

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
M.A. Degree in History with Specialization in Public History



Department of History, Univ. Wisconsin-Milwaukee
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Established in 1977, the Public History Specialization at the UW-Milwaukee admits from eight to ten students a year, and usually has twenty to twenty-five students enrolled at various stages of their degree program. Approximately 130 students have graduated from the program, with six to eight students graduating annually. The program offers an MA in History with opportunities to specialize in Museum Studies, Historic Preservation, and Archives Administration. An interdisciplinary thesis option can substitute for the six required internship credits. A joint MA/MLIS with the UWM School of Information Studies is also available. Students can minor in Public History in the Ph.D. program.

Type of Program: Public History Graduate Program

Degree(s) offered: B.A. in History
M.A. in History
M.A. in History with a Certificate or Concentration in Public History
Ph.D. in History
Ph.D. in History with option to minor in Public History.

Concentration(s):

- Museum Studies
- Archival Practices
- Historic Preservation
- Local/Community History

Course Offerings:

- Introduction to Public History; required, offered annually.
- Research Methods in Local History, required, offered annually.
- History and Theory of Museums, required for Museum Studies students, offered annually.
- Administration and Organization of Museums, required for Museum Studies students, offered annually.
- Museum Exhibits, required for Museum Studies students, offered annually.
- Museum Curation, required for Museum Studies students, offered annually.
- Information and Records Management, Information and Records Management, elective for Archives students, offered annually.
- Electronic Document and Records Management, elective for Archives students, offered annually.
- Arrangement and Description in Archives, elective for Archives students, offered annually.
- Archival Outreach: Programs and Services, elective for Archives students, offered annually.
- Seminar in Modern Archives Administration, elective for Archives students, offered annually.
- Technology Issues in Archives (Advanced Topics), elective for Archives students, offered annually.
- Appraisal and Collection Development for Archives and Manuscripts (Advanced Topics), elective for Archives students, offered annually.
- American Architecture, elective for Historic Preservation students, offered annually.
- Early Modern Architecture in the Midwest, elective for Historic Preservation students, offered annually.
- Colloquium in Architectural History, elective for Historic Preservation students, offered annually.
- Historic Concepts of Architecture, elective for Historic Preservation students, offered annually.

- American Vernacular Architecture, elective for Historic Preservation students, offered annually.
- Introduction to Historic Preservation, elective for Historic Preservation students, offered annually.
- History of Building Technology, elective for Historic Preservation students, offered annually.
- Historic Preservation Planning, elective for Historic Preservation students, offered annually.

Thesis required? No

Special project required? Yes

Description: 6 credits of internship (150 hours of work for 3 credits); or a thesis option (6 credits).

Credit Hour Requirement: 36

Internship Required? Yes

Who arranges internships? Students and Co-coordinators jointly.

Credit hours earned for internships: 3 credits for 150 hours of internship work.

Who evaluates internship? What are the criteria for evaluation? Supervisor at host institution provides written evaluation of work responsibilities specified in internship contract. A co-coordinator of program evaluates student's written evaluation of the internship experience.

Places where students have interned in the past three years:

- Milwaukee Public Museum
- Waukesha County Historical Society
- Milwaukee County Historical Society
- Luxembourg American Cultural Society
- Black Point Historic Preserve
- Haggerty Museum of Art
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- Ward Irish Music Archives
- Old World Wisconsin
- Wisconsin Veterans Museum
- National Mississippi River Museum
- Red Cloud Indian School Heritage Center

Admission Requirements:

- Minimum GPA: 2.75
- Statement of Purpose
- Letter(s) of Recommendation
- Transcripts
- Writing Sample
- GRE Aptitude Score

Financial Aid Available:

- Assistantships
- Fellowships
- In-State Status

Maximum annual stipend for: MA: About \$12,000 for teaching assistantship plus tuition remission and health benefits. PhD: About \$12,000 for teaching assistantship plus tuition remission and health benefits

Average number of students who receive: Stipend: 22 teaching assistants Scholarships: 1 or 2 university graduate fellowships

How many students are admitted annually? BA: N/A MA: 45 PhD: 6

Placement assistance offered? We help identify job opportunities and write letters of reference.

Employers who have hired your graduates in the past three years:

- Elkhart County (IN) Historical Museum
- Wisconsin Veterans Museum
- Waukesha County (WI) Historical Society
- Kenosha County (WI) Historical Society
- Kenosha Civil War Museum
- Sheboygan County (WI) Historical Society
- Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum
- Louisiana State Museum
- S.C. Johnson Co. Archives (WI)
- Milwaukee County Historical Society