

19 Sept. 2010, Elena Gonzales

**Lesson Plan – Class Meeting #2, Show and Tell, The Curatorial Me**

Goal:

Students will understand what curatorial work is and how it can be accessible to them. They are already doing it in various realms of their lives. They will begin to practice communicating with objects. This will help to prepare them for selecting and interpreting objects in the exhibition they're going to create.

- [Diagnostic, Activating existing knowledge] What is curatorial work? Get people's ideas up on the board. (5 min)  
Group brainstorming
- [Exchanging information] What kinds of curatorial work do you do? How might you say that we live in a curatorial society? (5 min)  
Discussion that ties into readings: “Curatorial Me” from *Engaging Art* and the podcast from the National Gallery
- [Sharing expertise] I think curatorial work is a useful venue for improving your writing. Include intro on my curatorial work if I didn't cover that in the intro class. (5-10 min)  
Mini-lecture
- [Making meaning] Show and tell time. (50 min)
  - “Silent auction” style brainstorming: We'll arrange the objects around the room with chart paper for students to leave notes about what they think the interpretation of the object will say. (5 min)  
What did the other students' presentations tell you that they didn't say explicitly? Can we begin to discern non-verbal messages and unintended consequences?
  - Individual student presentations: they practice speaking skills, interpreting objects, communicating with objects. This part of the lesson appeals to visual learning. (Depending on the number of students in the class, we may need to do this in groups.) (40 min)
- [Wrap up] On the way out, grab a sticky off of the chart paper that was next to your object. This should be something you didn't say in your presentation that is either just flat wrong about the object or that is in some way interesting. Next time, we'll discuss how the interpretation came out and what you could do to ensure that it comes out or to preclude the possibility.