

Current Topics in Historic Preservation Preservation Institute Nantucket

DCP 6718

3 credit hours

Class Periods: As noted on Course Schedule

Location: Sherburne Hall

Academic Term: June 9- August 08, 2025

Instructors

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Office Hours: By appointment, Sherburne Hall

Course Description

This course examines Nantucket's historic preservation movement both historically and currently to explore strategies for addressing knowledge gaps and illustrate a comprehensive approach to preservation on the island, which is a National Historic Landmark. This course focuses on one specific research topic every summer, assessing the island's heritage and significance through its built environment, culture, resilience, tourism, and untold stories that reveal public history and social contexts. Relevant federal, state, and local policies, standards, and guidelines are considered as frameworks for project research and recommendations. This course is taught in tandem with the summer World Heritage Research & Stewardship course, DCP 6701, and makes use of that content regarding preservation policy and practice in applied theory through research and final recommendations.

The 2025 research focuses on the historic area of New Guinea, also known as West Monomoy, home to Nantucket's most diverse and dynamic working-class community, including African, Cape Verdean, Portuguese, and Azorean residents. Since the early 18th century, Black whalers, formerly enslaved people, and Wampanoag lived here, as property owners, businesspeople, and champions of equality and freedom during a time when slavery was legal and ubiquitous across the U.S. Many of Nantucket's notable Black residents are buried in the nearby 'Coloured Cemetery,' and from their stories we understand the cultural significance of New Guinea. Today, it is widely accepted that New Guinea has gentrified and many of the original buildings no longer exist, but is this really true? Students will examine the existing buildings and the archival record, to discover the long lineage of diversity in New Guinea, and to connect known social history to place. Students will work with local experts and the community to build the untold narrative. Resources will include archival records, newspapers, census, and deeds, as well as architectural and material investigations of existing buildings. Research and recommendations will be shared through public presentations, ArcGIS StoryMaps, and Massachusetts historic documentation reporting.

Course Pre-Requisites / Co-Requisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Course Objectives

- Gain an understanding of the history and current condition of the island and Town of Nantucket;
- Explore the impacts of current complexities and challenges, such as sea level rise, gentrification, over-tourism and affordability on local heritage resources;
- Examine how preservation was previously used on Nantucket and what histories were recorded;
- Learn and employ best practices for undertaking an integrated approach to cultural resource management and interpretation;
- Develop research (both primary and secondary) skills, documentation & analysis through, graphic, written and oral presentation skills;
- Understand changing building technology and examination of building materials to uncover history;
- Examine best practices for education and interpretation utilized in historic sites;
- Develop community engagement skills.

Materials and Supply Fees

Material and supply fees (M&S) are assessed for certain courses to offset the cost of materials or supply items consumed during instruction. A list of approved courses and fees is published in the Schedule of Courses each semester. (UF-3.0374 Regulations of the University of Florida)

M&S and equipment use fee information is available from the academic departments or from the schedule of courses (Florida Statutes 1009.24). The total M&S for this class is **\$0**.

The total course fee for each course is listed on the UF Schedule of Courses.

(<https://registrar.ufl.edu/soc/>).

Required Textbooks and Software

- Required content/material will be provided by instructor through UF's Canvas e-learning site.
- Course material will include readings, lecture slides, assignments, announcements, and grades.
- Access to a laptop and digital camera is required for this course (a smartphone in lieu of a physical is also acceptable).
- All other supplies and software will be provided.

Course Organization

A typical class consists of a presentation on a given topic with discussion, guest lecturers and field trips. Course Schedule and Assignment due dates will be delivered and reviewed on the first day of Class. The Instructor reserves the right to adjust schedule and content as needed for student learning throughout the semester.

- Week 1: Research Project Overview. Coursework Focus: Introduction to research reference materials, sources, and repositories. Introduction to local experts.
- Week 2: Determining Significance, Exploring Under-Represented Narratives. Coursework Focus: Understanding the neighborhood context of New Guinea, significant sites and public awareness of the neighborhood and its resources.

