

Museum Studies, Certificate

Requirements

The undergraduate Certificate in Museum Studies requires 18 s.h. Students must maintain a grade-point average of at least 2.00 in work for the certificate.

The certificate may be earned by any student admitted to the University of Iowa who is not enrolled in a UI graduate or professional degree program. Undergraduate to Graduate (U2G) students may earn the certificate when the undergraduate classification is primary.

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.

Work for the certificate consists of two introductory courses, 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 coursework.

Requirements	Hours
Introductory Courses	4
Museum Studies Topic Areas	12
Museum Studies Internship	2

Introductory Courses

Students should begin the certificate with MUSM:3001 Introduction to Museum Studies and MUSM:3091 Topics in Museum Studies, which are prerequisites for some of the program's more advanced courses. These courses provide 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.

Course #	Title	Hours
MUSM:3001	Introduction to Museum Studies	3
MUSM:3091	Topics in Museum Studies	1

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.

Collection Care and Management

Course #	Title	Hours
MUSM:3003	Natural History Research Collections	3
MUSM:3200	Collection Care and Management	3
MUSM:4200	Museum Object Preservation	3

Exhibition Development and Public Education

Course #	Title	Hours
MUSM:3004	Exhibition Planning	3
MUSM:3105	Engaging Museum Audiences	3
MUSM:3115	Museum Education and Interpretation	3
MUSM:3125	Museums in a Digital World	3

History, Theory, and Culture

Course #	Title	Hours
MUSM:2850	Museums and Social Justice	3
MUSM:3120	Museum Origins	3
MUSM:3237	Politics of the Archaeological Past	3
MUSM:4081	The Art Museum: Theory and Practice	3
MUSM:4130	Museum Literacy and Historical Memory	3
MUSM:4310	Slavery Museums, Memorials, and Statues in the United States, Europe, and the Global South	3-4

Museum Administration and Management

Course #	Title	Hours
MUSM:3100	Historic House Management and Preservation	3
MUSM:3131	Museum Evaluation and Visitor Studies	3
MUSM:3500	Nonprofit Organizational Effectiveness I	3
MUSM:4150	Introduction to Grant Writing	3

Museum Studies Internship

After completing at least 12 s.h. of the required coursework above, students must complete one of the following internships, earning a minimum of 2 s.h.

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

Course #	Title	Hours
MUSM:4084	Museum Professionalism	2
CCP:1201	Academic Internship	2

Online Option

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.