

History MA, Museums, Heritage, and Public History Emphasis

The MA in History with an emphasis in Museum, Heritage, and Public History may be taken as a terminal degree by students intending to become museum professionals or public historians. Students may focus their studies on subdisciplines such as museum curation, digital public history, collection or archival management, or other areas.

Admission Requirements

Prospective students for the Master of Arts in History with an emphasis in Museums, Heritage, and Public History must apply specifically for this program on the graduate application. Applications for the Master of Arts in History with an emphasis in Museums, Heritage, and Public History will be accepted only for the fall semester.

Prospective students must demonstrate high academic potential. Typically, the History department admits only students with at least a 3.2 grade point average in their undergraduate major; most successful applicants have higher grades. An undergraduate major in History is not required for admission to this program. Applicants must submit three letters of recommendation, preferably from former teachers and/or employers, and a sample of their written work. Applicants must also complete the Museums, Heritage, and Public History Supplemental Application, which includes a statement of career intent. Admissions decisions are based on the undergraduate transcript, the letters of recommendation, the sample of written work, and the supplemental application.

Applications must be received by the university no later than February 1.

Program Requirements

All candidates for the MA in History with an emphasis in Museums, Heritage, and Public History must complete the following core courses (25 hours).

HIST 6000	The Historian's Craft	3
HIST 6001	Introduction to Public History and Cultural Heritage	3
HIST 6131	Museum Origins and Evolution	3

HIST 6133	Digital Public History	3
HIST 6127	Museums and Communities	3
HIST 6142	Readings in U.S. History	5
or HIST 6143	Readings in World History	
HIST 6126	Museum Studies Internship	5
or HIST 6138	Museum Studies Capstone Project	
Total Hours		25

Candidates must also complete 9 credit hours of elective courses. These may include courses listed above, if not already taken for the core, or additional courses which may include the following.

HIST 6002	Material Culture in Historical Context	3
HIST 6129	Emerging Museum Practices	3
HIST 6134	History Curatorship	3
HIST 6139	Practicum in Exhibit and Program Development	3
HIST/ART HS 5592	The History of the Visual Arts in American Museums	3
ART HS 5593	Museum Management and Curatorial Practice	3
POL SCI 6300	Leadership and Management in NonProfit Organizations	3
P P ADM 6311	Staff Management Issues in Nonprofit Organizations	1
P P ADM 6312	Legal Issues in Managing Nonprofit Organizations	1
P P ADM 6313	Financial Issues in Managing Nonprofit Organizations	1

Students may substitute other courses with approval of the Director of the Museums, Heritage, and Public History program. For courses outside the History Department, a maximum of six credits may be at the 3000 level. No 3000 level courses may be taken for graduate credit within the History Department.

Candidates conclude the degree with an internship or exit project represented by the course numbered HIST 6138 (5 credits). This capstone project will be customized to the interests and career aspirations of each student, as approved in advance by the Director.

~~In addition to these requirements, candidates for the MA in Museums, Heritage, and Public History are required to demonstrate either oral or written proficiency in one second language (in addition to English) by completing an appropriate language test. The test will be designed through consultation with the candidate and the faculty of the Department of Language and Cultural Studies~~

Total hours for Program: 34

Justification for request:

Dropping second language requirement to align program standards with peer institutions and programs.