

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic Department:	Communications and the Arts
Programme:	Study Abroad
FHEQ Level:	5
Course Title:	Museums and Galleries of London
Course Code:	ARTS 5601
Total Hours:	120
Timetabled Hours:	45
Guided Learning Hours:	0
Independent Learning Hours:	75
Credits:	12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

Course Description:

Considers the nature of London's museums and art galleries and their role and function in our society and culture since the 17th century. The course also provides students with a critical understanding of the various historical, cultural, social, international, and political contexts that have shaped British art and architecture from 1650 onwards. Students study the workings of the art market and a variety of other topics that impinge upon it, such as conservation, restoration, the investment potential of art, and art-world crime. The course enables students to study and discuss London's art and architecture firsthand through regular visits to buildings and museums.

Prerequisites:

40 Credits

Students will not be able to take the four-credit version of this course if they had previously taken this three-credit course.

Aims and Objectives:

- To introduce students with a major in Art History and Visual Culture or for those interested in careers in museum or gallery work, to the museums and galleries of London.
- To provide a historical overview of key developments in British Art and Architecture since 1650.
- To consider current issues in museum and art world studies through weekly lectures.
- To consider current issues in museum and art world studies through visits to museums and galleries.

Programme Outcomes :

A5I, II

B5II

C5I, II

D5I, II

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification. This is located at the archive maintained by Registry and found at: <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a detailed understanding of a wide range of museum and gallery related practices.
- Demonstrate a detailed understanding of culturally diverse art and architecture on display in the UK and, particularly, in London.
- Demonstrate a detailed understanding of major theoretical concepts and practical methodologies related to museology.
- Critically evaluate a variety of cultures of display in evidence in contemporary London.
- Demonstrate well-developed skills (eg; group work, report writing, oral presentation) which translate to the workplace.
- Demonstrate a detailed understanding of the conventions at work within museums.
- Complete assigned work with a degree of clarity, technical competence and critical thinking, and a degree of independence and capacity for self- evaluation, appropriate for a 5000-level course.

Indicative Content:

- The nature and purpose of the museum in contemporary society.
- Cultural property and the ethics of collecting.
- The notion of national heritage.
- The role of the museum within education.
- The philosophy, ethics and practice of conservation and restoration.
- Funding and the economics of cultural institutions.
- Museum management and governance.
- Exhibition design.

Assessment:

This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board and located at: <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/university-policies/>

Teaching Methodology:

Classes will take the form of presentations by the lecturer with appropriate audiovisual support and in-class focused group discussion and exercises. In the museum and gallery situation, students will be divided into small groups and directed in close visual analysis and discussion. It should be noted that discussion will comprise a major element of this course and all students are expected to verbalise their thoughts and perceptions and to develop a critical response to the material under consideration. They must keep up with assignments, be prepared to ask questions, and discuss their readings. It is not possible to do well in this class if you do not participate.

Indicative Texts:

Ambrose, T. and Paine, C. (2018) *Museum basics: the international handbook*. 4th edition. London and New York: Routledge.

Chambers, E. (2014) *Black Artists in British art: a history from 1950 to the present*. London: I. B. Tauris.

Hicks, D. (2021) *The British Museums: the Benin Bronzes, colonial violence and cultural restitution*. London: Pluto Press.

Jones, J. (2019) *Sensations: The story of British art from Hogarth to Banksy*, London: Laurence King Publishing.

Lang, C. and Reeve, J. (2016) *The responsive museum: working with audiences in the Twenty-First Century*. London: Routledge.

Mason, R., Robinson, A. and Coffield, E. (2018) *Museum and gallery studies: the basics*. London: Routledge.

Simon, N. (2016) *The art of relevance*. Museum 2.0.

Stourton, J. (2023) *Heritage: a history of how we conserve our past*. London: Bloomsbury.

Watson, S. and Bunning, K. eds. (2018), *A museum studies approach to heritage*. Leicester Readers in Museum Studies. Abingdon: Routledge.

See syllabus for complete reading list.

Change Log for this CSD:

Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or AB)	Change Actioned by Registry
First Edition	Nov 2024	