

# Museum Studies, Certificate

The museum studies program provides a broad foundation of knowledge increasingly valued in the museum field. 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. Many courses developed by the program offer hands-on experience in exhibition planning and design, collection management, educational programming, community development, and administration.

## 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 one introductory course, a minimum of four courses on specific museum studies topics, and 3 s.h. from the internship and professionalism category. 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. A maximum of 6 s.h. of coursework used to satisfy requirements for another major, minor, or certificate may be applied toward this certificate.

The Certificate in Museum Studies requires the following coursework.

Requirements	Hours
Introductory Course	3
Museum Studies Topic Areas	12
Museum Studies Internship and Professionalism	3

## Introductory Course

Students should begin the certificate with MUSM:3001 Introduction to Museum Studies, which is a prerequisite for some of the program's more advanced courses. This 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.

Course #	Title	Hours
MUSM:3001	Introduction to Museum Studies	3

## Museum Studies Topic Areas

Students complete a minimum of four courses in museum studies topic areas, choosing from the following lists. 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:3078	Archiving Women's History	3
MUSM:3105	Engaging Museum Audiences	3
MUSM:3115	Museum Education and Interpretation	3
MUSM:3125	Museums in a Digital World	3
MUSM:3145	Excavation to Exhibit: Making Artifacts Public	3

### History, Theory, and Culture

Course #	Title	Hours
MUSM:2675	The Politics of Memory: Holocaust, Genocide, and 9/11	3-4
MUSM:2850	Museums and Social Justice	3
MUSM:3010	Fakes, Frauds, and Forgeries: The Dark Side of Art History	3
MUSM:3120	Museum Origins	3
MUSM:3237	Politics of the Archaeological Past	3
MUSM:3250	American Stuff: Discovering History in Things	3
MUSM:4081	The Art Museum: Theory and Practice	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:3130	Topics in Museum Administration and Management	3

MUSM:3131	Museum Evaluation and Visitor Studies	3
MUSM:3500	Nonprofit Organizational Effectiveness I	3
MUSM:3710	Fundraising Fundamentals	3
MUSM:3720	Nonprofit Communications	3
MUSM:4045	Art, Law, and Ethics	3
MUSM:4150	Introduction to Grant Writing	3
MUSM:4600	Nonprofit Ethics and Governance	3

## Museum Studies Internship and Professionalism

Students must complete either 2 s.h. in CCP:1201 Academic Internship plus 1 s.h. in MUSM:3091 Topics in Museum Studies or 3 s.h. in CCP:1201. Additionally, students should not take 3 s.h. of CCP:1201 in a single semester. Instead, students who opt to take 3 s.h. of the internship course should divide the s.h. over two or three semesters (e.g., 1 s.h. for three semesters or 2 s.h. one semester and 1 s.h. another semester).

It is highly recommended that students wait to begin their internship work until after they have completed the introductory course and at least 12 s.h. of coursework for the program.

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.

## 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. Please see the program website for details.

## Career Advancement

Museum studies students have become directors, curators, educators, and exhibit specialists in museums throughout the country.

The Pomerantz Career Center offers multiple resources to help students find internships and jobs.