

# Museum visit & paper assignment

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**Type: Short assignment**

## Learning objectives

- Students obtain a deep understanding of the differences between physical and online exhibitions. What are the advantages? What are the problems?

## Assignment suggestion

Prepare for next week's museum visit by reading *an Inventing Europe* tour about energy. First we have a lecture at the museum. Then we visit the exhibition on the development of energy in Greece. After this, each student writes a one-page report explaining the main difference between the online and the museum exhibition. Tell what you find online, and what you miss in the museum. – National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece.

## Approach

In preparation of this assignment we suggest the following optional steps:

1. Choose a tour, or several tours, that suit the topic of your course.
2. Find out whether there is a museum in your neighborhood that holds a collection, and has an ongoing exhibition that corresponds with the topic of your course.
3. Approach the museum to see whether there are opportunities within the museum to give a lecture on location. If so, then make an agreement with them to be able to lecture on site at the start of the visit. If not, then schedule your course such that the lecture takes place the week before the museum visit.
4. Let your students read the tour(s) in preparation of the museum visit, or the lecture the week before the visit.
5. Give the lecture that introduces the topic and the assignment, making your students aware of the different approaches to, for instance history of technology or narrating Europe historically (optional).
6. Meet with your students at the museum, give the lecture on location (optional) and then visit the exhibition with your students.
7. Assign your students to write a report on the difference between the online and physical exhibition, letting them explain what they find online, what they miss in the museum, and vice versa.

## Tips for use

- Let your students share their insights on Twitter with fellow students abroad, using the tags @InventingEurope and #MakingEurope.

## Reading suggestions

- Take a look at the six volume book series [Johan Schot and Philip Scranton ed., 'Making Europe: Technology and Transformations, 1850-2000' \(Houndmills: Palgrave Macmillan, 2013-2016\)](#). Each *Inventing Europe* exhibition is inspired by one of these volumes and allows you to explore in-depth with your students the themes of consumers, infrastructures, governance, media, knowledge societies and Europe in a global world. Examine [www.makingeurope.eu](http://www.makingeurope.eu) for more details and table of contents of the already published volumes.

Are you planning on using this suggestion and teach with *Inventing Europe*? Then we invite you to join our teaching community. You then keep up-to-date on activities, have ample opportunity to share your materials and experiences, and to be in touch with other teachers.

**GET INVOLVED**

