

MUSEUM STUDIES DEPARTMENT

COURSE SYLLABUS

CURATORIAL SKILLS

INSTRUCTOR: MS. STEWART

PERIOD: 8

SCHOOL YEAR: FALL 2019 / SPRING 2020

CREDITS: 1

CURATORIAL SKILLS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Curatorial Skills course is a requirement for graduation. The focus of the course is an overview of the practices of curators in museums and an examination of the theories and trends that govern the exhibitions curators mount. In general, the senior high Curatorial Skills course is a comprehensive look at how curators develop exhibitions from the inception of an idea to the actual mounting of the exhibition, one of the major roles of the curator. Students in this course will curate exhibitions.

CONTENT STANDARDS

Curators and Curation Developing an idea for an exhibition/ Message/ Theme Proceeding with topic / Finding the hook Importance of Research Writing a proposal/ budget Role of Project Manager/ Scheduling and accountability-The Plan Selection of objects Writing text/ labels and titles- Innovation in communication Curatorial Order/ Principles of organization Evaluation

COURSE OUTLINE

- I. *Curators and Curation*
 - A. Explore and interact with curators B. Study the notion of curation then and now
- II. *Developing an exhibition*
 - A. Demonstrate an understanding of what topics/ideas would make a feasible exhibition.
 1. Is an exhibition the best medium for the idea?
 2. What are the take home messages for the audiences?
 3. Who is the target audience and how to bring them in.
 - B. Use research and interviewing skills to collect information about a topic--didactic and /or aesthetic.
- III. *Proceeding with topic/ Finding the hook*
 - A. Identify how the exhibit reflects the mission
 - B. Examine responsibility to target audience
- IV. *The importance of research*
 - A. Compare the research for collections vs. for special exhibitions

- B. Explore ways of collecting, storing and retrieving research
- V. *Writing a proposal to do an exhibition/budget*
 - A. Discuss the art of writing successful proposals, submit proposal
 - B. Analyze the use of persuasive language. Budget development, making the numbers work
- VI. *Role of Project Manager*
 - A. Develop action items to produce an exhibition- The plan B. Schedule action items and develop a strategies for accountability
- VII. *Selection of objects*
 - A. Explore various methods of locating objects from private owners and institutions.
 - B. Choosing dynamic objects and secondary objects for the exhibition and developing an object list
- VIII. *Writing text/ labels and titles-Innovative communication components*
 - A. Explore the use of language, length of sentences and structure for selected kinds of labels, signage- Selection of type and size
 - B. Develop an instrument that allows the audience to interact with the exhibit using new media.
- IX. *Curatorial order*
 - A. Identify the principles of organization
 - B. Develop strategies for interacting with the exhibit designer
- X. *Evaluation*
 - A. Identify the various evaluation methods for exhibitions
 - B. Create an evaluation instrument and study the findings

MATERIALS

Selected articles from American Association of Museums Publications and other Periodicals, Videos, Museum Labels by Beverly Serrell and other media.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

GENERAL RULES

1. Attendance is required. Any absences must be supported by a note from the student's parent or guardian. Five unexcused absences may result in a dropped letter grade.
2. Arriving on time for class is mandatory.
3. Students must take all tests and quizzes.

4. Students must complete all assignments on time. Students are responsible for coming to the teacher for missed work.
5. Students must keep a notebook.
6. Students may use mobile phones for educational purposes only.
7. Students are not permitted to sleep or have headphones in ears during class time

GRADING POLICY

(Grade percentage per quarter)

<p>Participation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Listening ● Speaking ● Effort 	<p>10%</p>
<p>Practice and Application</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Classwork/Homework ● Writing assignments ● Projects ● Field trips 	<p>50%</p>
<p>Assessments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Quizzes ● Unit Tests ● Presentations 	<p>40%</p>

NOTE: 5 unexcused absences results in the automatic drop in one letter grade, ten unexcused absences in one advisory results in a grade of FA, & 30 absences in a year is an automatic F for the course.

CONTACT INFORMATION

- martareidstewart@gmail.com
- Aspen

Parent /Guardian Signature

Date

Student Signature

Date