Official Course Description: “The history and purpose of anthropological museums in the formation of the discipline and the modern role of the museum in both anthropological education and research.”

Instructor’s Course Description: The course will focus on the history, purpose, and current topics of museums that feature human subjects and cultural materials. The term “cultural materials” is interpreted broadly to include the visual arts as well as history and anthropology. Topics covered will include the care of collections and their documentation, the research and education functions of collections, the conceptualization, design, funding, fabrication, and evaluation of exhibits based on collections, the ethics of collecting and exhibiting cultural materials, and the application of anthropological knowledge to effective museum presentations. We will have a number of guest lecturers and will visit, as a class, some of the many exhibits and collections facilities on the UF campus. We will explore what makes museum facilities and exhibits compelling, and how anthropological museums are changing (or not) with the times. Several short writing assignments are intended to sharpen the student’s critical acumen. The two textbooks are quite general, but supplementary readings and experiences will emphasize content directly relevant to anthropology, broadly conceived. Discourse on issues relevant to museums that collect and exhibit cultural materials will be an expected part of the class. Students are expected to read assigned background information prior to class and be prepared to offer opinions and justifications for their positions during class discussions.

Note: Several class meetings will take place at campus locations other than the assigned classrooms. Students are expected to arrive at the alternate location in time for class to begin in a timely manner. If special accommodations are needed for transportation, arrangements must be made with the instructor well in advance of the class. To locate any campus building, use the interactive campus map, located at http://campusmap.ufl.edu/ and search by name, abbreviation, or campus building number.

Class Meeting Locations:
Little Hall / 1400 Stadium Rd / LIT / building 0655
Grinter Hall / 1523 Union Rd / GRI / building 0002
Smathers Library / 1508 Union Rd / SMA / building 0005
Fine Arts B / 400 SW 13th St / FAB / building 0598
Dickinson Hall / 1659 Museum Rd / MUS / building 0181
Harn Museum of Art / 3259 Hull Rd / HARN / building 0309
Powell Hall / 3215 Hull Rd / POW / building 0308
Cancer and Genetics Research Center / 2033 Mowry Rd / CGRC / building 1376

Textbooks and other readings (required):
Ambrose, Timothy and Crispin Paine

Burcaw, G. Ellis

Other readings are available as PDF files on UF e-learning site.
Grading opportunities:
Mid-term exam (take home): 20%
Final exam (take home): 20%
Museum review, written: 20%
Museum review, oral presentation: 10%
4 short written assignments (5% each): 20%
1 in-class exercise: 5%
Attendance/class participation: 5%
Optional extra-credit assignment: 5%

Grading scale: A: 92-100; A-: 90-91; B+: 88-89; B: 82-88; B-: 80-81; C+: 78-79; C: 72-78; C-: 70-72; D+: 68-69; D: 62-68; D-: 60-62; E: 0-59.

- C- grade or lower will not count for major, minor, or general education credit.
- Late assignments and make-up exams will not be accepted without a written medical excuse or proof of official university business arranged in advance.
- All written assignments should be printed and brought to class on the date they are due. They will be collected at the beginning of class. Please do not e-mail assignments. Exceptions will be made only under extenuating circumstances.

Classes, Readings, & Attendance:
Please complete assigned readings prior to class, because they will enhance your understanding of the subject matter and prepare you for classroom discussions and participation.

Unexcused absences will result in the deduction of points from your attendance/classroom participation grade. These are the easiest points you can earn, so please come to class on time.

For field trips outside of the classroom, let me know in advance if arriving at the field-trip location poses a problem for you so that we can make accommodations or arrangements for alternative transportation. In as much as all field trips are on-campus, arriving on time should not pose a problem with appropriate forethought on your part.

Classroom Etiquette:
Please be attentive, open-minded, and respectful during presentations and class discussions. This includes turning cell phones off or to “silent.” Please, no texting or posting in class. Laptops are fine for taking notes.

Academic Honesty:
Violations of the University’s Honor Code will lead to the Department’s and the University’s procedures for dealing with academic dishonesty. All students are expected to honor their commitment to the University’s Honor Code and the student conduct code.

The UF Honor Pledge:
We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity. For all work submitted for credit by UF students, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."
Plagiarism will not be tolerated. If you plagiarize, a formal grievance will be filed with the Dean of Students Office for Judicial Affairs and it will become part of your permanent record. You will receive a zero on the assignment.

