

COURSE INFORMATION

Course title: **EXHIBITION PRACTICES II**

Course prefix and number: **Art 3309**

Course meeting location: Fox Fine Arts A355

Course meeting times: Monday and Wednesday, 9:00am -- 11:20am

Course credit: 3

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Daniel Carey-Whalen

Office location: Kelly Hall 220

Office hours: by appointment

Phone number: 785-840-9886

e-mail: djcareywhalen@utep.edu

INSTRUCTOR INTRODUCTION

Daniel Carey-Whalen has spent nearly seven years in the museum field as an educator, program coordinator, and grant writer. He has been a Museum Educator at the Johnson County Museums of History, the Kansas Historical Society, and the Galveston County Historical Museum, and the Director of Programs for the Kansas Humanities Council. He has written several successful grant applications, the most recent was from Humanities Texas. He holds a B.A. in History from the University of Missouri- Kansas City and a Master's of Arts in American Studies and Master's of Urban Planning from the University of Kansas. He has taught Humanities and Western Civilization at the University of Kansas, including a class of his own design, *The Idea of the City in Western Civilization*.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will focus on various functions within the museum, including curatorial, education/outreach, and promotion. Projects will focus on the creation of an exhibit, including publicity and event creation.

READINGS***Books***

Serrell, Beverly, Exhibit Labels: An Interpretive Approach

Articles

See Course Calendar below

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. By successfully earning credit for this class, students will have two of the three required classes for the Museum Studies minor at UTEP.
2. Students will understand the steps necessary to create a successful exhibition or display, beginning with concept development and concluding with installation.
3. Students will learn about the varying types of museums and positions and gain hands-on experience creating exhibitions, including budget and concept development, research, design, and installation.

COURSE DELIVERY OR STYLE

The course will consist of class discussions, presentations by the instructor, guest lecturers, and students, independent projects with various museums within the community, and field trips both during class time and outside of class.

GRADING SYSTEM

You will be graded on a point system. There are a total of 100 points based on the assignments below:

- 90-100 A
- 80-89 B
- 70-79 C
- 60-69 D
- Below 60 F

ASSIGNMENTS

As this course depends heavily on interaction with outside individuals and departments, course assignments and due dates may be adapted by instructor to reflect real-life obstacles or modifications to development of exhibitions. Any changes will be announced in class and posted on blackboard.

Attendance and participation grade- 20 pts

Your attendance and participation grade will be assigned based on your participation in class discussion and activities and your regular attendance in the class. Instructor will regularly take attendance and will regularly assess participation in classroom discussion, especially when we are meeting off-site or hosting a visitor.

Service Learning- 20 pts

Students MUST have **Twenty (20) hours** of community engagement at a prescribed local museum or cultural center. Experiences may include: taking down or installing exhibitions, helping organize and staffing events, or helping catalog and inventory a collection.

Museum Exhibit Review- 20 pts (10 pts each)

All students MUST visit two museums in the Las Cruces/Juarez/El Paso area and provide examples, evaluate, and critique an effective label and an ineffective label. The first Museum Exhibit Review will be due prior to Spring Break. The second Review will be due by the end of the semester.

Each review must cover the following questions:

1. Where was the exhibit? What was the title of the exhibit?
2. What is the "big idea" for the exhibition?
3. Who is the intended audience?
4. Were the labels clear and concise? Did they help clarify or expand the exhibit, or were they disruptive or incomplete?
5. Give one example of an effective label (take a picture, etc.). Evaluate and critique using ideas from Serrell's book.
6. Give one example of an ineffective label. Evaluate and critique using Serrell's book.

7. How did the exhibit engage the senses?
8. Were there hands-on components?
9. How was the layout and design of the exhibit? Was it distracting or did it complement the objects within the space?
10. What did you find most interesting?

“Saving Duranguito” exhibit at the Rock House gallery- 40 pts

Our class will be assisting in creating an exhibit tentatively called Saving Duranguito that will be displayed in the Rock House gallery. Details to follow.

A. Research paper on “Saving Duranguito” exhibit topic- 15 pts

As we know, content is important and museum professionals need to quickly become well versed in the subject at hand. This brief research paper, due **March 8**, will highlight what you have learned about the Union Plaza neighborhood and the specific object(s) you are researching. Details to follow.

B. Label Writing Rough Drafts- 5 pts

Research artifacts and write caption labels about these artifacts. These artifacts will be tied to the final exhibit. First draft due **March 20**. Second draft due **March 27**. Details to follow.

C. Final labels for Museum exhibit- 10 pts

Final labels due **April 3**. This grade includes the final caption labels and work on Sections labels in class. Details to follow.

D. Exhibition Installation for El Paso Museum of History- 10 pts

Students will be required to work on the installation at the EPMH.

Extra credit

Extra credit opportunities will be offered at the instructor’s discretion.