- Week 3: Preservation planning and policy on Nantucket. Coursework Focus: Connecting preservation policies to the neighborhood level, what do the current policies protect and what is left at risk, the evolution neighborhoods at physical and social scale.
- Week 4: Communication Skills: Begin to communicate research findings, turn research into publicly-accessible information. Assess and apply knowledge of best practices for education and interpretation in cultural heritage.
- **Week 5: Mid-term Reviews, oral and graphic draft presentations due.**
- Second half of semester: Thematic island tours: History of employment on the island, religious evolution on the island, women's history, local landmarks as context for understanding significance. How do these themes relate to New Guinea? Students will assess how these themes relate to New Guinea and how their research into deeds, census and genealogies will be placed into these thematic contexts.
- Week 6-8: Continued research for New Guinea through secondary and primary resource research, work with and review by local experts and site visits.
- Week 9: **Final Project Due:** prepare and practice final public presentation, complete State documentation forms and narrative text.

Semester Long Mini Projects

Extra! Extra! Headlines tell a Complete Story: Headlines from the local *Inquirer and Mirror* are submitted weekly, creating a timeline around a specific research theme.

Reading Discussion: Students will read chapters from *The Other Islanders*, by Fran Karttunen, and *Nantucket's People of Color*, edited by Robert Johnson, and lead a discussion of its relevance to the summer research project.

A Note on Teamwork

There are two types of assignments in this course – individual and team. For exams, quizzes, and individual assignments you are expected to conduct yourself in accordance with the University's Honor Code (see statement on academic dishonesty below). For team assignments, you are expected to abide by the Honor Code, plus conduct yourself in the following manner:

- Be a good team member.
 - Be on time. Be respectful. Be responsive with group communication.
- Participate and contribute equally in each assignment.
 - If there are problems with group dynamics or participation/effort levels, please talk to the instructor.

Assignments and Grading Policy Chart – Assignments & Grades will be posted on Canvas and reviewed the first day of class.

	Possible Grade
Assignments (60% weight)	300
Lecture Participation (10% weight)	50
Tours Participation (30% weight)	150
Total Points	500

GRADING CHART

Percent	Grade	Grade Points
93.0 - 100.0	A	4.00
90.0 - 92.9	A-	3.67
88.0 - 89.9	B+	3.33
83.0 – 87.9	B	3.00
80.0 - 82.9	B-	2.67
78.0 - 79.9	C+	2.33
73.0 – 77.9	C	2.00
70.0 - 72.9	C-	1.67
68.0 - 69.9	D+	1.33
58.0 - 67.9	D	1.00
55.0 - 57.9	D-	0.67
0 - 54.9	E	0.00

More information on UF grading policy may be found at:

<http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#grades>
<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Course Policies

Attendance Policy, Class Expectations, and Make-Up Policy

Attendance in class and on field trips is mandatory. Role will (typically) be taken each class. Students will need to provide written excuse for missing class. More than three unexcused absences will result in the final grade being dropped one letter. You are expected to come to class on time, prepared, and ready to participate. Requirements for class attendance and make-up assignments are consistent with university policies. Excused absences must be consistent with university policies in the Graduate Catalog (<http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#attendance>) and require appropriate documentation. Additional information can be found here:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Work Product

All work produced in class is property of the University of Florida Historic Preservation Program. Instructor will keep copies of all participants' work product.

Classroom Climate

Equitable participation in this class requires the use of inclusive language, methods, and materials. Students are expected to use inclusive language in written and oral work, and to respect diversity in

viewpoints expressed by others. Students are also encouraged to identify language, methods, and materials used in this course that do not contribute to an inclusive classroom climate. Opinions held by other students should be respected in discussion.

Netiquette Communication Courtesy

All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats, more information can be found at: <http://teach.ufl.edu/wpcontent/uploads/2012/08/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf>

Class Demeanor

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and behave in a manner that is respectful to the instructor and to fellow students. Please avoid the use of cell phones and restrict eating to outside of the classroom. Conversations that do not contribute to the discussion should be held at minimum, if at all.

UF Policies

University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Software Use

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

Student Privacy

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see: <http://registrar.ufl.edu/catalog0910/policies/regulationferpa.html>

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/>.

Campus Resources

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care:

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc>, and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS) Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>.

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu. <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. <https://www.crc.ufl.edu/>.

Library Support, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. <https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>.

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>.

Student Complaints Campus: https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf.

On-Line Students Complaints: <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process>.