

Second Semester.

Curating the Holocaust – Interpreting Museums, Heritage Sites & Artefacts

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2 Credit Points

Course Description:

This course is designed to provide students with basic curatorial skills for working in both Holocaust Museums and Heritage Sites.

Comprised of 2 modules, theoretical and practical, students will be given the opportunity to study the academic components of Museum Studies, and subsequently, translating their historical knowledge into practical skills within Museum spaces and Heritage Sites.

The course will place a strong emphasis on Holocaust Museums in particular. We will explore the birth of Holocaust museums in the 20th Century and how they have evolved; didactically, architecturally and advancements in educational directives through museum spaces. Furthermore, students will assess how audiences in future generations will engage Holocaust Sites and museums.

Academic components of the course explore a variety subjects including; Heritage Interpretation, Understanding Significance, Collections Management & Object Care, Building Memorials, Intangible Heritage and Shared Heritage.

Practical components of the course will include an in-depth assessment of curatorial styles used in Holocaust museums and memorials in Israel and abroad. We will delve into the details of current Holocaust memorial design and it's impact on 21st Century memorialization. Finally, we will explore the effects of the current trend in removal and destruction of monuments globally.

Course Requirements:

Weekly Readings:

Students will be required to read the set texts for each component of the course.

Class Participation:

Active attendance in at least ten weeks of the course is required. Throughout the semester students will be required to actively participate in small group presentations.

Yom Hashoah Presentation:

Students will be required to give a 5-10 minute presentation to the class.

Written Assignments:

Response papers:

- Significance – One page Significance Statement
- Interpretation – One to two page reflection

Final Assignment:

In-depth research paper on one current Holocaust Memorial

Assessment:

Attendance and participation – 10%

Oral Presentation – 20%

Response Papers– 20% each [total 40%]

Report on Practical component – 30%

Options available to write the following in this course:

Referat paper, theme or idea based research -10 pages.

Seminar Paper, Original research - 30 pages.

Response paper

Weekly Schedule 2021

March 3rd

- Course Outline – Expectations and Projects.
- Birth of museums, and creation of Holocaust Museums
- “Sites of Pain and Shame”.
- Differences and similarities between Museums and Heritage Sites.

March 10th

- Significance – how to determine significance of a site / event / artefact / individual.

March 17th

- Heritage Interpretation \ teaching difficult histories
- Building Memorials – distinguishing between educating and memorializing.
- Spaces of Difficult Heritage

March 21st

- Guest Speaker Robert Jan Van Pelt

Please take note, this week's lesson is on Sunday, not Wednesday, due to Guest Lecture. The lecture will be from 19:15 – 20:45

March 31st – No Class. Passover Holiday.

April 7th

- Yom Hashoah Presentations

April 21st

- Yom Hashoah Presentation
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April 28th

- How do we interpret the space
- Visitor experience
- Holocaust Memorials
- Classifications of Memorials
- Design, Use and Meaning of Memorials

May 2nd

Guest Lecture by Prof. James Young.

Please take note, this week's lesson is on Sunday, not Wednesday, due to Guest Lecture. The lecture will be from 19:15 – 20:45

May 12th

- Designing Holocaust Memorials in the 21st Century
- Memorial Design competition
- Analysis of current Holocaust Memorial Design. Breakdown of 21st Century approaches to; design, politics and implementation of Holocaust Memorials.

May 19th

- Presentation of current Memorial Design Projects
- Breakdown of current Holocaust Memorial designs internationally. Critique of strengths and weaknesses in contemporary designs.

May 26th

- Presentation of current Holocaust Memorial Design Projects

June 2nd

- Destruction of Monuments and memorials throughout history
- Downfall of monuments in 2020 and potential impact on future Holocaust Memorials.
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June 9th

Guest Lecture Marc Fennell.

June 16th

Flex Date.

Due Dates:

April 7th & April 21st – Yom Hashoah Memorial Exercise in Class.

May 23rd – Significance Statement

July 20th – Written Memorial Project