

**IDH3931 Chicago**  
**Spring 2022**  
**Lourdes Santamaría-Wheeler**

Museums in the US have long been considered scientific/artistic/historic authorities who present neutral findings to educate the public. But is this true? Visit Chicago over spring break to interrogate these institutions and their role in contemporary society. Visiting four museums, including The Field Museum and Art Institute of Chicago, we will explore what is a museum? And who/what are they [really] for?

Students will discuss site visits and their own visitor experiences, while connecting them to contemporary attitudes.

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

**1. Before the Trip - Pre-trip Meeting**

Time and location TBD.

**2. During the Trip - Documentation**

Take notes and photographs of the sites we visit. What stands out? Who is missing? How do they convey the idea of museums?

**3. After the Trip - Project**

Students will select 1 museum visited and create a digital project reflecting the trip. What role does this museum serve in contemporary society? What is the potential role? How is the museum different/same from others visited? Projects can include, webpages, posters, social media campaigns (multiple posts), videos. *\*Please see me during the trip if you would like to use an alternate format.*

### **ITINERARY**

*\*site visits subject to change*

#### DAY 1: MONDAY

8:00am - 8:45am meet for hotel breakfast

9:00am - 11:30am Field Museum

12:00pm - 2:00pm Lunch and visit Millenium Park / Crown Fountain & Cloud Gate

2:00pm - 4:30pm Art Institute of Chicago

5:30pm Willis Tower Skydeck

Dinner on own

#### DAY 2: TUESDAY

8:00am - 9:00am meet for hotel breakfast

9:30am - 12:00pm National Museum of Mexican Art

12:00pm - 1:30pm Lunch

2:00pm - 3:30pm Jane Addams Hull House, guided tour

Dinner on own

Day 2 WEDNESDAY

8:30am - 10:00am Breakfast wrap up