My pledge to you:
(1) Barring unusual circumstances beyond my control, I will endeavor to follow closely the topical outline below so that my expectations of you are unambiguous. If unavoidable issues or special opportunities mandate changes, I will do my very best to inform you well in advance. (2) I will try to make the course as interesting as I can and not bore you, but ultimately my job is not to entertain you, but to teach you what I know about a subject in which you have expressed interest. In return, I ask that you listen, take the assignments seriously, and do your best to engage with the course material and with your fellow students. If we all do these things, you and I will both learn, and we may even have fun.

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:
The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty---student disability related issues. Please register with the Dean of Student’s office if you require assistance. They will provide you with documentation to present to your instructor. If you need any accommodations, please register in the first two weeks of class.

For more information on the Disability Resource Center, visit the following link: www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/

UF Counseling Services
Resources are available on-campus for students having personal problems that interfere with their academic performance. These resources include:

1. University Counseling and Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 392-1575, personal and career counseling
2. Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS), Student Health Care Center, 392-1161, sexual counseling
3. Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601, career development assistance and counseling
4. Reading & Writing Center, Broward Hall, 392-0791, writing assistance, study skills, test preparation

Outline of course

Week 1:

Meeting 1, Tuesday, August 25:
Scope of the course: anthropology content, applying anthropology in museum contexts. What is anthropology? What is a museum? How do museums come to have their collections? Why are anthropology exhibits often located in museums of natural history, rather than museums of history or art? How do objects acquire value (spiritual, monetary)? How do objects become commodities? Case study: “The Sinistral Whelk Shell in Native America”

Meeting 2, Thursday, August 27:
Kinds of museums; missions of museums; what do museums collect? ethics of collecting; laws regarding collecting; authenticity: when is an object “genuine”?  
- READ BEFORE CLASS: Burcaw chs. 4-8 (pp. 37-92); Ambrose units 2-5 (pp. 6-18) and 43-54 (pp. 171-210); Appadurai 1986; Spooner 1986
**Week 2:**

**Meeting 3, Tuesday, September 1:**
The Structure and Role of Museums I: Exhibits and Education; the museum experience from the visitor’s point of view; the social dynamics of the museum visit; what motivates people to go to museums? What are their expectations? What do they remember? How can museums appeal to children? The irrational visitor.

- READ BEFORE CLASS: Ambrose units 7-8 (pp. 25-31) and units 14-17 (pp. 59-81); Burcaw chs. 1-3 (pp. 13-36) and 16 (pp. 158-162); Ames 1992 (pp. 49-69); Achenbach 2015 and see: [http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2014/06/150129-public-opinion-aaas-health-education-science/?source=ngm_more](http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2014/06/150129-public-opinion-aaas-health-education-science/?source=ngm_more); Falk & Dierking chs. 5, 6, and 7 (pp. 103-172)

**Meeting 4, Thursday, September 3:**
Experiencing a museum exhibit (Meet at usual classroom -- LIT 233. Following a brief introduction, we will all walk to a nearby exhibit, either at Grinter Gallery or University Gallery, to make observations.)

Distribution of handout “Some things to notice in any museum.”

Distribution of Homework Assignment #1 (5% of grade; due September 15).

- READ BEFORE CLASS: Ambrose unit 13 (pp. 55-59); Burcaw chs. 15 (pp. 150-157) and 17 (158-168)

**Event of Note:** “Reconstruction at Dudley Farm,” September 4 and 5: “living history” reenactors portray people and events of post-Civil-War North Florida, ca. 1868.

**Week 3:**

**Meeting 5, Tuesday, September 8:**
The Structure and Role of Museums II: Museums as research facilities; object care: curation, storage (one’s own objects, borrowed objects, exhibited objects); registration/cataloging, documentation, conservation, condition reporting

- READ BEFORE CLASS: Ambrose unit 27 (pp. 114-115); Burcaw chs. 9-11 (pp. 93-11); Childs 2004 (chapters by Barker, Childs and Sullivan, Sonderman, Drew, Eiteljorg, Marquardt)

► No class, Thursday, September 10: Florida Association of Museums conference

**Event of Note:** Last day to see “A T. rex Named Sue” at the Florida Museum of Natural History (Powell Hall) is September 13.

