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### ANTY 404.01: Anthropological Museology

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**Course:** Anthropology 404: Anthropological Museology.  
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**Course description:** Anthropology has a long relationship with the history and development of American museums. Anthropologists today continue to work in a museum environment in a variety of capacities. The course is designed to provide students with an overview of the evolution of museums and provide an in-depth discussion about major museum practices. The major topics to be examined are: curation, collections management, ethics, exhibition, administration, cultural heritage, cultural resource management, and education. In addition, the role anthropology has had in shaping ethnological and our perceptions of other cultures will be examined in reserving and shaping the public's view of the past and present.

**Required texts:**

Alexander, E., M. Alexander, and J. Decker, Museums in Motion, Third Edition. Rowman and Littlefield.

Mason, R., A. Robinson, and E. Coffield, Museum and Gallery Studies: The Basics, Routledge.

**Recommended Readings:**

Campbell, B. and C. Baars, editors, The Curation and care of Museum Collections, Routledge.

Colwell, C., Plundered Skulls and Stolen Spirits. University of Chicago Press.

**Assignments and Grading:** All students are required to read all the required readings. **Remember: You are responsible for all the reading material on the tests.** There are two exams during the course, a midterm (100 points) and final (100 points). The structure and content of the test will be disclosed during the test review. Grading is on a straight point system. Grades are not negotiable.

All students also are responsible for possible guest lectures.

**Extra credit:** For those who would like to strive for a superior grade, a student can purchase one or more of the above recommended readings and write a critical review. The extra credit will be worth 30 possible points per book. The assignment is due the last lecture day of class. No late assignments will be accepted after that day.

**Graduate Students:** Graduate students are required to select a book from the above recommended reading list and write a critical book review of three to five pages. Graduate students also must write a problem-oriented or theoretical paper on any topic about museum studies from an anthropological context. The paper must be a minimum of 20 pages excluding bibliography. It also must be written in the American Anthropologist format. The goal is to write a paper that is potentially publishable or worthy of presentation at a professional conference. The work is due the final day of lecture.