

**COURSE SPECIFICATION**  
**DOCUMENT**

Academic Department:	Communications and the Arts
Programme:	Art History and Visual Culture
<i>FHEQ</i> Level:	5
Course Title:	Museums and Galleries of London
Course Code:	AVC 5200
Course Leader:	Dr Nicola Mann
Student Engagement Hours:	120
Lectures:	22.5
Gallery visits/Tutorials:	22.5
Independent / 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:**

GEP 4180

**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 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,
- To study how, on a practical level, museums deal with the various aspects of their task

**Programme Outcomes :**

A5(ii), B5(ii), C5(i), C5(ii), C5(iii), D5(i), D5(ii), D5(iii)

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 a variety of cultures of display.
- 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 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;
- 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 University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board.

**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 Text(s):**

- Ambrose, T. & Paine, C., *Museum Basics: The International Handbook*. 4<sup>th</sup> edition (London and New York, Routledge, 2018).
- Lang, Caroline and John Reeve, *The Responsive Museum: Working with Audiences in the Twenty-First Century*, (Routledge, 2016).
- O’Doherty, Brian. *Inside the White Cube*, (University of California Press, 2000).
- Simon, Nina. *The Art of Relevance*. (Museum 2.0, 2016)
- Watson, Sheila, Bunning, Katy eds. *A Museum Studies Approach to Heritage*. Leicester Readers in Museum Studies. (Abingdon: Routledge, 2018).

See syllabus for complete reading list

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Change Log for this CSD:

Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or AB)	Change Actioned by Registry
Course Code Change		
Learning Outcomes mapped to programme outcomes		
Addition of AHVC Programme Title		
Update of Indicative Texts	18/11/20 (Dept)	