ARHA 360
Museum Studies
REVISED 10/2/15

Fall 2015
Instructor: Clare Rogan, Curator, Davison Art Center

Fridays, 1:10-4:00 pm
Davison Art Center Print Reference Library

Office Hours: Wednesdays, 4:00-5:00 pm or by appointment
Telephone: x2966
Email: crogan@wesleyan.edu

Print Storage Lab time: Generally Thursdays, 2:00-4:30 pm; Wednesdays, 1:00-4:00 pm.
Occasional variations due to use of Print Ref. Classroom by other classes.

Course Description: This museum studies seminar introduces students to the history of art museums and current debates on the role of museums in today's society, as well as institutional practices and career paths. In addition, students will organize a group exhibition of artwork from the Davison Art Center collection, research objects, and write exhibition labels. The theme for this year's exhibition will be the German renaissance prints of Albrecht Dürer and his contemporaries including Lucas Cranach and the “Little Masters.” Students will consider the evolving art market, the effect of the Reformation on image production, the commissions of Emperor Maximilian, and new representations of nature, and of the body. Students will study the artwork in the collection and collaboratively define an exhibition theme and select artwork for exhibition.

The exhibition will be on display at the Davison Art Center February 5 – March 3, 2016. The opening reception is Thursday, February 4, 5:00 pm, with a snow date of Thursday, February 11.


All remaining readings will be on e-reserve or at the reserve desk at Olin Library.

Grading: Exhibition Labels 20%
3-page exhibition review 20%
Catalog entries and essays 50%
Participation 10%

Late papers will be penalized 1/3 letter grade for each day late. In the case of a medical or personal emergency, a student may request an extension, with a written note from a physician or class dean.
Disability Resources  Wesleyan University is committed to ensuring that all qualified students with disabilities are afforded an equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from its programs and services. To receive accommodations, a student must have a documented disability as defined by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008, and provide documentation of the disability. Since accommodations may require early planning and generally are not provided retroactively, please contact Disability Resources as soon as possible.

If you believe that you need accommodations for a disability, please contact Dean Patey in Disability Resources, located in North College, Room 021, or call 860/685-5581 for an appointment to discuss your needs and the process for requesting accommodations.

Sept. 11  Introduction to Davison Art Center
Overview of Curatorial functions
Tour of Print Room and Storage
Why German renaissance prints?
Review of print techniques

Hand out paper assignment

Sept. 18  History of Museums
– Museum Studies, Introduction (pp. 1-13), Chapter 3 (Duncan & Wallace, pp. 46-61), Chapt. 59 (Weil, pp. 590-598)
– Reinventing the Museum, “A Framework…” pp. 1-9, Chapter 1 (Dana), Chapter 2 (Low)
15th-century prints in German-speaking Europe

Sept. 25  Exhibitions
Required Reading:
– Mining the Museum: an Installation by Fred Wilson, ed. Lisa Corrin
– Dürer Woodcuts
– Linda Hults, The Print in the Western World, pp. 75-95.
– Optional reading: Andrew Robison et al, Albrecht Dürer: Master Drawings,
– Watercolors, and Prints. Read short essay on Dürer as Apelles for most recent biographical info.

Select an exhibition catalog and bring it to class for discussion
Consider the audience, the author(s), size and nature of the institution, layout and structure of the catalog.

September 29 DAC Exhibition opening: Phantom Bodies: Photographs by Tanya Marcuse
5:00 pm, Artist Talk by Tanya Marcuse, CFA Hall
Reception at DAC afterwards
October 2  Collections Care, and Issues of Identities
–  *Museum Studies*, Chapter 17 (Schildkrout), Chapter 28 (Coombes)
Dürer Engravings and Etchings
– Review Dürer reading from previous week.

October 9  **Paper 1: Exhibition review due (3 pages)**
Keeping the Doors Open: Audiences and Funding
–  *Museum Studies*, Chapter 55 (Robert R. Janes)
–  *Reinventing the Museum*, Chapter 30 (Falk and Sheppard)
Emperor Maximilian, Cranach and Luther
– Linda Hults, *The Print in the Western World*, pp. 95-113

October 16  The Little Masters / Representation of Women

October 23  **Special Collections & Archives, Olin Library. Visit with Suzy Taraba, Head of SC & A., 1:10-2:30.**
**Remainder of class at DAC Print Ref. Library**
Hans Baldung Grien, Urs Graf, Altdorfer

October 29  Panel Discussion: Body, Memory, Photography, Russell House, 5:00 pm Recommended.

October 30  **Tour from Theresa Fairbanks-Harris, Conservator, Conservation Laboratory at Yale West Campus**
Leave DAC at 1:10. Return 4:00 pm.

Nov. 6  **Final paper topic proposals due**
Using Renaissance prints: Decorative, wallpaper, religious, scientific prints

Nov. 4-8  IFPDA Print Fair, New York City
The Park Avenue Armory, 643 Park Avenue at 67th Street
For more information see http://www.ifpda.org/content/print-fair
Optional.

Nov. 13  **Exhibition themes discussed. Each student brings suggestions of 3 prints for exhibition and possible exhibition themes.**
Nov. 20  Group Presentations of exhibition themes

THANKSGIVING VACATION

Dec. 4  Group Presentations of exhibition themes

Dec. 11  Exhibition Labels due for in-class editing

Tuesday, December 15  Revised exhibition labels due by 5:00 pm to my email:
crogan@wesleyan.edu

Wednesday, December 12:  Catalog entries and essays due by 5:00 pm to my email:
crogan@wesleyan.edu