# Curatorial Methodology (Exhibitions and Museums)

## Prof. Roberta D’Adda

1. ***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to provide students with methodological tools, theoretical bases and practical-operative guidance related to operational aspects of curating, both in museum contexts (with reference to strategies and practices for managing and promoting permanent collections) and in the context of organising exhibitions and temporary exhibits (with reference to the development of the concept and scientific project, logistics management and set-up fabrication).

By the end of this course, students are expected to have acquired an independent interpretative capacity and an organic approach to the complex 21st-century museum and exhibition system. They will therefore have a clear view of the professionalism, functions and procedures relating to the ordinary activities of the museum and the organisation of temporary exhibitions. They will have the critical tools to assess the specificity and nature of the different organisations operating in these areas. They will be able to start a professional journey within museum or exhibition contexts, demonstrating basic knowledge of structures and adequate mastery of the technical vocabulary.

***COURSE CONTENT***

* Introduction to the course. The Museum: the modern concept of the museum, different types of museums, museum professions.
* The museum – managing collections: restoration, loans, acquisitions; documentation and databases; organising the deposits.
* Introduction to the course. The “Leonessa d’Italia” Risorgimento Museum: preparation of the exhibition itinerary and set-up choices.
* Temporary exhibitions: General framework and historical profile
* Temporary exhibitions: the planning process; loans and movements, installation and exhibits
* Visit: Pinacoteca Tosio Martinengo, Brescia
* Visit: Carrara Academy, Bergamo
* Visit: Temporary exhibition to be confirmed

***READING LIST***

V. Falletti, M. Maggi, *I musei*, Bologna, Il Mulino, 2012

F. Manoli, *Manuale di gestione e cura delle collezioni museali*, Firenze, Le Monnier, 2015

F. Pirani, *Che cos’è una mostra d’arte*, Firenze, Carocci, 2010

F. Haskell, *La nascita delle mostre*, Milano, Skira, 2008 (limitatamente a: Introduzione e capitoli da 5 a 9 inclusi)

One entry of your choice from Accessibilità / Attrattività / Audience Development / Brand / Engagement / Mission / Posizionamento / Pubblici / Responsabilità Sociale / Storytelling from the volume: L. Solima, *Le parole del museo*, Firenze, Carocci, 2010

***TEACHING METHOD***

The course will be delivered by means of frontal lectures with a workshop approach; the content conveyed in lectures will serve as the basis for three visits, the purpose of which is to see the various solutions in practice, applied by the curators of important museums and/or temporary exhibitions in the Lombardy region.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

During the course, students will be required to fill out two information cards (one for a museum, one for an exhibition) on their own, based on provided templates. In doing so, they must demonstrate that they have acquired the ability to analyse, on a technical-scientific level, their chosen exhibition (temporary or permanent), drawing on the basic concepts and terminology illustrated in the course.

The outcome of these tasks (which will be discussed during the oral examination) will contribute to the final mark, together with the oral exam, which focuses on the topics covered in lectures and on the course reading list.

Students will be assessed on their acquisition of basic concepts, their use of technical terms and their critical thinking.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Prerequisites: basic knowledge of the different types of cultural heritage, with particular reference to the historical-artistic field.

Students are encouraged to attend lectures.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.