

Museum Methods, Biol 322

SEM II 2012-2013

Instructor: Dr. Jamee Hubbard

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Office: TNR 339 Office Hours: Mon, Tue, & Thu 12-1 in TNR 339

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Course Learning outcomes:

By the end of this course you will:

- have a better understanding of:
 - why museums exist
 - the various types of museums and their purposes
 - how these different types of museums operate
 - curatorial practices in museum of natural history collections
- gain more experience in interpersonal communications and professional presentation

Points (300 +/- total points)

Field Trip/Collections Participation: 10pts ea. X 10 (+/-) trips	100 pts
30 Hours curatorial work	100 pts
Discussion Questions to ask the curators/directors: 2 pts ea. X 10 (+/-) trips	20 pts
Presentation at COLS Undergraduate Research Symposium (see rubric)	60 pts
Collections Crawl Tour	20 pts

Grades: A=93-100%, A-=90- 92%, B+=87-89%, B=83-86%, B-=80-82%, C+=77-79%, C=73-76%, C-=70-72%, D+=67-69%, D=60-66%, F=< 60%

Assignments & Activities:

1. Museum Field Trips/Collections Workshops & Tours

We are scheduled for several trips to museums this semester. Some are local and within walking distance, some are out of town. In addition to museum field trips, several curators in the UWSP Museum of Natural History have agreed to demonstrate curatorial techniques in 1 to 1 ½ hour long workshops during our regularly scheduled class time. You are expected to attend all museum field trips and workshops. The out-of-town field trips are outside of our regularly scheduled class time, so if you cannot make the field trip, we will work out other arrangements to fulfill this requirement. See the schedule for museum field trips and curator workshops. When we visit the museums, I will be expecting you to engage in discussion with the curators, directors, or other staff. Therefore, you will be required to bring along two or more thoughtful questions (that aim to provide you with useful information) to ask the staff or devise your questions during your visit.

2. Curator Intern/Assistant

You will be required to complete 30 hours as a curator assistant/intern in the UWSP Museum of Natural History collections of your choice, upon permission of the curator. Your tasks in the collections will be up to the curator. This will be a wonderful opportunity to see what curating a collection is all about. You will find that at times you may be doing research or putting together exhibits and it is exciting, but at other times it

is mundane daily maintenance work that just needs to get done. The end result is always exciting, though; to look back and see what you've accomplished with the collections. I will provide a list of the collections and the contact information of their curators.

3. UWSP Museum of Natural History Collections Crawl

Since you will have visited almost all of the collections and you have seen what sorts of items the collections hold and some about how they are curated, you will be expected to lead a tour or tours of the collections at the annual UWSP Museum of Natural History Collections Crawl on March 9. This is an event that is open to the public, and hundreds of people come through the collections on that day. The staff and the students in biology and other departments make a huge commitment to opening their collections to the public each year so that people can gain an appreciation for our museum and the role that our collections play. We try to make it educational and fun! If you are scheduled to work or cannot make it for other reasons, see me for an alternative assignment.

4. Presentation at COLS Undergraduate Research Symposium

You will be required to do an oral presentation, as a group, at the College of Letters and Sciences Undergraduate Research Symposium. You will be presenting on the value of the UWSP Natural History Museum collections, using what you have learned about museums and their collections, what you learned in the curation workshops, and what you have learned as student curators. You will be expected to provide a draft of your presentation, as a group, one week in advance of the symposium. The symposium is Friday, April 26 in the UWSP Science Building. Applications for oral presentations may be submitted Wednesday, January 2nd through Monday, April 1st.

Class Conduct: I expect good conduct and a high level of respect in the classroom, between you and your peers, between you and the museum/university staff, and between you and me. If there is repeat misconduct in the class, a minimum of five points will be deducted from your grade for each offense. Misconduct can include, but may not be limited to: texting, answering or making phone calls, talking when you should be listening during museum tours and workshops, repeatedly entering the classroom late (unless I have been notified).

Field Trip Information:

Because of insurance restrictions, only students currently enrolled in Museum Methods may travel in the university vehicles. Students are encouraged to be ready to pay for meals and lodging if we become stranded overnight. Students should also carry their health insurance card in case they need medical attention. To insure a positive field trip, your instructor has the authority to eject any misbehaving student from the group and vehicle or lower that person's grade and/or dismiss him or her from the class.

Students with Disabilities: You should contact the Office of Disability Services during the first two weeks of the semester if you wish to request specific accommodations. Also, if you have a medical problem that may cause you to miss class often, please contact the Office of Disability Services so your professors can be notified appropriately of accommodations that should be made for you.

January

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 Museum Methods begins	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 TBA	31		

February

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6 UWSP Museum Of Natural Resources Tour 9-11, Meet TNR 460 8:30	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 Central Wisconsin Children's Museum Tour, Meet TNR 460 8:00	14	15 Leigh Yawkey, Meet 9am, Place:	16
17	18	19	20 Mammals workshop 8-9am, Geology Workshop 9:35-10:50, Meet TNR 460, 8:00	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 Plants workshop 10-11 Other: Meeting, TNR 460, Time:	28		

March

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6 TBA	7	8	9 UWSP Museum Of Natural History Collections Crawl 9:00am, meeting time TBA
10	11	12	13 TBA	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Parasites workshop Time: Report to class about curator experience Meet TNR 460	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 SPRING BREAK	28	29	30
31			NO CLASSES			

April

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 Report to class about curator experience, work on presentation, Meet TNR 460 8:00	11	12 Milwaukee Public Museum Time, place TBA	13
14	15	16	17 Draft of presentation due today, Meet TNR 460 8:00	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Report to class about curator duties, work on presentation, Meet TNR 460 8:00	25	26 COLS Undegraduate Research Symposium	27
28	29	30				

May

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Report to class about curator duties, Meet TNR 460 8:00	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Collections List & Curator Contact Information:

Collection	Curator to contact	Contact information
Plants	Dr. Emmet Judziewicz	ejudziew@uwsp.edu , TNR 301
Bryophytes (non-vascular plants)	Dr. Virginia Freire	vfreire@uwsp.edu , TNR 302
Parasites	Dr. Todd Huspeni	thuspeni@uwsp.edu , TNR 478
Fishes	Dr. Justin Sipiorski	jsipiors@uwsp.edu , TNR 403
Reptiles & Amphibians	Dr. Pete Zani	pzani@uwsp.edu , TNR 445
Insects	Dr. Jamee Hubbard	jhubbard@uwsp.edu , TNR 339
Invertebrate Paleontology	Pat Zellmer	pzellmer@uwsp.edu , TNR 235
Geology	Dr. Kevin Hefferen	kheffera@uwsp.edu , SCI D335
Archaeology	Dr. Ray Reser	rreser@uwsp.edu , LRC 106A

Museums we hope to visit this semester:

UWSP Museum of Natural Resources (scheduled)
 Central Wisconsin Children's Museum (scheduled)
 Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum in Wausau (scheduled)
 Scarabocchio Art Museum (yes, but waiting on date)
 UW Madison Geology Museum in Madison (likely, waiting on date)
 Wisconsin Historical Museum in Madison (likely, waiting on date)
 Milwaukee Public Museum (tentative, they have limited dates available)

Collections workshops planned, so far, this semester:

Mammal & Birds	Parasites
Geology	Fishes
Plants	Reptiles & Amphibians
Bryophytes	Archeology (tentative)

