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**Museums in a Globalizing World**  
**Syllabus for CWRU Course History 329/429 JHU Course**  
**Fall 2008**

**Course Description:**

Museums are everywhere dynamic spaces today. Historically designed as centers for research, and agents of public education and community formation in Western industrial societies, they have become sites of development and cultural controversy on a global scale. From Cleveland and Paris to Nairobi and Dubai museums figure in urban redevelopment, national identity formation, conflicts between religion and science, and global tourism. Questions we will consider in this course: what are the fundamental features of museums as institutions? what ties have linked them to wider national and international communities of academics, NGO's and business? to political, economic and social concerns? How do museums in Asia, Africa the Middle East and Latin America figure in the current international contention over heritage rights? This is an innovative course offered jointly by Johns Hopkins University and CWRU using virtual web-based technologies that allow students to collaborate on projects, engage with guest lecturers from UNESCO and access museums across the globe. Offered as HSTY 329 and HSTY 429.

**Course requirements:**

Individual grades and the success of this course depend on your participation in discussion, being prepared for class, doing the reading assignments for the coming week, and thinking critically about the materials, as well as your presentations and papers. You are encouraged to surf the web to look at museum sites and to investigate those sites listed in the syllabus.

**HSTY 329:** Undergraduate students will prepare two oral presentations, one to be part of a group presentation on non-western museums, the other in conjunction with their final project. There will be two papers, a 10 page in the first part of the course and a final 15 page paper.

**HSTY 429:** Graduate students will be expected to do these assignments, but their presentation and written work will be more extensively researched and documented and longer. They will be asked to set their written work in historiographic perspective. The research papers will be 15 and 20 pages, with accompanying annotated bibliographies.

**Grading:** all written assignments are to be handed in at the beginning of class on the date due and in hard copy; late papers will be downgraded by one letter grade for each day late, beginning after class on the date due. A letter from the UGS, a doctor, or health service is required to excuse late work.

**Grading will be based on the following:**

**Undergraduates: attendance 15%**

**Individual participation 15%**

**Oral presentations 305 (15% for group; 20% for final)**

**First written paper of 10 pages 15%**

**Final Research paper of 15 pages on History of a Museum 20%**

**Graduate Students:** Graduate students will be expected to show a higher level of research, integration of information, and more mature writing and speaking abilities than undergraduates. In addition, the first paper will be 15 pages and the second 20 pages long.

**Required Texts:** You are not required to purchase any texts. The readings are available in course reserves and in some cases online where noted.

**Class meeting schedule and assignments:**

**August 26—Prof. Levin, CWRU only**  
Introduction and mechanics

**September 3—Prof. Levin, CWRU only**  
Visit to Univ. circle museums

**1. September 10—First Joint Class meeting (Kargon and Levin)**  
Concept of the Modern Museum  
Reading: Miriam R. Levin, "Museums and the Democratic Order," *Wilson Quarterly* 26 (Winter, 2002): 50-65; video on Univ. Circle

**Part I: National Identity Building and Museums**

**2. September 17: The Role of the Museum in the Modern Era (Levin)**  
Readings:

**1. Benedict Anderson, "Census, Map, Museum," in *Imagined Communities* (Verso, 1983), pp. 163-186**

**2. Eric Hobsbawm, "Mass Producing Tradition," in E. Hobsbawm and T. Ranger, *The Invention of Tradition* (Cambridge, 1983)**

**3. HOLLAND COTTER, "China's Legacy - Let a Million Museums Bloom," *NYTimes.com*, July 4, 2008**

**4. Explore website: <http://www.chinamuseums.com>**

**3. September 24: Museums and National Identity: France and Germany (Levin)**  
Readings:

1. Andrew McClellan, "Nationalism and the Origins of the Museum in France," in Gwendolyn Wright, ed., *The Formation of National Collections of Art and Archaeology* (Washington, D.C.), pp. 29-39
2. Sally Price, *Paris Primitive*, pp. 23-41
3. Françoise Forster-Hahn, "Shrine of Art or Signature of a New Nation? The National Gallery(ies) in Berlin, 1848-1068," in Wright, ed., *The Formation of National Collections*, pp. 79-99.

