

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

NOTE: ANY CHANGES TO A CSD MUST GO THROUGH ALL OF THE RELEVANT APPROVAL PROCESSES, INCLUDING AB (FORMERLY LTFC).

Academic School/Department:	CASS
Programme:	Visiting Freshmen Programme / Art History and Visual Culture
FHEQ Level:	3
Course Title:	Uncovering London's Museums
Course Code:	AVC 3705 (formerly ARH 3705)
Course Leader:	Sarah Ciacci / Dom Alessio
Student Engagement Hours:	120
Lectures:	45
Seminar / Tutorials:	75
Independent / Guided Learning:	
Semester:	Fall/Spring
Credits:	12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

Course Description:

This course considers the nature of London's museums and galleries in an historical and cultural context and their role in our society. Students normally visit the major collections at the British Museum, the Museum of London, National Gallery, the Tate Modern and Victoria and Albert Museum, as well as some of the less-well known 'secret' museums, such as the Soane and Petrie. The methods of display, use and interpretation of collections are also considered. Note: visits may require some entrance costs. **This course is not open to Richmond degree-seeking students.**

Prerequisites: N/A

Aims and Objectives:

This course is designed for students with an interest in Art History or for those interested in careers in museum or gallery work. Students gain direct knowledge of institutions dedicated to preserving and propagating culture.

The course is structured as two interweaving strands. The first of these consists of lectures designed to acquaint students with some of the current issues in museum and art world studies. The second strand consists of a series of visits to museums and galleries, in order to sample the various categories of museum; acquaint students with the wealth of collections across London; and to provide the opportunity to study how, on a practical level, museums deal with the various aspects of their task.

Programme Outcomes:

A5(i); A5(ii);A5(iii);B5(i);B5(ii);B5(iii);C5(i);C5(ii);C5(iii);D5(1);D5(ii)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification.

This is located at the archive maintained by the Academic Registry and found at: <http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/academic-schools/academic-registry/program-and-course-specifications.aspx>

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of a wide range of museum and gallery – related practices.
- Demonstrate an awareness of a variety of cultures of display.
- Demonstrate an understanding of major theoretical concepts and practical methodologies related to museology.
- Evaluate a variety of cultures of display in evidence in contemporary London.
- Develop skills (eg; group work, report writing, oral presentation) which translate to workplace.
- Demonstrate an awareness of the conventions at work within museums.
- Complete assigned work with a degree of clarity, technical competence and critical thinking, and a degree of independence and capacity for self-evaluation, appropriate to a QCF Level 3 course

Indicative Content:

- What is a museum?
- National Heritage, the nature of ownership and repatriation issues.
- Temporary Exhibitions
- Questions of Heritage in Historic Houses and the National Portrait Gallery
- The Modern Art Museum, Private Collectors and the Commercial Art mark

Assessment:

This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board (formerly Learning & Teaching Policy Committee) and located at: <http://www.richmond.ac.uk/admitted-students/>

Teaching Methodology:

Classes will take the form of presentations by the lecturer with appropriate audiovisual support and in-class focused group discussion and exercises. In the museum and gallery situation, students will be divided into small groups and directed in close visual analysis and discussion. It should be noted that discussion will comprise a major element of this course and all students are expected to verbalise their thoughts and perceptions and to develop a critical response to the material under consideration. They must keep up with assignments, be prepared to ask questions, and discuss their readings. Participation is crucial to success in this class.

Bibliography:

See syllabus for complete reading list

Indicative Text(s):

- Ambrose, T. & Paine, C., *Museum Basics*, Routledge, London and New York, 2010.
Barker, E., ed., *Contemporary Cultures of Display*, Open University Press / Yale University Press, London and New Haven, 1999.
Berger, J., *Ways of Seeing*, Penguin, London, 1972.

Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus

Change Log for this CSD:

Major or Minor Change?	Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or AB)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry
Minor	Course Code Change from ARH to AVC	LTPC 27 Feb 2015	