#### **COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT**

**NOTE:** ANY CHANGES TO A CSD MUST GO THROUGH ALL OF THE RELEVANT APPROVAL PROCESSES, INCLUDING LTPC.

Academic School/Department: Communications, Arts and Social Sciences

**Programme:** Combined Studies

FHEQ Level: 5

Course Title: Museums and Galleries of London

Course Code: ARH 5200

Course Leader: Alex Seago

Student Engagement Hours:120Lectures:22.5Gallery visits/Tutorials:22.5Independent / Guided Learning:75

Semester: Spring

Credits: 12 UK CATS credits

6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

#### **Course Description:**

Considers the nature of museums and art galleries and their role and function in our society and culture. 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. Students visit many of the great London galleries and museums with their rich intercultural collections, as part of this course. A university-level survey of the history of international art is strongly recommended as a prerequisite.

Prerequisites: ARW 4195

#### Aims and Objectives:

This course is designed for students with a major in Art History or for those interested in careers in museum or gallery work. Students gain direct knowledge of institutions dedicated to preserving and propagating culture.

The course is structured as two interweaving strands. The first of these consists of a weekly lecture series designed to acquaint students with some of the current issues in museum and art world studies. The second strand consists of a series of visits to museums and galleries, both to sample the various categories of museum and to provide

the opportunity to study how, on a practical level, museums deal with the various aspects of their task.

# **Programme Outcomes:**

A5(i); A5(ii); A5(iii); B5(i); B5(ii); B5(iii); C5(i); C5(ii); C5(iii); D5(1); D5(iii)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification. This is located at the Departmental/Schools page of the portal.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Detailed understanding of a wide range of museum and gallery related practices.
- Detailed understanding of a variety of cultures of display.
- Detailed understanding of major theoretical concepts and practical methodologies related to museology.
- Critical evaluation of 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 workplace.
- 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;
- art-world crime;
- 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 Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Council on 28 June 2012.

### **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.

### Bibliography:

See syllabus for complete reading list

## IndicativeText(s):

Ambrose, T. & Paine, C., Museum Basics, Routledge, London and New York, 2010

Hooper-Greenhill, E., *Museums and the Shaping of Knowledge*, Routledge, London and New York, 1992.

Barker, E., ed., *Contemporary Cultures of Display*, Open University Press / Yale University Press, London and New Haven, 1999.

Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus

## Change Log for this CSD:

Major or	Nature of Change	Date Approved &	Change
Minor	_	Approval Body (School	Actioned by
Change?		or LTPC)	Academic
			Registry