

The following information will be published on the Courses page of the Summer Sessions Website :			
Course Title:	Contemporary Issues in Museums		
Course Number:	HART 2808W	Credit Hours:	3
First Instructor:	Susan Dine	First Instructor Email:	Susan.dine@vanderbilt.edu
Second Instructor:	Assistant: Rachelle Wilson	Second Instructor Email:	rachelle.l.wilson@vanderbilt.edu
Program start date:	May 5, 2025	Program end date:	May 30, 2025
Program destination(s): <i>(Each city, country - start/end date)</i>	Washington, DC		
Does this course fulfill any AXLE credit? If so, what?	Perspectives, 2000-level and above W course		
What are the academic pre-requisites (if any) for enrolling in this course?	None.		
What are some are some conditions or challenges that students will face? <i>(Ex. Hiking long distances, extreme temperatures, rocky terrain, etc.)</i>	Periods of standing in museums, walking the grounds of 2 historic estates.		
What is covered in the student budget:	Detailed answers below.		
Lodging (Total nights + included amenities):	25 nights (15 at hotel then 10 at Howard University dorms). In the heart of the city, near metro stations, wifi included.		
Meals:	Total breakfasts: continental breakfasts Total lunches: None Total dinners: 2 group dinners		
Transportation (Airfare, public transit, etc.):	Unlimited \$2.25 fare monthly metro pass (any fares above \$2.25 on their own time, student would pay the difference)		
Supplies (Textbooks, gear, etc.):	N/A		
Excursions (Tour fees, admission fees, etc.):	All fees related to excursions are covered, including transportation costs. Visits to 21 museum institutions in DC, including some behind-the-scenes visits to their off-site storage facilities and labs. Two daytrips: George Washington's Mount Vernon Thomas Jefferson's Monticello		
What is <u>not</u> covered in the student budget:	Detailed answers below.		
Lodging (Total nights):	Click here to enter text.		
Meals:	Total breakfasts: Total lunches: Not covered		

	Total dinners: 23 dinners not covered
Transportation (international airfare, public transit, etc.):	Transportation to and from airports. The difference in metro fares taken in student's free time (\$2.25 toward any fare will be paid by their unlimited \$2.25 fare metro pass).
Supplies (Textbooks, gear, personal items, etc.):	Electronic device needed to access the course Brightspace.
Excursions (Optional activities, tour fees, admission fees, etc.):	Anything outside the itinerary list is not covered: i.e. things students choose to do in their free time are not covered.
Visa needed for US passport holders?	No.
Is the cost of the visa included in the student fee?	N/A
Does the course have a service-learning component:	No.
Please provide the course description below:	
<p>What is a museum's role in contemporary society? What challenges do these institutions face? What happens behind the public face of museums?</p> <p>This course is a dive into contemporary controversies and challenges in museum work via three units. Through on-site visits to over 20 institutions, we will examine the shifting place of museums in societies today in light of their histories, practice, and the scholarly and public responses to them. We will look at this set of Washington, DC institutions via the course content, which will address a series of core issues within each of the unit topics and some representative case studies in each. Discussion and writing will be core to working through the (often controversial) material in this class. Topics include: collecting and display, human remains in collections, restitution and repatriation, accessibility, colonial histories, DEI/EDI concerns and efforts, economics of cultural heritage, and more. The Maymester iteration of this course will center on visiting Washington, DC museums—both exhibition spaces and behind-the-scenes (storage, labs, etc.). We will hear about current concerns and issues from a variety of professionals working with museums and collections in DC.</p>	