

Paris Blog Prompts

Jan 10, Prompt for the Louvre:

Compare the Louvre and the British Museum as monuments, using specific ideas from Giebelhausen. In your comparison, be sure to consider the architectural history of both museums. Try to dig deeper into Giebelhausen's ideas about monumental museum architecture and introduce a new (i.e., not in your last architecture blog) idea for evaluating "monumentality"

Jan 11, Prompt for Les Invalides/Musée de l'Armée

Compare the audiences of the Imperial War Museum and the Musée de l'Armée. Using ideas from MacLean and specific examples from the exhibitions, discuss the type of dialogue that each seeks to establish with its viewers. Try to dig deeper into the ideas about dialogue that MacLean presents and go beyond your last blog about dialogue.

Jan 12, Prompt for Musée Carnavalet

Using at least two representative galleries from the Carnavalet, compare the collecting practices of Carnavalet with the Museum of London. Think here about the types of objects that each museum has chosen to collect and display. What does this selection tell us about the historical narrative that each museum seeks to convey?

FINAL ASSIGNMENT:

Together with a partner, build a presentation (with images) according to one of the two following options:

- Build a full comparison of a London and Paris museum. Here you will want to think of all the dimension along which they can be compared (e.g., architecture, dialogue, collecting practices, etc.)
- Chose an analytical concept for understanding museums (e.g., monument/instrument or temple forum, etc) and use it to compare multiple museums from among those that we have studied.

You should plan for a 15-minute presentation that presents a clear thesis for your comparison, applies ideas from the relevant readings, uses specific examples from the museums (think images here), and is clear and engaging for your audience.

Work Plan:

Wednesday Jan 13, 9:30-10:30 A.M.: Meet in classroom to present plan for final project to class

For the rest of the day, you can conference with Sue & Alison, develop your presentation and re-visit museums as necessary.

Thursday Jan 14, morning: Finalize presentations

2:00-5:00 P.M.: Present Comparisons to class