**Week 4:**

**Meeting 6, Tuesday, September 15:**
CLASS AT DICKINSON HALL, 1659 MUSEUM ROAD; MEET IN STREET-LEVEL LOBBY AT 1:55 pm TO SIGN IN; Anthropology Division collections tour; presentations by William Marquardt and Elise LeCompte on roles of curation, conservation, registration in museums; presentation by Cindy Bear, Coordinator or Programs and Services, Randell Research Center, on managing a remote public research and education facility

Homework Assignment #1 due in class; Handout: Examples of condition reports

- READ BEFORE CLASS: Ambrose units 55-73 (pp. 213-288)
Meeting 7, Thursday, September 17:
Museums of visual arts; aesthetics: What is art? What is beauty? Are art and beauty useful? If all art objects are artifacts, are all artifacts art objects? Is tourist art “real” art?


Week 5:

Meeting 8, Tuesday, September 22:
CLASS AT HARN MUSEUM OF ART; MEET INSIDE FRONT DOOR IN LOBBY AT 1:55 pm; Presentations by Jessica Uelsmann, Kerry Oliver-Smith, and Susan Cooksey.

- READ BEFORE CLASS: none

Meeting 9, Thursday, September 24:
In-class exercise (5% of grade): complete a condition report on an object to be provided in class; report due at end of class period.

**Event of note: September 25 -- Exhibition celebrating 25th anniversary of the Harn Museum opens.**

Week 6:

Meeting 10, Tuesday, September 29:
CLASS AT DICKINSON HALL, 1659 MUSEUM ROAD; MEET IN STREET-LEVEL LOBBY AT 1:55 PM TO SIGN IN; Museums as research resources; Anthropology Division presentation on collections as anthropological research resources by Susan Milbrath and Neill Wallis
Museum review assignment distributed (written component 20% of grade, oral presentation 10% of grade; due November 24)

- READ BEFORE CLASS: none

Meeting 11, Thursday, October 1:
CLASS AT DICKINSON HALL, 1659 MUSEUM ROAD; MEET IN STREET-LEVEL LOBBY AT 2:55 PM TO SIGN IN; Anthropology Division presentation on bioarchaeological research in museums by John Krigbaum
Homework assignment #2 distributed (5% of grade, due October 8)

- READ BEFORE CLASS: none

Week 7:

Meeting 12, Tuesday, October 6:
Documentation, archives, on-line exhibits, the digital library; library exhibitions (Meet at usual classroom; following a brief introduction, we will all walk to Smathers Library; presentations by John Nemmers, Lourdes Santamaria-Wheeler, and James Cusick)
Mid-term Exam distributed (20% of grade, due in class October 15)

- READ BEFORE CLASS: explore the following web sites -- http://exhibits.uflib.ufl.edu/ and http://www.digital.uflib.ufl.edu/
Meeting 13, Thursday, October 8:
CLASS AT C. A. POUND HUMAN IDENTIFICATION LABORATORY, LOCATED IN CANCER AND GENETICS RESEARCH CENTER (BUILDING 1376, abbreviation CGRC), 2033 MOWRY ROAD; DOOR IS ON GROUND LEVEL, WEST SIDE OF BUILDING; presentation on forensic anthropology by Michael Warren
Homework Assignment #2 due in class.

- READ BEFORE CLASS: http://anthro.ufl.edu/department-subfields/biological-anthropology/forensic-anthropology/

Week 8:

Meeting 14, Tuesday, October 13:
Outdoor exhibits (examples: San Luis; Dade Battlefield); “living history” -- historical, re-enacted, populated exhibits (St. Augustine; Dudley Farm; Jamestown); special events (battle re-enactments; heritage-day events, festivals, knap-ins); exhibits and tourism; In-class presentations by Merald Clark and Deuteronomy Clark

Meeting 15, Thursday, October 15:
Planning and fabrication of an outdoor exhibit and a permanent exhibit: Case studies -- The Calusa Heritage Trail at the Randell Research Center and the Hall of South Florida People and Environments in Powell Hall.
Mid-term exam due in class.

- READ BEFORE CLASS: Browse these websites: http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/sflarch and http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/RRC

Event of Note: October 17 – First Colony exhibit opens at Florida Museum of Natural History, Powell Hall.

Week 9:

Meeting 16, Tuesday, October 20:
CLASS AT POWELL HALL (3215 Hull Rd; building 0308); MEET IN MCGUIRE CONFERENCE ROOM (WALK THROUGH MAIN LOBBY OF POWELL HALL, TURN RIGHT AT HALL OF NORTH FLORIDA, WALK ALL THE WAY PAST WALL OF WINGS, PAST BUTTERFLY GIFT SHOP, TO ELEVATOR; SECURITY GUARD WILL ALLOW YOU ACCESS TO ELEVATOR; GO TO SECOND FLOOR AND FIND SEMINAR ROOM; presentation by Darcie MacMahon and William Marquardt; Design, funding, fabrication of museum exhibits; guided tour of Hall of South Florida People and Environments.

