Course Catalog - Spring 2015

Museum Studies

Museum Studies
Museum Studies Program Coordinator: Susan Frankenberg
Program Office: 309A Davenport Hall, 607 South Mathews, Urbana
Phone: 244-1984
www.anthro.illinois.edu/
Subjects associated with this department include: Anthropology (ANTH) and Museum Studies (MUSE).

MUSE 200 Introduction to Museums credit: 3 hours.
A broad introduction to the museum world, focusing on what a museum is, what differentiates various types of museums, and how museums function. Examines museums in terms of education, curation, exhibition, public relations, research, administration, ethical and legal obligations, funding and knowledge. Prerequisite: One year of college coursework.

MUSE 250 The World Through Museums credit: 3 hours.
Examination of contemporary museums around the world, evaluating their roles as social institutions and communicators of heritage in increasingly global contexts. The first half of the course develops a framework for museum literacy (how to read museums) that incorporates anthropological, globalization, media and critical theories. The second half of the course is a virtual tour and evaluates museums using this analytical skill set. Same as ANTH 250.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for a:
UIUC Social Sciences
UIUC: Western Compartv Cult

MUSE 330 Learning in Museums credit: 3 hours.
An applied course in the multiple responsibilities of professionals in the field of Museum Education. Examines how people, ideas and objects connect in museums; trends in interpretation and museum ethics; best practice and current learning theories; and exemplary programs involving highly varied audiences, community collaboration and advanced technology. Provides practical experience in program development, facilitation, documentation and assessment. Requires some in-museum work outside of regularly scheduled class hours. Includes field trips to local museums. Prerequisite: MUSE 200.

MUSE 389 Seminar in Museum Studies credit: 3 hours.
Study of special themes, selected topics or current issues in museum studies for undergraduate students with backgrounds in museology. Course may be in seminar or lecture format. May be repeated in separate terms to a maximum of 6 hours. Prerequisite: MUSE 200 and ANTH 462.

MUSE 390 Museum Internship credit: 3 hours.
Supervised field experience in museums, both on and off-campus, designed to introduce students to professional practice. Builds on museum studies coursework, and provides opportunities for applying academic knowledge and analyzing personal development. Students work part-time (150 hours) in a program-approved museum under the guidance of an instructional team. Requires an internship contract before the term, regular reporting and documentation during the term, and compilation of a project portfolio at the end of the term. May be repeated in same and separate terms to a maximum of six hours. Prerequisite: Three courses (nine hours) within the undergraduate minor in Museum Studies. Requires approval of the Museum Studies program advisor.

MUSE 420 Collections Management credit: 3 OR 4 hours.
An applied course in the preservation, documentation, and maintenance of the physical integrity of museum collections. Examines agents of deterioration and how to mitigate damage to collections; the chemical and physical properties of inorganic, organic, composite and textile materials; collections packing, shipping and storage methods; and collections hazards, safety and emergency planning.

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Provides practical experience and encourages skills development in collections management. Requires some in-museum work outside of regularly scheduled class hours. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: MUSE 200 or MUSE 500.

MUSE 440  **Museum Registration**  credit: 0 TO 4 hours.
An applied course in the management and care of museum collections through registration and records. Examines legal and ethical issues of collections stewardship, and current professional practices and standards. Provides practical experience and encourages skills development in museum registration. Requires some in-museum work outside of regularly scheduled class hours. Includes a field trip to a local museum. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: MUSE 200 or MUSE 500.

MUSE 500  **Core Prob Museum Theory & Prac**  credit: 4 hours.
A critical examination of both historical and current theoretical issues in museum practice. Addresses the development of museums within varied social, cultural and intellectual contexts, and the conceptualizations and criticisms of museums in terms of paradigmatic, institutional, symbolic and other theories. In addition to surveying the broad range of theoretical frameworks adopted in contemporary museum scholarship, students will examine and evaluate curatorial and institutional strategies for responding to the myriad external pressure (including multiple constituencies, standards and best practices) currently placed on museums. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

MUSE 589  **Special Topics Museum Studies**  credit: 2 OR 4 hours.
Intensive study of selected topics and problems of special interest in Museum Studies. May be repeated in separate terms to a maximum of 8 hours. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

MUSE 590  **Museum Studies Capstone**  credit: 0 TO 4 hours.
Supervised individual study involving a museum-based internship, museum-related project or museum-related research paper and fulfilling the capstone requirement for the Graduate Minor in Museum Studies. Approved for letter and S/U grading. Credit is not given for MUSE 590 and either LIS 591 or ARTH 595. Prerequisite: Approval of the Museum Studies Steering Committee.