**4. October 1: Museums and National Identity: Britain (Kargon)**  
Readings:

1. Asa Briggs, *Victorian Things* (Chicago, 1988), pp. 52-79
2. Sophie Forgan and Grahame Gooday, "Constructing South Kensington: The Buildings and Politics of T. H. Huxley's Working Environments," *British Journal for the History of Science*, 29 (Dec., 1996), pp. 435- 468

**5. October 8: Museum and National Identity: United States (Kargon) Readings:**

1. Nature editorial, "Museums need two cultures," 446 (5 April 2007), p.583
2. George B. Goode, "Museums of the Future (1880)," in *A Memorial of George Brown Goode* (Washington DC, 1901), pp. 247-255.
3. Bonnie Pitman, "Muses, Museums and Memories," *Daedalus* 128 (1999), pp. 1-31.
4. Steven Conn, *Museums and American Intellectual Life, 1876-1926* (Chicago, 1998), pp.32-73.

Presentations on national museums

**6. October 15—No class, work on papers**

**Part II: Museums and Global Development**

**7. October 22: Museums and Tourism: The Example of Miami; UNESCO's Cultural Heritage Project (Levin)**

First written papers due

Readings:

1. <http://whc.unesco.org/en/35>
2. <http://whc.unesco.org/en/convention/>
3. <http://folk.uio.no/geirthe/UNESCO.html>
4. "Commission Defines Clear Vision For Miami," *US States News*, July 25, 2008 Friday 9:19 PM EST (accessed through Lexis Nexis academic)\*

Arva Parks presentation on Miami Museums

**8. October 29: Science Museums and Science Centers (Kargon): What are Science Museums For?**

Readings:

1. Kenya struggle over evolution exhibits; Mike Pflanz in Nairobi, "Evangelicals urge museum to hide man's ancestors," *Weekly Telegraph*, [Telegraph.co.uk](http://Telegraph.co.uk), August 12, 2006

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/1526191/Evangelicals-urge-museum-to-hide-man's-ancestors.html>

2. Review web site for National Museums of Kenya>about us>recent achievements: <http://www.museums.or.ke/content/blogcategory/46/81/>

3. Edward Rothstein, "Adam and Eve in the Land of Dinosaurs," NY Times, May 24, 2007

4. Arthur Molella, "The Museum that Might Have Been: the Smithsonian's National Museum of Engineering and Industry," Technology and Culture 32 (Apr., 1991), pp. 237-263

5. Tom Gieryn "Policing STS: A Boundary-Work Souvenir from the Smithsonian Exhibition on 'Science in American Life' " Science, Technology, & Human Values 21 (Winter, 1996), pp. 100-115

Presentation, Dominique Ferriot, former director of CNAM [possible] and Arthur Molella, Lemelson Center, SI

\*Article copies on last page of syllabus

9. November 5: The McMuseum: Agents of development or new imperialism or just plain megalomania? (Kargon and Levin)  
Readings:

1. Edward Rothstein, "Antiquities the World is Your Homeland" NY Times, May 27, 2008.

2. Jonathan Keates, "Why the Elgin Marbles should stay," London Telegraph 6/7/2008

3. WU Dai-Rong, "Cultural hegemony in the museum world," (on reserve)

4. Tom Krens of Guggenheim Foundation Talks about the Role of Museums and Mission of Guggenheim. The Charlie Rose Show: Transcripts January 4, 2006, [http://www.guggenheim.org/transcripts/Charlie\\_Rose\\_Krens\\_Interview\\_pdf.pdf](http://www.guggenheim.org/transcripts/Charlie_Rose_Krens_Interview_pdf.pdf), or view: <http://www.charlierose.com/guests/tom-krens>

5. Stefania Bianchi, "Dubai Plans Theme Parks To Lure Visitors," Wall Street Journal, June 25, 2008. Eastern Edition

### Part III: Museums and Identity Politics

10. November 12: Museums and Ethnicity: Whose Culture is It? United States (African-American museums, Native Americans, women, etc.) (Kargon)  
Readings:

1. Victoria Dickenson, "History, Ethnicity and Citizenship: the role of the history museum in a multi-ethnic country," Museum 58 (2006): 21-31.