- READ BEFORE CLASS: Ambrose units 28-41 (pp. 119-166); Burcaw chs. 12-14 (pp. 121-149); Falk & Dierking ch. 9 (pp. 197-217)

Meeting 17, Thursday, October 22:
CLASS AT POWELL HALL (3215 Hull Rd; building 0308); MEET IN MCGUIRE CONFERENCE ROOM (WALK THROUGH MAIN LOBBY OF POWELL HALL, TURN RIGHT AT HALL OF NORTH FLORIDA, WALK ALL THE WAY PAST WALL OF WINGS, PAST BUTTERFLY GIFT SHOP, TO ELEVATOR; SECURITY GUARD WILL ALLOW YOU ACCESS TO ELEVATOR; GO TO SECOND FLOOR AND FIND SEMINAR ROOM; presentation by Betty Dunckel, on the role of exhibit evaluation.

- READ BEFORE CLASS: Ambrose unit 42 (pp. 166-170); Falk & Dierking ch. 10 (pp. 218-245); Bonney et al. chapters 1, 2, and 5 (download PDF at http://informalscience.org/evaluation/evaluation-resources/pi-guide )
Week 10:

Meeting 18, Tuesday, October 27:
Museum administration and staffing: structure, responsibility, public image; censorship; performance evaluation, health and safety, funding; memberships; support societies; volunteers

- READ BEFORE CLASS: Ambrose units 9-11 (pp. 31-51), 18-26 (pp. 81-113) and 84-107 (pp. 339-440); Burcaw ch. 19 (pp. 183-192)

Meeting 19, Thursday, October 29: Historic Preservation; adaptive re-use; nostalgia as entertainment; the “preservation trap”; the fascination with pirates

Homework assignment #3 and #4 distributed (5% and 5% of grade). The written portion of your assignment will count as Assignment #3. The in-class presentation will count as Assignment #4.

- READ BEFORE CLASS: Burcaw ch. 18 (pp. 171-182)

Week 11:

Meeting 20, Tuesday, November 3:
Native American and First Nations viewpoints; Ancient human remains and human evolution on display; NAGPRA and repatriation; the social and spiritual lives of objects

- READ BEFORE CLASS: Ambrose unit 6 (pp. 19-21) + 207; Nason 2000; Penney 2000; Ames 2000; Geary 1986; Sharp 1952; Paris auction house to sell more sacred objects: http://nhonews.com/main.asp?SectionID=1&SubSectionID=1&ArticleID=16910

Meeting 21, Thursday, November 5:
The museum in its social, political, and economic contexts; legal mandates: ADA and others; the “decolonization” movement

- READ BEFORE CLASS: Ambrose unit 13 (pp. 51-55); Burcaw ch. 21 (pp. 203-214); Handler 1993; Ames 1992 (pp. 139-150); http://museumtwo.blogspot.com/2014/09/but-what-about-quality.html

Week 12:

Meeting 22, Tuesday, November 10:
Homework assignment #3 written version due in class; Begin in-class presentations on Homework Assignment #4.

Meeting 23, Thursday, November 12: Finish in-class presentations on Homework Assignment #4


Week 13

Meeting 24, Tuesday, November 17; Constituency and community (why? who benefits? advocacy: should an exhibit try to convince? to alter behavior?); should museums give people what they want or what (we think) they need?

- READ BEFORE CLASS: none

► No class, Thursday, November 19: Southeastern Archaeological Conference
Work on your museum reviews!
Week 14

Meeting 25, Tuesday, November 24: All written museum reviews due in class; Begin in-class presentations of museum reviews.

► No class, Thursday, November 26: Thanksgiving Day

Event of Note: November 28 -- Cane Boil and Fiddlefest at Morningside Nature Center.

