ANTH 393
EXHIBITING CULTURE: ANTHROPOLOGY AND MUSUMS

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Andrea Walsh

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

This course focuses on the roles that collections of material culture play in the production of knowledge and relationships between various communities of peoples, and the role of curating this material and knowledge through the 20th century to present day. Topics include: an overview of the colonial history of museums and anthropology’s role in creating collections; current critical exhibition strategies; refiguring the role of collections in museums in a digital age; rethinking the role of community through collections based research and curatorial practice. Throughout the course emphasis will be placed on Canadian examples and in particular First Nations collections of material culture.

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

- critical reading and research skills
- applicable knowledge of cultural institutions in Canada and their relationships to First Nations and Canadian society
- research design and methodology for collections based work
- public speaking and presentation of data
- understanding of museum curatorial practices in the care of collections