SPRING 2022

Museum Studies Newsletter

Caption: Color photo of the exterior of the American Museum of Natural History.
Image Description: A crane lifts the equestrian statue of Theodore Roosevelt as it's removed from the front steps of the museum. The statue is veiled in safety orange fabric, framed by the dark night sky and illuminated beige stone exterior of AMNH.

What You Will Find Inside:

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A Word From The Interim Director

It is always exciting to see our students return back to campus after a much-needed winter break, refreshed and ready to begin the spring semester.

This marks the fourth semester that many of our faculty will be teaching in person against the background of an ever-evolving pandemic. The creative adaptation of our students, adjuncts, faculty, and colleagues never cease to amaze me, and this spring is no exception. We share concerns for our students as they safely return to campus and seek assurance that our international students in particular can make their passage back into the country. Messages of kindness and support received by our department over winter break continually affirm my belief that our Museum Studies community is strong, and it warms my heart to know that we are carefully looking out for one another.

In the pages of this newsletter, you will find some exciting news for spring: a series of planned events, symposia and trainings hosted by our Museum Studies Student Organization (MSSO), an announcement about three internship opportunities at our NYU Florence campus, university-hosted writing workshops, and new additions to our faculty and staff. I hope you also take advantage of a trip to Lazy Sundaes for a sweet "pick-me-up" treat this week, courtesy of MSSO.

I thank you for your flexibility and grace as we embark on what already has shaped up to be a busy semester, and cannot wait to see you all on campus soon.

Sincerely,

Dr. Rosanna Flouty
New Faculty: Adjuncts

**Ian Kerrigan**

Ian Kerrigan is the Senior Vice President for Exhibitions at the 9/11 Memorial & Museum where he oversees content development and curatorial research, design and installation, media production and digital development, and exhibition policymaking for the institution and their award-winning exhibitions.

Ian completed his undergraduate studies in anthropology at Northwestern University and earned his master’s degree in anthropology at The George Washington University. He is a frequent lecturer at design and museum studies programs on museum professional practices, exhibition development and design, community engagement, project management, and displaying difficult subject matter.

Ian serves on the board of the National Association for Museum Exhibition and is the Managing Editor for the journal *Exhibition*. He is also a grant reviewer for the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the National Endowment for the Arts, a peer reviewer for AAM’s Museum Assessment Program, and a former member of AAM's National Program Committee.

In spring 2022, Ian will be teaching *Exhibition Design and Planning* on Fridays from 1-4pm.

**Ruth Starr**

Ruth Starr is an interdisciplinary educator that has developed programming with a variety of informal learning and gathering spaces including libraries and museums. Her perspective is shaped, in part, by past roles held at The Museum of Modern Art, The Whitney Museum of American Art, and as Accessibility Manager at the Cooper Hewitt, part of the Smithsonian Institution. Currently she works as a Diversity, Equity, Access, and Inclusion consultant for NASA.

Trained as an American Sign Language Interpreter, Ruth’s practice is rooted in a pedagogical framework, fundamentally considering the role of language in learning, engagement, and meaning-making. Her work takes the form of education interventions and implementation of strategic initiatives.

In spring 2022, Ruth is leading an internship course called *Museum Career Lab* on Wednesdays from 5-8pm.
New Faculty: Staff

Charlie Maliha

Charlie Maliha is an art historian and museum professional that focuses on the interpretation of gender and sexuality. Previously from the New-York Historical Society, Charlie’s experience has been shaped by his work in membership and visitor services. Being on the front-lines of museum work, Charlie comes to NYU enthusiastic to work with professionals who aim to make museums a more inclusive, accessible space.

Charlie earned his undergraduate degree in Art History from Brooklyn College. He now pursues a Master’s in Art History at Hunter College.

This spring, Charlie is taking over the role of Administrative Secretary for the Program in Museum Studies.

A Message from MSSO Leadership

Hi, everyone!

We are excited to begin another semester full of opportunities to learn, recharge, and connect with one another. Along with the Museum Studies Alumni Association (MSAA), we have prepared a roster of dynamic alumni mentors to launch the mentorship program this semester. As many of you begin the search for internships and jobs, the MSSO Board is working on professional development events to build confidence in your application materials. We plan to offer most events virtually this semester, so we can all foster community safely. If you have any programming ideas or feedback, you can always reach us at msso.nyu@gmail.com.

Follow us on Instagram at @nyumuseumstudies to catch every update, and let’s have a wonderful semester!

CJ Tran
MSSO President

Megan Villa
MSSO Vice President
Important Dates & Announcements

Thesis Information
Student Guidelines
https://as.nyu.edu/content/dam/nyu-as/museum/documents/thesisguidelines_2020.pdf

Deadlines
March 2, 2022 First draft due
April 16, 2022 Final draft due

AAM Conference:
A raffle will be held on January 31 for five $500 travel grants for our students to attend the annual AAM conference, to be held in Boston on May 19-22, 2022. Application is here. Note that students will need to register for the conference and find their own lodging, and will be reimbursed up to $500.

