Museum Studies, Certificate

The undergraduate Certificate in Museum Studies requires 18 s.h. Students must maintain a g.p.a. of at least 2.00 in work for the certificate. The certificate is open to current University of Iowa undergraduate students and to all individuals who are not enrolled in a UI graduate or professional degree program.

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences students who are interested in museum studies may earn the certificate, or they may use the individualized plan of study track in the interdepartmental studies major to create a museum studies concentration relevant to their academic and professional interests.

The program provides a broad foundation of knowledge increasingly valued in the museum field. Those with an interest in furthering their education in museum studies and who live outside of the Iowa City area may be interested in pursuing the certificate online.

Museum studies courses introduce students to the spectrum of museum endeavors, from organization and mission planning to institutional histories and current developments in the field. Most courses developed by the program offer hands-on experience in exhibition planning and design, collection management, educational programming, community development, and administration. Students may gain more experience through the Campus Museum Collective, a student organization dedicated to strengthening the position of campus museums within the University community.

A major in one of the natural sciences (e.g., biology, geoscience), anthropology, science education, art history, American studies, or history is recommended for students preparing for museum careers.

Students may count a maximum of 6 s.h. completed for a major, a minor, or another certificate offered by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences toward the Certificate in Museum Studies.

Work for the certificate consists of an introductory course, a minimum of four courses on specific museum studies topics, and an internship. Students must request permission from the coordinator of the museum studies certificate to use courses that are not included in the program, and the proposed course content and requirements must fit into one of the program’s defined areas.

The Certificate in Museum Studies requires the following course work.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Introductory Course</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Museum Studies Topic Areas</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Museum Studies Internship</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Hours</td>
<td>18</td>
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### Introductory Course

Students should begin the certificate with MUSM:3001 Introduction to Museum Studies, which is prerequisite to some of the program’s more advanced courses and is approved for the Social Sciences area of the GE CLAS Core. The course provides a historical overview of museum development and function while introducing students to issues such as museum governance and financing, ethics and law, collection management, exhibition and educational programming, interpretation, and audience research.

### Museum Studies Topic Areas

Students complete a minimum of four courses in museum studies topic areas, choosing from the lists below. The areas are collection care and management; exhibition development and public education; history, theory, and culture; and museum administration and management.

Students must select one course each from three of the four topic areas (9 s.h. total). They also must complete a fourth course (3 s.h.) from any of the four topic areas.

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Collection Care and Management</td>
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<td>Exhibition Development and Public Education</td>
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<td></td>
<td>History, Theory, and Culture</td>
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<td>Museum Administration and Management</td>
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#### Collection Care and Management

- MUSM:3003 Natural History Research Collections
- MUSM:3090 Topics in Museum Studies
- MUSM:3200 Collection Care and Management
- MUSM:4200 Advanced Collection Care

#### Exhibition Development and Public Education

- MUSM:3004 Exhibition Planning
- MUSM:3105 Engaging Museum Audiences
- MUSM:3125 Museums in a Digital World
- MUSM:3215 The Museum of Today and Tomorrow: How Museums Enhance the K-12 Classroom

#### History, Theory, and Culture

- MUSM:2850 Museums and Social Justice
- MUSM:3120 Museum Origins
- MUSM:3237 Politics of the Archaeological Past
- MUSM:4081 The Art Museum: Theory and Practice

#### Museum Administration and Management

- MUSM:3100 Historic House Management and Preservation
- MUSM:3131 Museum Evaluation and Visitor Studies
- MUSM:3500 Nonprofit Organizational Effectiveness I
- MUSM:4150 Introduction to Grant Writing

### Museum Studies Internship

After completing at least 12 s.h. of the required course work above, students must complete one of the following internships, earning a minimum of 3 s.h.

The Certificate in Museum Studies coordinator works closely with students and affiliated faculty members to ensure that
the internship provides students with the instruction and experience they need.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MUSM:4080</td>
<td>Museum Internship</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSM:4082</td>
<td>Distance Learning Museum Internship</td>
<td>arr.</td>
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