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance and promptness are mandatory. Records of attendance and performance will be taken every class, kept on file and evaluated at the end of the semester. All unexcused absences, tardiness, and early departures from class or other assigned duties will be taken into account when evaluating students for their final grade. By enrolling in this class, you make a commitment to publically represent the Museum Studies program.

All cell phones, pagers, and other on-call devices must to be turned off during class time.

It is important that you behave in a courteous and professional manner at all times, especially when interacting with student, faculty, and staff from other departments across campus.

Students are required to attend all field trips scheduled during regular class time. Visiting museums during the semester is strongly encouraged and will be required at several points during the semester.

Academic Integrity: This course is based on the principle of academic integrity. Students are responsible for their own academic behavior, and for making themselves fully aware of UTEP's policies. Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another person's as ones' own. And, collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Violations will be taken seriously and will be referred to the Dean of Students' Office for disciplinary action. In addition to receiving a failing grade in the class, the student may be suspended or expelled from UTEP for such actions. Further information can be found at the UTEP Dean of Students' web page, <http://www.utep.edu/dos/>.

Disability: Any student with a disability that may prevent her/him from fully demonstrating her/his abilities should contact me as soon as possible to discuss accommodations necessary to ensure full participation and facilitate educational opportunity. If you have a documented disability and require specific accommodations, you will need to contact the Disabled Student Services Office (<http://www.utep.edu/dsso>, (915) 747-5148 voice or TTY, e-mail: dss@utep.edu, East Union Bldg. Room 106) within the first 2 weeks of classes.

COURSE CALENDAR (Note: This calendar is subject to change with written notice.)

Wednesday, January 18

Overview of course syllabus and Introduction

Monday, January 23

CCE visit- Service Learning

Sharing objects- Bring an object and write a label about it (no longer than 100 words)

Wednesday, January 25

The Big Idea and overview of Exhibit Labels

Read: Chapters 1-3 in Serrell, Beverly, Exhibit Labels: An Interpretive Approach

Monday, January 30

Team Building

Site Visit: UTEP Student Recreation Center **NOTE: PLEASE ARRIVE BY 8:30 AM!**

Wednesday, February 1

CCE visit- Service Learning- 9 to 10am

Team Building

Monday, February 6

Site Visit: UTEP Special Collections **NOTE: MEET 6TH FLOOR OF UTEP LIBRARY**

Wednesday, February 8

Site Visit: El Paso Historical Society, Burgess House, 603 W. Yandell

NOTE: MEET AT 10 AM

Monday, February 13

Ecomuseums

Read: “Place exploration: museums and the environment,” in Davis, Peter, Ecomuseums: A Sense of Place, 2nd Edition, 2011. pp. 3-27.

Wednesday, February 15

Rhetoric, Memory, Place

Read: Taylor, Bryan, “Radioactive History: Rhetoric, Memory, and Place in the Post-Cold War Nuclear Museum,” in Blair, Dickinson, and Ott, edited, Places of Public Memory: The Rhetoric of Museums and Memorials, 2010.

Site Visit: NOTE: WE WILL MEET IN CLASS AND GO TO RUBIN CENTER AT 10:30

Monday, February 20

NO CLASS- PRESIDENTS DAY

Wednesday, February 22

Finalizing the Big Idea and major exhibition themes

Site Visit: NOTE: WE WILL MEET IN CLASS & GO TO WRITING CENTER AT 10:30

Monday, February 27

Audience and Evaluation

Read: Exhibit Labels, Chapters 4, 5 & 18 and “Evaluation” in The Museum Educator’s Manual

Wednesday, March 1

Formative Evaluation in Duranguito

NOTE: MEET AT ROCK HOUSE GALLERY

Monday, March 6

Review Evaluations

Wednesday, March 8

Site Visit: El Paso Museum of History

Research Paper Due

SPRING BREAK- NO CLASSES, MARCH 13TH THROUGH MARCH 17TH

Monday March 20

Label writing workshop for Caption labels

Read: Exhibit Labels, Chapter 6-10

First Draft of Caption Label Due

Wednesday, March 22

Label writing workshop for Caption labels

Read: Exhibit Labels, Chapter 11-16, and examples of labels (see AAM)

Monday, March 27

Label writing workshop for Caption labels

Read: Exhibit Labels, Chapter 17-21

Second Draft of Caption Label Due

Wednesday, March 29

Label writing workshop for Section labels

Monday, April 3

Installation prep

Final Labels Due

Wednesday, April 5

Installation prep or Installation

Monday, April 10

Installation or No Class- Rest

Wednesday, April 12

Installation or No Class- Rest

Monday, April 17

Event Planning and Promotion

Read: TBA

Wednesday, April 19

Event Planning and Promotion

Read: TBA

Monday, April 24

Educational Programming

Read: TBA

Wednesday, April 26

Educational Programming

Read: TBA

Event- Last Thursdays Art Walk

Monday, May 1

CCE- Reflection

Wednesday, May 3

Wrap up

DEAD DAY, MAY 5