# VAH3383A

# Introduction to Exhibition Design and Museum Management Wednesdays 11:30-2:30 VAH247

Professor: Dr. Kirsty Robertson

Office: VAC 221 Office Hours: tbd

Email: kirsty.robertson@uwo.ca

# **Course Description and Objectives:**

In this class, s

## Reading Responses

Over the course of the semester, students will respond to the readings assigned in three weeks of your choice (please note, only weeks marked with R can be used to fulfill this assignment). You must respond to *all* readings assigned that week, but you can choose which weeks. Responses must be uploaded to Dropbox/Owl prior to the class in which the readings have been assigned. Your responses can be provocative, critical, questioning, or praiseworthy but they must demonstrate a clear understanding of the authors' arguments. 500 words/response.

#### Short Assignments based on course content

A series of short assignments will be given based on field trips, guest lectures, lectures, skills-building, and in-class discussion. Short assignments will focus on collections management, conservation, fundraising, installation, social media/promotions, and graphic design. Students will choose **two** of the short assignments to complete.

# Curatorial Dreaming assignment

A curatorial dream is "an imagined exhibit or public intervention (tour, film, audio piece, object, etc.) addressing a cultural issue or historical event in a manner relevant to the present day." This assignment has three components:

- 1. Students will hand in a proposal that describes their curatorial dream.
- 2. Later in the semester, having received feedback on their proposal from the

Students will have the opportunity to hone their critical thinking and writing skills.

Students will have the opportunity to experience current exhibitions.

Because there is choice in the short assignments, students will be able to research and write on topics that suit their own areas of interest.

Field trips and classroom visits introduce students to professionals in the culture and museums sector.

These events are professional development opportunities, which will give students

#### **Student Conduct:**

All students will conduct themselves in a manner that will be consistent with the maturity and academic integrity expected of university students. Student conduct shall be consistent with the general laws of the community and with University regulations. Students shall show regard and respect for the rights, safety, and property of all members of the University community and are expected to act in a responsible manner within the University and the community at large.

Students will conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the Code of Student Conduct and treat all members of the Western community with respect. See: http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2015

#### **Emails**

Assignments will not be accepted by email.

Please clearly identify yourself and the course in any emails.

I will do my best to respond to emails within 48 hours, exclusive of weekends.

Due to privacy regulations, grades cannot be discussed over email.

#### **Dropping the class**

November 5 is the last day to drop a half course without academic penalty.

## **Electronic Devices**

You may use a computer in class to take notes. All other activities (e.g. checking email or social media sites, etc.) are strongly discouraged, especially as this is distracting to others. Students should turn off all cell phones while in the classroom.

#### **Prerequisites:**

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as basis of appeal. If you are not eligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time, and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. These decisions cannot be appealed.

#### **Plagiarism and Academic Honesty:**

All work for the course MUST be entirely your own. All sources that you use for your assignments must be accurately cited. This will be discussed in tutorials. If you have doubts about how and when to cite sources, consult the *Chicago Manual of Style* guide on OWL in the Resources section, or talk to me or your TA before the assignment due date. All course work must be completed specifically for this course. Plagiarism and cheating are very serious academic offences and they will be dealt with strictly. Submitting the same work for credit in more than one course is considered cheating.

Plagiarism includes:

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <a href="http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental\_health/">http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental\_health/</a> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Academic Accommodation: For Western's complete Policy on Academic Accommodation for

Students with Disabilities see http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg111.html. The policy states, "In its efforts to accommodate disabilities appropriately, the approach adopted by the University is collaborative, involving the student requesting the accommodation, the instructor, department (or school or program where applicable), and/or Faculty which provides the accommodation, and Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in the Student Development Centre which coordinates the request for and provision of accommodation."

#### **Gender Neutral Bathrooms**

There are two gender neutral bathrooms in the JLVAC. One is located in the Artlab and is open only during Artlab hours. A second single stall gender neutral bathroom can be found on the third floor of the JLVAC.

#### **Preferred Pronouns**

I will happily use your preferred pronoun. Please let me know during/after class or during office hours if I have made a mistake with your pronoun.

# **Absences on Religious Holy Days**

For purposes of this policy "the University has approved a list of dates which are recognized religious holidays which require members of those religions to be absent from the University; this list is updated annually and is available at departmental, Deans' and Faculty advising Offices." For

Western's Policy on Religious Holidays see http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg111.html.

#### **Building Access:**

The John Labatt Visual Arts Centre will be closed at 10:00pm each night Monday to Friday. There will be no after-hour access for undergraduate students. The Centre is open weekends 12:00pm-5:00pm unless otherwise posted; access by s9tQqJETQ,day. There will be no after

artwork and use such photograph(s) for the promotion of your artwork and/or Western University, including, without limitation, advertising, display, editorial, packaging, promotion, television, social media, the Department of Visual Arts website, flickr, Twitter, Instagram etc.). Students wishing to not have their work photographed should not exhibit it in the Visual Arts Centre, Artlab

Regarding research, a somewhat limited selection of secondary sources pertaining to the topic has been consulted and proper citation has been used.

## **60-69** (Competent, C)

The writing demonstrates adequate engagement with the topic. The writing is on topic and is a reasonable response to material covered in the course, but goes no further. Written facts are stated accurately; the quality of writing is sufficiently intelligible with enough elaboration and enough connections made between ideas to permit a reader to understand the point of the text. Regarding research, an insufficient number secondary sources pertaining to the topic has been consulted but proper citation has been used.

## **50-59** (Marginal, D)

The writing shows less than adequate engagement with the topic and with the material covered by the course. The writing is a less than adequate summary of sources and/or is considerably off-topic. Written facts are stated inaccurately or ambiguously; the writing style is difficult to follow; there is insufficient elaboration to permit reader's comprehension of relations among ideas; little judgment is shown in selecting detail for inclusion in the text. Regarding research, few secondary sources pertaining to the topic have been consulted; proper citation may or may not have been used.

# Below 50 (Unacceptable, F)

The writing demonstrates a failure to comprehend the topic. Written material is disorganized and unintelligible. The work clearly does not meet the minimal requirements of the assignment. Regarding research, secondary sources pertaining to the topic have not been consulted and proper citation has not been used.