Week 15

Meeting 26, Tuesday, December 1:
Finish in-class presentations of museum reviews.
Optional extra-credit assignment distributed (due December 8; up to 5% of grade)

Meeting 27, Thursday, December 3:
Anarchic exhibits; graffiti; love locks; sanctioned free-form exhibits: the UF graffiti wall; memorials (statues, plaques, and quotes in public places; what is a hero?)
  • READ BEFORE CLASS:
    http://museumtwo.blogspot.com/2015/06/what-happens-when-viral-participatory.html

Week 16

Meeting 28, Tuesday, December 8:
Summation; the future of museums; is a museum career right for you? how to get involved; internships; volunteering/learning opportunities
Optional extra-credit assignment due in class
Distribution of final exam (20% of grade)
  • READ BEFORE CLASS: Burcaw chs. 20 (pp. 193-202) and 22 (pp. 215-225); Falk & Dierking ch. 12 (pp. 295-317); Ames 1992 (pp. 98-110); http://museumtwo.blogspot.com/2015/05/familiarity-breeds-loveand-desire-for.html

Final Exam Due by 5:00 PM, Thursday, December 17, front desk, Dickinson Hall (1659 Museum Road)

SOME NEARBY MUSEUMS

Matheson History Museum
513 E. University Avenue
Gainesville FL 32601
Hours: 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Monday - Thursday
Phone: (352) 378-2280
The Matheson History Museum is free and open to the public (donations are encouraged).
http://www.mathesonmuseum.org/

Harn Museum of Art
3259 Hull Road
Gainesville, Florida 32611
Phone: (352) 392-9826
Free Admission
Hours: Tues. - Fri., 11 am - 5 pm
Sat., 10 am - 5 pm | Sun., 1 - 5 pm

Florida Museum of Natural History-Exhibits
3215 Hull Road — Powell Hall
Gainesville, FL 32611
(352) 846-2000
Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sunday 1-5 p.m.
Closed Thanksgiving & Christmas.

Dudley Farm State Park
18730 W. Newberry Rd.
Newberry, FL 32699
(352) 472-1142
Open Wednesdays through Sundays, 9 am – 4 pm
Admission: $5/vehicle; $2/bicyclist
https://www.floridastateparks.org/hours-and-fees/Dudley-Farm

Reconstruction at Dudley Farm (special event): “Dudley Farm Historic State Park will host its annual Reconstruction Era event on September 4th and 5th, 2015. The Reconstruction Era event is an immersion into history, during which visitors encounter living historians from 1868. These living historians portray the reconstruction era, and tell the story of Florida’s post-antebellum and post war, where foreign immigrants competed with ex-soldiers looking for jobs; cattlemen tried to rebuild their herds; scalawags tried to make a profit off the suffering of others. Take a walk back in time to see a part of Florida’s past.”

Morningside Nature Center
3450 E. University Avenue
Gainesville FL 32641
(352) 334-3326
Open 9:00 am –m 4:30 pm Tuesday through Saturdays
Offers several nature trails and “living history” farm, with live interpretive experiences first Saturday of each month.

Cane Boil and Fiddlefest (special event) Saturday, November 28, 2015, from 9am to 4pm: “This event is held each year the Saturday after Thanksgiving, and combines traditions of giving thanks and fall harvest with live fiddle, banjo, and string-band music, which were major influences on American entertainment for more than 150 years. Bring your holiday guests, friends and family out to Morningside’s beautiful Living History Farm to experience the making and bottling of sugar cane syrup, biscuits hot from the wood cookstove, live roots music, horse-drawn wagon rides and living history interpreters and demonstrators bringing a country day in 1870 to life.”

Silver River Museum
1445 NE 58th Ave.
Ocala, FL 34470
(352) 236-5401
Open Saturdays and Sundays and most holidays.
Admission $2.00, children under 6 free.
Ocali Country Days (special event, admission: $5.00): Saturday and Sunday, November 14-15. “Visitors experience old time music, storytellers, and historical re-enactors portraying North Central Florida during the 1800s. Traditional crafts such as sugarcane syrup making, blacksmithing, quilting, spinning, woodworking, and more are demonstrated. Vendors also offer unique crafts and food for sale. While here, visitors may tour the Silver River Museum, ride on a jeep tram through the state park (weekend only), tour a Civil War encampment, or meet Seminole Tribal members to learn about Native American culture in Florida.”

Some useful on-line resources:
Florida Museum of Natural History
http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/

Smithsonian Institution-Museum of the American Indian
http://www.nmai.si.edu/

American Museum of Natural History
http://www.amnh.org/

Museum 2.0, a blog by Nina Simon
http://museumtwo.blogspot.com/

American Alliance of Museums (AAM)
http://www.aam-us.org/

Museum Anthropology
http://museumanthropology.blogspot.com/

The Uncatalogued Museum

ICME
http://icom.museum/the-committees/international-committees/international-committee/international-committee-for-museums-and-collections-of-ethnography/