Museum Studies Courses (MUSM)

This is a list of all museum studies courses. For more information, see Museum Studies.

**MUSM:2850 Museums and Social Justice** 3 s.h.
Exploration of museums as institutions that frame social justice, promote equity of access through social bridging, and at times, address and challenge social ills directly through exhibits and programs; case studies and dialogue.

**MUSM:3001 Introduction to Museum Studies** 3 s.h.
Overview of museum history, function, philosophy, collection, and curatorial practices; governance and funding issues; exhibition evaluation and audience studies; examples from Museum of Art, Museum of Natural History, Old Capitol Museum, and Medical Museum. GE: Social Sciences. Same as ANTH:3001, EDTL:3001, SIED:3001.

**MUSM:3003 Natural History Research Collections** 3 s.h.
Techniques, methods, and issues specific to natural history research collections; practice in preparing and cleaning specimens; role of natural history specimens in modern scientific research. Recommendations: basic understanding of the diversity of plants and animals and natural history museum collections, MUSM:3001 or MUSM:3200, and BIOL:1411 or BIOL:1412; or other experience. Same as EES:3003.

**MUSM:3004 Exhibition Planning** 3 s.h.
Preliminary work for and process of developing museum exhibitions; history of exhibit design, evaluation, budgets, teams and team member roles, working with community and special interest groups, methods of production and display; students research a topic, choose artifacts and images, and create a narrative and exhibit script. Prerequisites: MUSM:3001.

**MUSM:3090 Topics in Museum Studies** 1 s.h.
Systematic and analytic methods used for research in physical collections; tutorials in collection building, curation, and preservation; designed by members of the University of Iowa Collections Coalition. Same as EES:3090.

**MUSM:3100 Historic House Management and Preservation** 3 s.h.
Management, preservation, interpretation, and basic operations of historic structures and the museums they serve.

**MUSM:3105 Engaging Museum Audiences** 3 s.h.
Effective audience engagement requires museums to meet visitors halfway; employing learning theories, knowledge of audience, and innovative examples from the field; students investigate a variety of approaches that are visitor-centered, interdisciplinary, and locally focused. Prerequisites: MUSM:3001.

**MUSM:3120 Museum Origins** 3 s.h.
History of museums; origin, character, and evolution into content specific institutions; anecdotes and personalities; how museums influenced society and their continuing relevance to a technological world.

**MUSM:3125 Museums in a Digital World** 3 s.h.
Digital technologies streamline internal museum processes while exponentially increasing the capacity of individuals to engage with museum collections; explores the digitized strategies and systems that democratize access and enhance museum visitor experiences.
MUSM:4130 Museum Literacy and Historical Memory  3 s.h.
Concepts and methods for understanding the role of museums in shaping knowledge and collective memory of history; institutionally based exhibits and collections, historical markers and public monuments, public holidays and events, media and artistic works that interpret the past; how events, people, and civic ambitions are memorialized and how memories of them are shaped; appearance of museums and related practices in the non-Western world after 1850. Same as HIST:4130.

MUSM:4150 Introduction to Grant Writing  3 s.h.
Comprehensive training in grant proposal writing; basics of project development and management; core principles for writing small and large proposals to public and private funding sources; finer points of grant writing to increase competitiveness of future proposals and applications; for students with limited grant writing experience. Same as EALL:4130.

MUSM:4200 Advanced Collection Care  3 s.h.
Builds on MUSM:3200; types and materials of museum objects and their care; storage and preservation of paper, books, photographs, works of art, electronic media, textiles, furniture, archaeological artifacts, and natural history specimens; collections project and hands-on practice in preservation techniques, enclosures, and supports; for students planning museum careers or professions that require care of collections. Same as EES:4200.

Collaborative work to recreate one exhibition from the University of Iowa Museum of Art that took place before the flood of 2008; creation of content that contributes to a virtual museum experience; introduction to digital tools commonly used in design of exhibitions; recreation of historical exhibitions based on documentary photographs in museum and University archives and research on the premise of the exhibition and objects on view; how digital artifacts might be used in different contexts; use of museum and digital environments as labs for lifelong and distance learning. Same as EDTL:4210, INTM:4210.