MUSEUM STUDIES CLASS: Poster Session Mid-Term Project

1. PROJECT SUMMARY: Purpose—to conduct deep research on a museum and exchange what you’ve learned with classmates. Begin by identifying a museum site for research and investigation. Conduct research using multiple research strategies to gather information, including at least one site visit. Prepare a visual poster session display and oral presentation about the museum to present to the class.

2. WHAT IS DUE:
- Completed cover sheet to hand in. ATTACHED.
- Visual display that you will present as part of the Museum Poster Session. Plan ahead. Think about where you will install in the room. Will you need to use table tops and wall spaces?
- Concise 5-7 minute summary of on your site research for the class. (See CONTENT for detailed info)

3. CONTENT:
Visual Poster Session Display – Make an engaging, attractive and clear visual display to provide BASIC information about the site—its location, mission, goals, collection, exhibition, education & public programs. Visual presentations can include photos and images, maps, brochures, drawings, video, short descriptive text, etc. Have fun with it. Be creative.

Oral Presentation – Develop a 5-7 minute oral presentation that summarizes info on the display and provides deeper information about the museum’s building, history, mission, exhibition, education and public programming, philosophy, audience demographics, and access strategies, hours, fees, resources, etc. (see rubric to make sure you cover all the relevant points). In your presentation you should discuss your research sources and your own supported viewpoint on the strengths and weaknesses of the museum based on your observations and research.

4. RESEARCH: Use multiple research strategies.
- Brochures and informational handouts, as well as websites.
- Interview or informally talk with people at the site (staff, public).
- Observe public or exhibition program in action.
- Explore the site and note the characteristics and qualities of the building, the galleries, the technology, indoor/outdoor use of space, public accessibility and amenities (i.e., cafe, bookstore, library, computers, education center, etc.)
- Documentation: You could consider taking photos or gathering program artifacts. If you take photos or video be sure to get permission from the staff AND say that these are for research and educational purposes only AND not for publication or commercial purposes.