Threesis 2022:
Threesis application opens on January 13, 2022. Open to all current master's and certificate students, the Threesis competition is an opportunity for students to present their research in a three-minute thesis competition, and win prizes totaling $3,000. Students will be mentored by Threesis alumni and university staff and faculty. They will also receive opportunities to learn more about presenting their research in an engaging way and how to present convincingly on a digital platform. A virtual information session will be held on January 27th at 5pm where students can ask questions and learn more. The deadline to apply is February 4, 2022. More information -- and the application beginning January 13th -- can also be found on our website here.

Museum Studies Best Thesis Awards:
Our department's end-of-year "Museum Studies Best Thesis Awards" with prizes of $100-$400 will be held at our end-of-semester party in May 2022.
Summer Internship in Florence at Villa La Pietra:

June 6th - July 22nd, 2022.

Three internship positions will be available this year and are posted here. Applications are due on February 11 by 5pm and must be submitted via this Google form. Interviews will be held over Zoom. Decisions will be made by the end of February. Send all additional inquiries to Rosanna.Flouty@nyu.edu.

Caption: Color photo of the outdoor public gardens at Villa La Pietra. Image Description: Trees frame a lush Italian garden with rolling hills located in the background. A stone fountain sits in the middle of the frame, surrounded by a circle of low hedges, cement benches, carved Roman sculptures of people and classical columns.

NYU Spring 2022 Academic Calendar

Caption: A cropped color photo of a calendar. Image Description: The bottom of a white calendar as three of its pages are partially lifted, displaying several dates in all-black text.
6 Sunday: Add/Drop Deadline
13 Sunday: Graduation application deadline via Albert
21 Monday: President’s Day, no classes scheduled. Offices closed

MARCH
2 Wednesday: First draft of thesis due
14 Monday- 20 Sunday: Spring Break, no classes scheduled

APRIL
1 Friday: Apply for summer graduation via Albert
16 Saturday: Final draft of thesis due

MAY
3 Tuesday: Withdrawal Deadline
9 Monday: Last day of spring classes
10 Tuesday: Reading day
11 Wednesday- 17 Tuesday: Final exam period
18 Wednesday: Commencement (tentative)

MSSO Events
The Museum Studies Student Organization is hosting several events this semester. Be sure to check your email for MSSO updates as more information becomes available.

Welcome Back Boba
Monday, January 24 - Sunday, January 30
Let’s have a tea-rific semester!
Check your NYU email for a Lazy Sundaes voucher code and enjoy a beverage on MSSO.
MSSO Events (cont.)

International Students Cover Letter Workshop

Monday, January 31 at 6pm

Zoom link to be shared through email.

Coming Soon! Please keep an eye out for the following events hosted by MSSO

Resume Review Workshop in Mid-February
Mid-February

Professional Headshot Session
Late February - Date and Time TBD

Thesis Roundtable Event
Late April - Date and Time TBD

Academic Conference
April - Date and Time TBD

...And More!

Upcoming Writing Workshops at GSAS

The Master’s College is hosting four writing workshops this spring semester. Led by GSAS doctoral candidates, these workshops walk students through the brainstorming, writing, and editing process. More information about the workshops, including how to register, can be found here. Additionally, this semester there will be free, one-on-one writing consultations available for all GSAS master's and certificate students. Master’s students can receive feedback on their writing
as well as advice on how to improve. Additional information, including how students can register for a 1-on-1 appointment, can be found here.

**Thursday, February 3, 2022: Managing a Rewarding Thesis.**

3:00pm-5:00pm EST, with Justin Abraham Linds

Take control of your MA thesis to make it a rewarding project both professionally and academically! In this interactive workshop we will discuss strategies to make your MA thesis valuable to you as a person and a scholar. We will talk about picking the right topic, situating ourselves as young scholars, and picking methodologies that are meaningful to you. In the second half of the workshop we will share strategies for managing such a large project over such a long period. We will discuss handling the size, handling the temporality, and writing everyday vs. “building a dam” of writing.

This workshop will be useful to anyone planning their final MA project or anyone already working on it, especially if you’ve lost motivation. (Virtual)

**Tuesday, February 15th, 2022: Going Back to Writing Basics**

3:00pm-5:00pm EST, with Justin Abraham Linds

Improve your academic writing by going back to writing basics. In this workshop we will review the four types of English sentences, the building blocks of clear and stylish academic writing. As we discuss simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentences, we will reflect on the value of the short sentence, sentence variation, and repetition in academic writing. In this workshop we will look at and discuss some examples of strong, clear academic writing, and students will have the chance to have their own writing edited in class. Writers who complete the workshop will be able to identify sentence types, employ sentence variety in their writing, and be better editors of their writing. (Virtual)

