

HIS 627: Museum and Historic Site Interpretation

Dr. Anne Parsons – Fall 2020

Hybrid Format of Class: We will meet synchronously as a group 11 times during the class time throughout the semester. Some of these classes will be face-to-face (with live-streaming options for online students) and others will be online. Due to the ever-changing conditions, I will determine which classes will be face or online two weeks before class and will post that information to the week's module.

Modules: To learn about the week's work, go to the Modules tab on the left side of the page. Each module describes the readings, assignments, and class sessions. I will unlock the modules at least 2 weeks prior to class.

Questions? Please post any questions to the [Q&A Discussion Board](#) where other students or I can answer them.

To Talk with Me: Sign up to meet with me during my virtual office hours Thursdays 2-4 PM. Sign up at: go.uncg.edu/talkwithdrparsons. Also please email me at pubhist@uncg.edu - I aim to respond to this email every 24 hours Sun-Thurs.

Learning Objectives

Enduring Understandings

- Students understand how museums have changed and the potential for change in the future
- Students articulate the value of public history, museums, and historic sites in society
- Students understand sharing authority and engaging with the community – the principles and practice

Core Concepts

- Students articulate and evaluate how practitioners make history meaningful to the public
- Students understand the principles of cultural competency and know how to apply best practices
- Students can apply best practices in interpreting traumatic and contested histories
- Students will have learned about the Holocaust in Eastern Europe

Skills

- Students can analyze and interpret primary sources

- Students can write clearly, concisely, and compellingly for public audiences
- Students can plan for and curate a digital exhibit on an online publication platform such as Scalar
- Students will be able to give a public speaking presentation that is clear and compelling

Experiences & Activities of the Class

You must hand in each assignment on-time. I will deduct a third of a grade for each 24 hours past the deadline. Unless you have a specific accommodation from the [Office of Accessibility Resources and Services](#), I will only grant extensions in advance of the due date. Contact me immediately if you need an extension.

Attendance Policy: See [Participation Assignment](#).

Grade Scale: A 93-100 / A- 90-92 / B+ 87-89 / B 83-86 / B- 80-82 / C+ 77-79 / C 73-76 / F 72 and below.

Assignments: See the list on the right-hand side of the page for a list of assignments and their grade weights (a list is also arranged by date at the bottom of this page). I will post homework assignments at least 2 weeks in advance.

Required Books: Please purchase or borrow the following books in whatever form you like. The UNCG Bookstore does not have these books.

-Baier, Yehuda. *The Death of the Shtetl*. Yale University Press: 2010.

-Gross, Jan. *Neighbors*. Penguin Books: 2002.

-Horton, James and Lois, eds. *Slavery and Public History*. Longleaf: 2009.

-Lonetree, Amy. *Decolonizing Museums: Representing Native America in National and Tribal Museums*. The University of North Carolina Press, 2012.

-Rose, Julia and Jonathan Holloway. *Interpreting Difficult Histories*. Rowman & Littlefield: 2016.

-Schwarzer, Marjorie. *Riches, Rivals, and Radicals: 100 Years of Museums in America*. AAM: 2006.

-Serrell, Beverly. *Exhibit Labels: An Interpretive Approach*. Rowman & Littlefield: 2015.

-Simon, Nina. *The Participatory Museum*. Museum 2.0: 2012. Can be viewed for free at participatorymuseum.org.

-Summers, John. *Creating Exhibits That Engage*. Rowman & Littlefield: 2018.

-Young, James. *The Stages of Memory: Reflections on Memorial Art, Loss, and the Spaces Between*. University of Massachusetts, 2016.

Accessibility: UNC Greensboro seeks to promote meaningful access to educational opportunities for all students. Should you have any needs or questions related to disability issues, please contact the [Office of Accessibility Resources and Services](#). I am committed to making this course accessible to all of my students and will work with OARS to accommodate your requests. For additional assistance, please contact the [UNCG Writing Center](#), [The Digital Media Commons](#), the [Digital ACT Studio](#), and the [Speaking Center](#).

Academic Integrity: UNC Greensboro greatly values integrity in the work of its students. You must appropriately cite any information that you use from your sources and you must submit work that you yourself have written or created. Copying the work of others and passing it off as your own is taken very seriously and will be handled by the university administration. You can read more about the policy at: academicintegrity.uncg.edu.

[Notice re. Health & Safety in and out of the Classroom](#)