2. EDWARD ROTHSTEIN, "Connections - Identities on Display: Bonding at the Museum," New York Times, June 30, 2008

3. Edward Rothstein, "Museum With an American Indian Voice," NY Times September 21, 2004.

4. Faith Ruffins, "A Community Revealed: the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History and Culture," Curator 49 (2006): 81-89

5. Jeremy Kargon, "Architecture: the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History and Culture," Curator 49 (2006): 90-94.

\*Presentation: Lonnie Bunch (need confirmation)

11. November 19: Museums and Cultural Values: Whose Culture is it? The Case of the MQB; The Elgin Marbles; ICOM and other Global Standardization forces (Levin)

Readings:

1. Jeanette Greenfield, "The Elgin Marbles Debate, in The Return of Cultural Treasures , 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., pp. 42-90;

2. Sally Price, Paris Primitives, pp. 119-139;

3. ICOM review

[http://www.unesco.org/culture/laws/museums/html\\_eng/page1.shtml](http://www.unesco.org/culture/laws/museums/html_eng/page1.shtml)

\*Presentation, Dominique Ferriot, ICOM (possible, see Oct. 29 alternative)

12. November 26—No class Thanksgiving Vacation

13. December 3—Last Class, Presentations

December Final Papers due at 5:00 in faculty mailboxes

December 19—Final grades due

US States News

July 25, 2008 Friday 9:19 PM EST

## COMMISSION DEFINES CLEAR VISION FOR **MIAMI**

**BYLINE:** US States News

**LENGTH:** 457 words

**DATELINE:** MIAMI

The city of **Miami's** office of communications issued the following news release:

City of **Miami** City Commission voted Thursday, July 24th, 2008, to approve several measures that will help define **Miami** as one of the world's greatest cities. Commissioners voted to approve the Coconut Grove Waterfront Master Plan, create the Wynwood Café District, and provide funding for the **Miami Art Museum's** (MAM) future facility at **Museum Park**.

"The greatest cities in the world are created because of vision and proper planning to make dreams a reality," said **Miami** Mayor Manny Diaz. "Our Commission has shown true leadership and belief in the future of **Miami**."

The Coconut Grove Waterfront Master Plan reflects the growth and desires of the community, combining feedback gathered throughout three years of public meetings and outreach. It will create a Coastal Recreational **Park** that emphasizes public open spaces and connectivity for pedestrians through the creation of waterfront promenades and diverse open spaces. Included in the plan is an active **park** with sensitive environmental spoil island connections.

"The idea behind this plan is for all of us to have access to the waterfront," said District 2 Commissioner Marc Sarnoff. "What a novel concept in the City of **Miami** for residents and visitors to actually see the waterfront."

The creation of the Wynwood Café District will promote the arts institutions, galleries, and **museums** that have made Wynwood an international destination by stimulating an emerging restaurant district. This ordinance encourages investment in a variety of cafes and restaurants by minimizing certain distance requirements and implementing alternate parking standards.

"Wynwood is an area of the city that has been neglected for many years and the only thing that kept it alive was the arts," said Commission Chairman Joe Sanchez, "We now have a great opportunity to create a place that will compete with cultural and economic hubs such as SOHO and our neighboring South Beach."

The \$2 million grant authorized by the Commission for the MAM will help fund the development of a new fine arts **museum** at **Museum Park**. The Commission had previously approved the **Museum Park** Master Plan which

includes the MAM facility, the **Miami Science Museum** and 21 acres of green, open space.

To view the City Commission meeting, read through the agenda items, and take a look at the renderings for all of these projects, please visit [http://miami.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view\\_id=2](http://miami.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=2)

For more information on the Coconut Grove Waterfront Master Plan, **Museum Park** Master Plan, or the Wynwood Arts District, please contact the City of **Miami** Planning Department at 305-416-1400.

Contact: Kelly Penton, 305/416-1440, 305/416-1441, [kpenton@miamigov.com](mailto:kpenton@miamigov.com)