**Wednesday, February 23, 2022: Clear Argumentative Writing**

3:00pm-5:00pm EST, with Justin Abraham Linds

Organize and clarify your arguments and ideas by consciously structuring your argumentative writing. In this workshop we will review different forms of argumentation before moving into the building blocks of long-form argumentative academic writing, including thesis statements, topic sentences, transitional sentences, and concluding sentences. We will discuss what makes for a good introduction, including why it is important to “define your terms” and provide your reader with a “road map”, and we will consider the role of the conclusion in an academic paper. Throughout the workshop, we will look at examples of well-structured academic writing from the
humanities and social sciences, and students will have the chance to have their own writing edited in class. Writers who complete the workshop will have a better understanding of argumentation types, and they will be better equipped to structure their academic papers. (Virtual)

Friday, March 4th, 2022: “Nominalizations”, Smart Sentencing, and Better Editing

2:00pm-4:00pm EST, with Justin Abraham Linds

It is often said, “there is no good writing, just good editing.” In this workshop, improve your writing by becoming a more effective editor. We will discuss how to write with “concrete language” and “active verbs” and how to avoid “clutter” and “nominalizations.” We will also discuss how to make time for effective editing in our writing process. Throughout the workshop we will practice transforming awkward and confusing academic writing into clear and concise prose by working with students’ own writing. Writers who complete this workshop will better understand the editing process and have some new techniques to make them better writers and editors. (Virtual)

Faculty Updates: Research & Publications

Jane Anderson

The Mellon Foundation has awarded a grant to a project directed by NYU and New Zealand’s University of Waikato to protect cultural knowledge and data of Native American, Māori, and other First Nations communities.
Co-directed by Dr. Jane Anderson, the two-year, $750,000 grant will help the Equity for Indigenous Research and Innovation Hub (ENRICH) expand its training and resources developed by and for Indigenous communities in order to bolster efforts in the United States, New Zealand, Canada, and Australia to properly connect Indigenous cultural material and data to present-day communities and to establish cultural authority as well as intellectual property legal protections over them.

More information about this initiative can be found in the NYU News Release as well as this informational video from Local Contexts.

Elaine Ayers
Faculty Fellow, Program in Museum Studies

Dr. Elaine Ayers, in collaboration with Tega Brain and Ahmed Ansari at NYU-Tandon, has created a project entitled "Inverting the Wunderkammer: Rethinking the Digital Humanities through Botanic Histories and Archives". Hosted by the New York Botanical Garden, the project has been awarded a multi-year National Endowment for the Humanities Digital Humanities Grant after being awarded an NYU Digital Humanities Seed Grant last spring.

In addition, an exhibit Elaine contributed for the Venice Biennale entitled Flora Fantastic: From Orchidelirium to Eco-Critical Contemporary Botanical Art, won one of this year's Apex Art Awards and will be coming to the neighborhood next year, followed by the release of a book published by Routledge.

Lastly, Elaine will be taking over as a Contributing Editor at Public Domain Review, an open-access website and publication.

Faculty Updates : Research & Publications

Marisa Karyl Franz

Dr. Marsia Karyl Franz's "Rather Poor and Threadbare: Bogoras, Scratching-Woman, and the Intimacy of Material," was published in The Life Cycle of Russian Things: From Fish Guts to Fabergé, which was awarded second place for the 2021 Diagram Prize for Oddest Book of the Year.
At the Bobst Library

Our resident librarian Gianna Ricci is on research leave until February 3, 2022. For immediate research assistance, please use the Ask A Librarian service. Keep an eye out for announcements from the Bobst Library as the semester progresses.

From the Grey Art Gallery

Re-Opening Soon!

Mostly New: Selections from the NYU Art Collection

Image Caption: Picture of Kenji Nakahashi’s *Time- (A)*.
Mostly New: Selections from the NYU Art Collection presents a compelling sampling comprising more than 90 artworks by nearly 60 artists. Curated by the Grey Art Gallery’s Lynn Gumpert and Michèle Wong, the exhibition highlights recent acquisitions of modern and contemporary art from the Middle East by artists such as Farah Al Qasimi, Shahpour Pouyan, and Parviz Tanavoli and photographs by Harry Callahan, Peter Hujar, and Kenji Nakahashi, among others. Mostly New also debuts the first selection of works from its newly acquired Cottrell-Lovett Collection, donated by longtime art patrons, social activists, and downtown Manhattan residents Dr. James Cottrell and Mr. Joseph Lovett. Included are paintings and prints by downtown New York artists such as Donald Baechler, Deborah Kass, and Glenn Ligon. Established in 1958—and stewarded by the Grey Art Gallery since the museum’s opening in 1975—the New York University Art Collection now comprises nearly 6,000 objects. Following such exhibitions as New York Cool: Painting and Sculpture from the NYU Art Collection (2008), Inventing Downtown: Artist-Run Galleries in New York City, 1952–1965 (2017), and, most recently, Modernisms: Iranian, Turkish, and Indian Highlights from NYU’s Abby Weed Grey Collection (2019), Mostly New offers visitors the opportunity to view never-seen and rarely displayed gems from a landmark academic art collection.

Visit the Grey Art Gallery page for updates and more information.