

For this Assignment, you will be crafting & designing your own museum exhibition. You will be in charge of making all decisions, from beginning to end, including which works to include, how to arrange them, how to label them, how you want your galleries to appear, how much lighting you want, what sort of information to disperse, and lastly, what you want your viewers to ultimately walk away knowing and understanding.

You have been selected as a guest curator at the Louvre in Paris to organize a temporary exhibition around the theme of:

The Salon & the Salon des Refusés/Indépendants

PLEASE READ the “Art & Society text box: “Academic Salons & Independent Art Exhibitions” posted in this week’s Assignments folder for more information on the distinction between the Academic salon & the Independent Salon/Exhibition.

The Museum Director has assigned you to include examples from AT LEAST THREE of the following list to compare and contrast according to the theme of The Salon & the Salon des Refusés/Indépendants.

You have access to the Museum’s unparalleled collections of:

- Italian Renaissance art
- Northern Renaissance art
- Mannerist art
- 17th century Italian art
- 17th century Spanish art
- 17th century Dutch art
- 18th century European art
- 19th century European art (Romantic, Realist, Impressionistic, Post-Impressionist, Symbolist, & 19th-century Photography)

In addition, will be able to borrow any other desired pieces from partner collections. Thus, you really have the entire world of ancient artifacts at your fingertips!

Thus, you must apply your knowledge of each geographic region & stylistic period that you choose from your textbook reading to an analysis and presentation.

You must select at minimum of 12 (twelve) SPECIFIC works **representing 3 distinctive periods** from the previous list and organize them in a meaningful way. You may choose works which appear in the Virtual Lectures or you may use ARTStor/or another reputable museum site (i.e. MOMA, Met Heillbrunn Timeline of Art History, the Louvre, etc.) to find other examples.

For example, you *may* choose to organize them by subthemes, such as:

1. The realm of the real & the imagined
2. The affects of industrialization
3. Representations of war
4. Artistic execution

The overall flow and organization is up to you, but it **MUST** convey a **COMPARISON** between *academic* art & *modern* art (art for art's sake).

You must explain **WHY** you selected each work and **WHY** you arranged them in the particular order/comparisons that you did. Depending on your particular organization, the following questions might be appropriate to answer:

- a. Why this comparison?
- b. What is similar/different?
- c. What has changed over time?
- d. Why have these changes taken place?

Your next step will be the design of the exhibition. You must make decisions concerning the following and present your exhibition design to the Museum Director before receiving final approval:

1. What will you title this exhibition?
 - a. How will you catch the public's attention while conveying the essence of the exhibition?
2. How will you arrange and display the works?
 - a. Many rooms or one large room?
 - b. Will you display the works in "museum" presentation (i.e glass cases, spot lights, etc.) or in a more innovative way?
3. Will your exhibition contain multimedia (i.e. videos, touch-screen monitors, interactive elements, sound effects/music, etc.)?
 - a. Will there be any interactive elements?
4. What kind of information will you provide on labels?
 - a. Only basic identifying information?
 - b. Extensive history & analysis?
 - c. Allow the works to speak for themselves/allow viewers to draw own conclusions?
5. Will you have maps and/or timelines on the wall as supplemental resources?
6. What kind of lighting do you want?
 - a. Spotlighting on the works?
 - b. Natural lighting?
 - c. Colored lighting?

7. What color(s) do you want the walls?
 - a. Will you have information stenciled on the walls?
8. How do you want your audience to move through the exhibition?
 - a. Will there be a very strict means of walking through the space?
 - b. Will the viewer be able to float from one piece to the next more freely?
9. Ultimately, what message/ideas do you want your audiences to walk away with?
 - a. Do you want them to leaving with more questions than they started with?
 - b. Do you want to foster new revelations or understanding in them?
 - c. Do you want to inspire new ideas?
 - d. Will you also publish handouts and/or booklets for them to take home with them?

You may describe your exhibition in words (Word doc or PDF) or you may design your exhibition visually using any software means you would like (PowerPoint, Illustrator, Web design, etc).

This is an opportunity to combine sound understanding of academic and modern art with your own creativity and think about a potential career as a museum curator. Keep in mind what you learned from your exhibition review in Part I.

Remember, you have to impress the Director of the Louvre, so make sure your information is watertight but your ideas are fresh and inspiring!