

MCS 4605E: Museum and Curatorial Practicum

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Course Description and Objectives:

This participatory museum studies course is organized around three major components: a single-authored individual exhibition design portfolio that is broken down into smaller sections across both semesters; a group project (with individual grades) focused on the speculative design of a new wing at the ROM (Royal Ontario Museum); and a class-curated, professional exhibition that will open in March at the Artlab Gallery (JLVAC). This year's class exhibition focuses on Crawford Lake, the Anthropocene, and the land/water/air around us. It will include the work of professional artists and has a significant budget to work with. Each student will assume a specific role in the class exhibition and will work closely with the professor, museum personnel, and other students. Additionally, students will complete the course with a professional-level portfolio that can be used in seeking positions in the field and/or applying to graduate school.

The individual exhibition design assignment can be tailored to the career aspirations of each

The goal of this class is to foreground creativity in exhibition design and practice. Students will develop cross-sectoral and transferable skills and will also learn about exhibition design, collections management, and museum and gallery administration. This class focuses on hands-on, practical experience.

The syllabus is part of course content. As we decide the direction of the exhibition, we work together to co-learn and co-create the course and exhibition content.

Assignments:

Group Assignment (Museum of Natural History): 20%

Due: November 28

Students will be placed in groups and given the task of “planning” a new wing of the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto. Examples and potential sources will be discussed in class. Groups will each be given 45 minutes on November 28 to present their vision of the museum to the class as if it were a competitive bid. A hard copy of the bid (with extra material) will be handed in, with a component written individually by each student. We will spend some time in class reviewing the marking criteria and the details of this assignment.

Students will receive a group mark and an individual mark, and the final grade will be an average of the two weighted 30% group, 70% individual.

Artlab Exhibition: 20% (Time will be spent in class discussing the specifics of this assignment)

Students will also be asked to keep a journal of contributions to the exhibition and to give in class progress reports.

Attendance/Participation/Engagement: 10%

All components of the Individual Exhibition Assignment, with the exception of the final submission, can be submitted up to 48 hours late with no questions asked. Following that, assignments will be docked 2%/day for the first 5 days, and 5%/day thereafter, inclusive of weekends.

The final submission of the Individual Exhibition Assignment (April 2) can be handed in up to 5 days late with no academic penalty, BUT students should be aware that grades are submitted 7 days after the end of class. At that point, late assignments cannot be accepted without accommodation arranged through the student's home faculty/Academic Counselling.

consistency for all students, academic consideration for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet their academic responsibilities.

Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible and no later than 48 hours after the end of the period of absence covered, to the Academic Counselling unit or Dean's Office of the student's Home Faculty together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the academic consideration being requested. These documents will be retained in the student's file, and will be held in confidence in accordance with the University's [Official Student Record Information Privacy Policy](#). Once the petition and supporting documents have been received and assessed, appropriate academic consideration shall be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the student's instructor(s). Academic consideration may include extension of deadlines, waiver of attendance requirements for classes/labs/tutorials, arranging Special Exams or Incompletes, re-weighting course requirements, or granting late withdrawals without academic penalty. Academic consideration shall be granted only where the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete their academic responsibilities. (Note – it will not be sufficient to provide documentation indicating simply that the student “was seen for a medical reason” or “was ill.”) Whenever possible, students who require academic consideration should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and their Academic Counselling office in a timely manner.

Documentation from Family Physicians/Nurse Practitioners and Walk-In Clinics

A Western Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is required where a student is seeking academic consideration. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician/nurse practitioner or walk-in clinic. An SMC can be downloaded at http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

Documentation from Student Health Services

At the time of illness, students should make an appointment with a physician/nurse practitioner at Student Health Services. During this appointment, request a Student Medical Certificate from the Physician/Nurse Practitioner.

Documentation from Hospital Urgent Care Centres or Emergency Departments

Students should request that an SMC be filled out. Students may bring this form with them, or request alternative Emergency Department documentation. Documentation should be secured at the time of the initial visit to the Emergency Department. Where it is not possible for a student to have an SMC completed by the attending physician, the student must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that their ability to meet their academic responsibilities was seriously affected.

Attendance:

Under university regulations, if someone misses more than 15% of their classes (15% is equivalent to missing 8 hours of Lecture and/or Studio Lab, due to absence or lateness, or a combination of both, per semester) without written corroboration for health or bereavement, students can be debarred from participation in final evaluations and/or assignments.

Note that if a student is consistently absent from a 3-hour class for 1 hour, they will exceed the 15% cutoff and be debarred; assignments may stop being accepted and such assignments will receive a mark of 0 (zero)

Religious Accommodation

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

Names and Pronouns

I will happily use your preferred name and pronoun. This includes names that are different from those on your academic file. Please let me know during/after class or during office hours or by email if I have made a mistake.

STATEMENT ON GENDER-BASED AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Western [is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence](#) and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced gender-based or sexual violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts, [here](#). To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca.

Electronic Devices:

During Exams: Unless you have medical accommodations that require you to do so, or explicit permission from the instructor of the course, you may not use any electronic devices during any tests, quizzes, midterms, examinations, or other in-class evaluations.

During Lectures and Tutorials:

prohibited from photographing your artwork while on exhibit at the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre.

You otherwise retain all ownership in your artwork.

Artwork Installation Liability Release:

You understand that the area where your artwork will be hanging or displayed is unsupervised and is in a part of the building that may be open to the public, day and evening, whether or not the building is open. Western University accepts no responsibility for damage to, or loss of, artwork at any time while on display or while being transported to or from the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre. By displaying your artwork in the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre, you accept all risk of loss or damage to your artwork. Western University does not provide insurance for the artwork on exhibition. If you wish to insure artwork, it is your responsibility to do so.

Removal:

Western University reserves the right to dispose of artwork not picked up by April 15th of each year.

Support Services:

There are various support services around campus and these include, but are not limited to:

Registrarial Services <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>

Student Support Services <https://student.uwo.ca/psp/heprdweb/?cmd=login>

Services provided by the USC <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

Academic Support and Engagement <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Health and Wellness <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help. Immediate help in the event of a crisis can be had by phoning 519.661.3030 (during class hours) or 519.433.2023 after class hours and on weekends.

Health and Wellness:

Western offers a variety of counselling services and several mental health resources for students. If you or a friend are feeling overwhelmed, confused or unsure of your mental health state, please don't ignore it. There are steps you can take to help yourself or help others. Western provides several on-campus health-related services to help engage in healthy living while pursuing your degree. For example, to support physical activity, all students receive membership in Western's Campus Recreation Centre. Further information regarding health and wellness-related services available to students may be found at <http://www.health.uwo.ca/>.

If you are in emotional or mental distress should refer to Mental Health Support at Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Gender Neutral Bathrooms:

There are two gender neutral bathrooms in the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre (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. Here is a list of inclusive washrooms at Western: http://www.uwo.ca/equity/doc/inclusive_washrooms.pdf.

Please contact the Administrative Officer, Meghan Edmiston (meghan.edmiston@uwo.ca), for card access to the elevator and stairs if you are in need of the 3rd floor gender neutral/accessible washroom for the academic year.

VISUAL ARTS Undergraduate Grading Guidelines - Art History

These guidelines are benchmarks that are not to be followed as rigid regulations. They will be

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