

Museum Studies: Museums and Curatorial Experience

Instructor: Dr. Eileen Michal

Course Description: This course is designed as a freshman-level course. It introduces students to the role museums have played in the representation of culture by combining reading and research with first-hand experience in Chicago's museums.

To help frame the coursework, students will learn museum history and Theory, what determines a museum, and understand the curatorial experience. Visits to Chicago area museums and work with Loyola University's Museum of Art will be part of the course work.

Students will work on a final project that consists of a detailed, researched presentation on an imaginary museum of your choice. You will decide what kind of museum, gather your "collection" of forty objects, design your museum, design how your "treasures" or artifacts will be displayed, and compile a visitor's guide.

Course Materials

Karp, Ivan and Steven D. Lavine, eds. *Exhibiting Cultures: The Poetics and Politics of Museum Display* (Washington: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1991).

Duncan, Carol. *Civilizing Rituals: Inside Public Art Museums* (London: Routledge, 1995).

Packet of Readings

Exams:

There will be a final exam.

Grading:

Grades will be based on examinations, course work, and final presentation.

Attendance:

Mandatory.

