me via e-mail or text. Please do not assume that I have received your message(s) unless you receive a reply.

Tentative Course Outline

Week	Date	Theme	Classroom Activities	Readings	Assignments
PART ONE: INTRODUCTION					
One	Aug. 21 st	Introduction	<u>Lecture:</u> What is Museum Anthropology? <u>Exercise:</u> Survey	IMW pp.13-22; 37-55	TH#1
Two	Aug. 28 th	Collecting Theory	<u>Lecture:</u> Collecting Art, History and Science <u>Exercise:</u> The Art/Culture System	IMW pp. 56-72	TH#2
Three	Sept. 4 th	Anthropology Museums	<u>Lecture:</u> Collecting in the Four Fields of Anthropology	MM Ch. 3;	TH#3 Abstract (5%)
Four	Sept. 11 th	History of Ethnographic Collecting	<u>Library Instruction at Lovejoy</u> <u>Exercise:</u> Reading Worksheet	BB Willmott (Museum Praxis)	TH#4
Five	Sept. 18 th	History of Ethnographic Exhibitions	<u>Lecture:</u> Evolution of World's Fairs <u>Video:</u> <i>Ishi</i>	EC Ch. 18 Hinsley	TH#5
PART TWO: REPATRIATION					
Six	Sept. 25 th	Introduction to NAGPRA; Human Remains	<u>Term Test 1</u> <u>Video:</u> <i>Bones of Contention (49 min.)</i>	BB Trope & Echohawk; BB NAGPRA	Term Test 1 (15%) TH#6
Seven	Oct. 2 nd	The NAGPRA Debate	<u>Exercise:</u> NAGPRA scenarios	BB Landau & Steele	TH#7
Eight	Oct. 9 th	Case Studies: Repatriation	<u>Lecture:</u> Virtual Repatriation: RRN and GRASAC <u>Video:</u> <i>Box of Treasures</i>	BB Jacknis	Proposal (10%) TH#8
Nine	Oct. 16 th	Ethics in Art & Archaeology	<u>Video:</u> <i>Stealing History (52 min.) (I'm at NAASA)</i>	BB TBA	TH#9

Ten	Oct. 23 rd	Ethics in Ethnology	<u>Video:</u> <i>Smithsonian National Museum for the American Indian</i> (28 min.)	BB Wastiau, Geneva Museum	TH#10
PART THREE REPRESENTATION					
Eleven	Oct. 30 th	Construction of Meaning and Value 1	<u>Term Test 2</u> <u>Exercise:</u> “Three Sites of Meaning”	BB: Willmott “Visitors’ Voices”	Term Test 2 (15%) TH#11
Twelve	Nov. 6 th	Construction of Meaning and Value 2	<u>Exercise:</u> “The Fragment”	EC Ch.20 pp.386-416 Kirshenblatt- Gimblett	TH#12
Thirteen	Nov. 13 th	Hierarchy of Senses in Museums	<u>Lecture:</u> Anishnaabe Metal Arts <u>Exercise:</u> Musical Instruments	EC Ch.22 Hudson	Essay (15%) TH#13
Fourteen	Nov. 20 th	Emic vs. Etic Representations	<u>Video:</u> <i>Shooting Indians</i>	EC Ch.14 Clifford	TH#14
THANKSGIVING BREAK					
Fifteen	Dec. 4 th	Intangible Heritage	<u>Lecture:</u> Folk Festivals and Dances/National Identities	EC Ch. 17 Kurin	TH#15
FINAL	Dec. 11 th		6:30 – 8:10 pm		Final Exam (15%)

Blackboard Readings:

Week 3: Alexander, Edward, and Mary Alexander. 2008. “Natural History and Anthropology Museums.” In *Museums in Motion: An Introduction to the History and Functions of Museums, Second Edition*. Pp.53-84. New York: Alta Mira Press.

Week 4: Willmott, Cory. 2006. “The Historical Praxis of Museum Anthropology: A Canada/US Comparison.” In *Historicizing Canadian Anthropology*. J. Harrison and R. Darnell, eds. Pp. 212-225. Vancouver, BC: UBC Press.

Weeks 5, 6 and 7: Chapters from: Miheshuah, Devon, ed. 2000. *Repatriation Reader: Who Owns American Indian Remains?* Lincoln, NB: University of Nebraska Press.

Week 5: Trope and Echo-Hawk, on NAGPRA and NAGPRA act in appendix

Week 6: Landau and Steele, on archaeologists’ perspectives

Week 7: Jacknis, on a case study of Native American perspectives

Week 10: Wastiau, Boris. 2008. African Art at the Museum of Ethnography in Geneva (MEG). *African Arts* 41(1):1-7.

Week 11: Willmott, Cory. 2008. Visitors’ Voices: Lessons from Conversations in the Royal Ontario Museum’s *Gallery of Canada: First Peoples*. *Material Culture Review* 67:45-55.