

EDUC W505  
Raising Standards:  
Field Trip Curriculum Design  
Summer Session II, 2006  
Mathers Museum of World Cultures

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Meeting at the Mathers Museum of World Cultures  
416 N Indiana Ave. / Bloomington, IN 47408  
Three sessions: Saturdays, 10:00a.m.-3:00pm  
June 17, June 24, and July 8

Available by enrollment through the Indiana University School of Education as a 1-credit Graduate-level workshop (15 CRUs); or by direct enrollment through the Mathers Museum for a flat fee of \$30.00 (6 CRUs).

IU registration forms will be available at the first class session. For questions about IU registration, contact Sara Gibson at [slavende@indiana.edu](mailto:slavende@indiana.edu) or 812/856-8548.

Course objectives:

Participants in the course will examine current research and theory on museum learning, as well as best practices from the literature for the integration of field trip experiences with classroom learning. Hands-on practice with learning strategies in the museum environment will reinforce readings, assignments, and discussion.

Participants will explore the ways in which educators and museum staff can collaborate to offer students richly personalized and—dare we say it!—enjoyable learning opportunities that support state academic standards while challenging and stimulating each student in the classroom.

By the end of the workshop, each participant will complete a curriculum plan inspired by, and including at least one classroom visit to, the Mathers Museum exhibit “Thoughts, Things and Theories...What Is Culture?” With participants’ permission, their curricula will be offered to other teachers through the Mathers Museum Education Department.

Required text:

None. Readings will be available through the following means:

1. Download online (free of charge):  
<http://www.billabbie.com/fieldtrips.htm>
2. CD-ROM of PDF files (\$5.00, payable to the Mathers Museum)
3. Paper copies (\$25.00, payable to the Mathers Museum)

Recommended texts:

Falk, J.H. and Dierking, L.D. 2000. *Learning from museums: visitor experiences and the making of meaning*. Walnut Creek: AltaMira Press.

Krishnaswami, Uma. 2002. *Beyond the field trip: teaching and learning in public places*. North Haven: Linnet Professional Publications.

Assignments and Grading:

Class participation:	15 points
Reflection paper:	10
Presentation of project:	25
Workshop project:	<u>50</u>
	100 points

A = 90-100 points

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

D = 60-69 points

F = 59 or fewer

Participants' work must be original; any references to, quotations from, or derivations from the work of others must be properly attributed. For clarification, see the IU School of Education's "Understanding Plagiarism" page at <http://education.indiana.edu/~frick/plagiarism/>.

Reflection Paper (due in class on June 24: 10 points)

As you complete the readings for the next class session, prepare a two-page, double-spaced essay reflecting on your personal learning style and your experiences visiting museums and other informal learning sites. Being aware of your own preferences and how your own learning happens during these visits will help you think about your students' time on a field trip and the possibilities for integrating the field trip experience into the classroom.

What works for you? What do you respond to? How do you like to move through a museum exhibit? Do you like to read the labels? Do you browse for things that catch your eye, or do you go "straight through"? What do you like

best about a good exhibit? What *doesn't* work for you in museums? Etc. Cite the readings in your paper if they relate to your observations.

Workshop Project (due by July 14; in-class presentation July 8: total 75 points)

Design a field trip curriculum that begins and ends with classroom work, and includes at least one visit to the Mathers Museum exhibit, "Thoughts, Things, and Theories...What Is Culture?" Include at least one pre-field trip visit to the classroom by museum staff, or loan of materials from the Mathers Museum, if that is possible for your location. If you are a classroom educator, prepare this curriculum for use with your own students. Reference state academic standards.

Present your curriculum to your class-mates, using whatever media or other tools with which you are comfortable. PowerPoint presentations not required.

Presentations will be made during the final class session on July 8, and will include feedback from classmates. The curriculum in its final form must be received by the instructor by 5:00 on Friday, July 14. The project may be submitted as an e-mail attachment, by fax, by mail, or by hand.

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Class schedule:

1. June 17: Introductions: Learning in museums

- Museum memories; field trip stories (good, bad and ugly!)
- The Mathers Museum and its resources
- Teaching with Objects and Photographs
- The "Thoughts, Things and Theories" exhibit
- Museum learning theory and research

**Readings for June 24 (see Resource List for details):** [most are easy reads!]

- Falk & Dierking 2000
- Hein 1995
- Wolins 1993
- Spock 1999
- Leinhardt 2004

2. June 24: Applications: Learning in action

*Reflection Paper Due*

- Discuss reflection paper
- Field trip tools and strategies
- Practice the techniques
- Strategies for finding funding and raising administrative support

3. July 8: Presentations

**Readings:**

- Choose from case studies and research on the course Resource List to shape your curriculum project
- Highly recommended: Hirzy 1996 (IMLS report *True Needs, True Partners*; available online at <http://www.imls.gov/pdf/pubtntb.pdf>)

Logistics and Amenities

*Location:*

In Bloomington on Indiana Ave. between 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Streets, on the western edge of the IU campus. Ramp access is available on the north side of the building from the corner of 9<sup>th</sup> & Fess, entering through the Glenn Black Laboratory of Archaeology. Two handicapped parking spaces are reserved on 9<sup>th</sup> St. as well.

For driving directions and maps, see the Mathers Museum website:

<http://www.indiana.edu/~mathers/about/directions.html>

See also the interactive Indiana University map online:

<http://www.iub.edu/~iubmap/>

*Parking:*

Parking is allowed on side streets surrounding the museum on the weekends. Summer parking is also available in the fraternity parking lot at 8<sup>th</sup> and Indiana. The visitor parking lot across the street at the old McCalla School (between Indiana Ave & Dunn St; between 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>), which includes both metered and IU permit parking, is also free on the weekends (no need to feed the meters!).

*Lunch:*

We will break for lunch from 12:00 to 1:00. The museum's conference room is at your disposal, equipped with refrigerator, microwave, toaster oven, toaster, stove-top and oven, and instant hot water from a purified water dispenser. Restaurants in walking distance include Yogi's on 10<sup>th</sup> St.; the Bloomington Bagel Co. at 6<sup>th</sup> & Dunn; an array of eateries on Kirkwood and 4<sup>th</sup> St.; and the Bloomingfoods Co-op downtown store with deli, sushi, and soup.