Museums, Culture & Society (ANTH 176)

Day/Time:  M/W Noon-1:15 pm  Phone:  (916) 278-6067
Instructor:  Dr. Castaneda  Office:  Mendocino Hall 4028
Email:  tac@csus.edu  Your Email:  Any email correspondence
Webpage:  www.csus.edu/indiv/c/castanedat  must use your saclink account

Course Objectives—This course introduces students to the scholarly field of museum anthropology, with particular emphasis on museum ethnography. Lectures, readings, discussion, and independent research will prepare students to: 1) comprehend the historical relationship between western European expansionism, natural history collections and early anthropology, 2) critically examine the role of museums as venues for the formation and reproduction of nationalist and other categories of collective cultural identity, 3) evaluate museums and exhibits as cultural texts and representations, and 4) to identify the challenges facing contemporary museums and the diverse communities they serve.

CSUS Catalog Description: Provides an introduction to museum anthropology. Surveys the emergence of modern anthropology from its origins in 17th century natural history expeditions, collections, and systems of classification to its late 19th century institutionalization in museums; explores the role of collectors, curators and financial patrons in the simultaneous development of museums and social theory; examines the contemporary poetics and politics of museums and cultural interpretation, including cultural property rights, cultural self-representation, collaborative exhibit development, and the ethnography of museums. Prerequisite: ANTH 146 or instructor permission. 3 units.

Textbooks
Asma, Stephen T.

Erikson, Patricia Pierce, with Helma Ward & Kirk Wachendorf

Krech, Shepard, III and Barbara A. Hail, editors

Readings—Available as PDFs on SacCT 9.1 (aka Blackboard/Bb). Login at www.csus.edu/sacct/

Barrow, M.V.

Benhamou, Francoise and Nathalie Moureau

Benedict, Burton
Binney, Judith and Gillian Chaplin

Browman, David L.

Clouse, Abby

Collier, Donald, and Harry Tschopik

Colwell-Chanthaphonh C.

Dartt-Newton

Duncan, Carol

Foster, Robert J.

Goode, G. Brown

Harries, John

Herle, Anita

Hinsley, Curtis M. and Bill Holm
Isaac, Gwyneira

Jacknis, Ira


Kaplan, Flora Edouwaye S.

Krmpotich, Cara

Kroeber, A. L.

Larson, Frances

McIntyre, Darryl

Nash, Stephen E.

Ngata, Wayne, Hera Ngata-Gibson, and Amiria Salmond

Rassool, Ciraj

Rosoff, Nancy B.


**Course Requirements**—Regular attendance, completion of all assignments and exams, and meaningful participation in class discussion. To promote active participation, each student will serve as a discussion facilitator for at least one reading (and all students should be prepared to respond to reading-related questions.)

**Course Evaluation**—Final course grades are based upon the average of five scores:

- Midterm Exam 1 (20%)—subjective and objective questions
- Midterm Exam 2 (20%)—as above (e.g. multiple choice, short answer, and identifications)
- Final exam (20%)—non-comprehensive (format, as above, w/one essay)
- Museum Field Reports (20%)—instructions to be delivered via Bb, but these will entail making field notes, writing 2 brief essays, and posting one (p/student) field research synopsis to our course blog (blog post instructions will be posted to Bb).
- Participation (20%)—this score is the sum of 7 reading quizzes (10 pts. ea.), one (p/student) facilitation of class discussion (20 pts.), and a score (1-10) for participation in class discussion (rubric posted to Bb)

**Grading Scale** A (92-100%); A- (90-91%); B+(88-89%); B(82-87%); B-(80-81%); C+(78-79%); C (72-77%); C-(70-71%); D+ (68-69%); D (62-67%); D-(60-61%); F (59% and below).

**Make-up/Late Paper Policy**—Make-up exams (given in the instance of excused absences for extremely compelling reasons) must be taken in the Testing Center in Lassen Hall. No more than one mid-term exam may be made-up (final exams cannot be made-up). Late museum field notes and essays will be marked down 10 points for every 15 minutes late (or fraction thereof). Blog posts penalized 10 points for every 15 minutes late. Missed readings quizzes and facilitation assignments may not be made-up.

**Cell Phones, Laptops, Tablets**—Please silence or turn off and STOW cell phones during class (unless you have an emergency—kids home alone, an ill relative, etc. and you bring this to my attention before class begins). Laptops/tablets are permitted for note-taking only.

**Academic Dishonesty**—Plagiarism and any other forms of cheating will result in a zero on the assignment and may well result in permanent dismissal from class. Consult this library website on plagiarism and its varied forms.

**SSWD**—Students who need disability accommodation are urged to approach me early in the course of the semester. Policies and procedures available here: [http://www.csus.edu/sswd/index.html](http://www.csus.edu/sswd/index.html)

**Email Address Policy**—All course-related email correspondence must be sent from your official university account.
## Course Schedule *

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<th>Dates</th>
<th>Reading Assignments</th>
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<td><strong>Part I. LINEAGES</strong></td>
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<td>9/3</td>
<td>Course Orientation</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>9/8, 9/10</td>
<td>Asma—Introduction &amp; Chapter 1, 2 Barrow (2000), Asma 3</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>9/15, 9/17</td>
<td>Asma—5 and 7 Krech &amp; Hail—Introduction – Chpt. 3</td>
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<td>9/22, 9/24</td>
<td>K &amp; H—Chpts. 4-7 K &amp; H—Chpts. 8-9</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>Midterm Exam 1</td>
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<td><strong>Part II. MUSEUMS AND/AS STATECRAFT</strong></td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>10/27, 10/29</td>
<td>McIntyre (2006), Benhamou (2006) Field reports about art or science museum due by Noon, in class; group A blog posts due by 11:30 a.m. Erikson: Intro and Chpt. 1</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>11/3, 11/5</td>
<td>Erikson: Chpts. 2-4 Erikson: Chpt. 5 and Conclusion</td>
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<td>Midterm Exam 2</td>
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<td><strong>Part III: LEGACIES AND TRENDS IN MUSEUM ETHNOGRAPHY</strong></td>
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<td>11/24, 11/26</td>
<td>Krmpotich (2010) Field reports for ethnographic and/or cultural heritage exhibit due in class by Noon; group B blog posts due by 11:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>12/17</td>
<td><strong>Final Exam</strong> (Wednesday 10:15-12:15)</td>
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* This schedule is subject to change at the instructor’s discretion *