

Beth S. Gersh-Nešić, Ph.
Museum Studies: Exhibits
Purchase College, Spring 2015
Tuesdays, April 7 – May 5, 2015
6:30 to 9:30 pm

Course Code: MSC 1040 – Museum Studies: Exhibits

Study the components of a successful museum exhibition, whether permanent or temporary. Gain an understanding of the process of developing an exhibit from the concept, research, and conservation to publications, design, lighting, budget, loans, advertising, sponsorship, education, and visitor satisfaction. Experts in the field will provide specialized lectures. Trips to museum collections to be discussed.

Purchase College employees and alumni, Neuberger Museum members, and early registration discount

Syllabus:

- April 7** Introductions. Listing the components of an exhibition
Powerpoint of exhibitions
Discussion
Homework: Write a review an exhibition
- April 14** Helaine Posner Dorsky, Senior Curator of Contemporary Art
Neuberger Museum
Discuss exhibition reviews
Homework: Plan your own exhibition
- April 21** **Presentation of your exhibition in Powerpoint**
- April 28** Professor Jeff Taylor takes us to the forensic lab
Homework: Write a review of *Ways of Curating*
- May 5** Eric Siegel, Director and Chief Content Officer
New York Hall of Science
Discuss the *Ways of Curating*

Required Reading:

Hans Ulrich Obrist with Asad Rasa, *Ways of Curating*, Faber and Faber, 2014.

Suggested Reading:

Carolee Thea, *On Curating: Interviews with 10 International Curators*, DAP, 2010.

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Outcomes:

You will learn about:

- The exhibitions in different kinds of museums.
- Striving for innovations in exhibitions
- Good habits for writing research papers.
- A better sense of where/how you might make your contribution as a museum professional.

Requirements:

1. Read and prepare for class.
2. Participate in class discussions.
3. Present your powerpoint or video on your project.
4. Write your own paper, including handing in the draft and polishing the paper.

Absences:

More than two absences will result in an F.

Class Format:

- Powerpoint lectures in class
- Discussion

3 Projects:

Review an exhibition (suggested exhibitions on Moodle)

Select any exhibition that interests you
Write a critique and present in class.

Create your own exhibition – art, history, science, etc.

Present your exhibition virtually through powerpoint – defend its criterion/criteria.

Review Hans Ulrich Obrist's Ways of Curating.

Write a critique of the book and submit on April 28th.
Discussion on May 5th.

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Assessment:

1. Participation in discussions: 20%
2. Papers and Powerpoints 80% (Presentation, Draft and Polished Version for one grade).

Class Trip:
TBA

Academic Integrity Policy:

<http://www.purchase.edu/Policies/academicintegrity.aspx>

ADA compliance: Documented Disabilities

Students with documented physical, learning, psychological and other disabilities are entitled to receive reasonable accommodations. If a student needs accommodations, he or she must first register with the Office of Special Student Services; please call 914-251-6390; or email accommodations@purchase.edu

You can find a description of special student services provided by the Counseling Center at: <http://www.purchase.edu/Departments/SpecialStudentServices/>

Moodle is ADA compliant; you can find the accessibility specification for Moodle at: http://docs.moodle.org/en/Moodle_Accessibility_Specification