

Representing Native America – Exhibit Design (Part 2)

v. 1/5/2015

Ethnic Studies 114B

Winter 2015

SSB 253

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class materials may be viewed on TED: <http://ted.ucsd.edu/>

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Office Hours:

Wed, Fri. 3:30-4:50PM,

Tues & Wed 12-2PM

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This course follows the introduction to the history and theory of museum representation of American Indians in order to explore its relation to colonialism and decolonization (Part 1). It develops the proposal completed by students in Part 1 of the course for a exhibition on Native women California artists, incorporating new and decolonizing approaches to representation, for the Women's Museum of California.

COURSE ORGANIZATION

Course evaluation will be based on classroom discussion and presentations of the curatorial assignments, and a written final exhibit project and classroom presentation. Final grade will be based on the following: 50% - attendance and participation during in-class activities; 20% final project presentation; 30% - final project report.

COURSE OBLIGATIONS

All students must attend all class meetings and read the assigned materials in order to complete this course. We will have weekly assignments, generally involving teamwork. We will meet 4 times, 3 on Friday afternoons and one on a Wednesday, at the Women's Museum of California at Liberty Landing (organized in carpools).

Attendance and participation for each meeting during the quarter will count for a major portion of your class grade. Participation cannot be made up. *Open conversation on topics that may be sensitive to your classmates is an essential part of the curatorial process.* Consequently you have a responsibility to create an environment conducive to learning during class meetings and discussion, and to abide by the UCSD *Principles of Community*.

REQUIRED ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments are listed in the syllabus for the day that they are due. *Your individual work for each class meeting is crucial to the success of all members in the class and the final exhibit project!* The Final Examination will consist of an individual or team research project, presented in class, and the written component due during the scheduled exam period.

ASSIGNED READING

The readings from the following books are available in TED, along with readings from ETHN 114A:

Beverly Serrell. *Exhibit Labels: An Interpretive Approach*. AltaMira Press, Walnut Creek, CA, 1996.

Barry Lord and Maria Piacente, eds. *Manual of Museum Exhibitions*, 2nd edition. Rowman & Littlefield, Lanham, MD, 2014.

SYLLABUS

The reading(s) that follow each date should be **completed before** that class meeting. Please come to class prepared to discuss these assigned readings.

WEEK 1 JANUARY 7 Organizing the Exhibit Project

Chapter 15: "Preparing the Exhibition Brief", in *Manual of Museum Exhibitions* (2nd ed.), 241-50.

Chapter 16: "Interpretive Planning", in *Manual*, 251-68.

Chapter 17: "Curatorship and Content Development", in *Manual*, 269-91.

Eve Tuck and K. Wayne Yang, "Decolonization is not a metaphor" <http://decolonization.org/index.php/des/article/download/18630/15554>

JANUARY 9 Exhibit Concept and Labels

Chapters 1-3, *Exhibit Labels: An Interpretive Approach*, 1-36.

WEEK 2 JANUARY 14 NO CLASS

JANUARY 16 Curatorial Assignments and Thematic Structure

Chapter 4: "Who is the Audience...", *Exhibit Labels*, 37-50.

WEEK 3 JANUARY 21 Progress Review: Core Idea & Thematic Structure

Chapter 5 & 12: "Learning Styles" & "The Number of Words", *Exhibit Labels*, 51-64, 125-130.

JANUARY 23 Woman's Museum of CA Meeting #1

Chapter 6: "Levels of Information and Modalities", *Exhibit Labels*, 65-82.

WEEK 4 JANUARY 28 Artists and Works of Art.
Chapter 7: "Writing Visitor-friendly Labels", *Exhibit Labels*, 83-94.

JANUARY 30 **NO CLASS**

WEEK 5 FEBRUARY 4 Progress Review: Object List & Research

FEBRUARY 6 Labels and Signage

WEEK 6 FEBRUARY 11 *Woman's Museum of CA Meeting #2*

FEBRUARY 13 **NO CLASS**

WEEK 7 FEBRUARY 18 Progress Review: Labels & Signage

FEBRUARY 20 *Woman's Museum of CA Meeting #3*

WEEK 8 FEBRUARY 25 Public and Educational Programs

FEBRUARY 27 **NO CLASS**

WEEK 9 MARCH 4 Progress Review: Draft of Exhibit | Curatorial Brief

MARCH 6 *Woman's Museum of CA Meeting #4*

WEEK 10 MARCH 11 **NO CLASS**

MARCH 13 Working on Loose Ends

FINAL PROJECT DUE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 3:00-6:00PM

