

Wichita State University  
**Public History Program**

Department of History  
Wichita State University  
Wichita, Ks 67260-0045 USA  
<http://istory.wichita.edu>

**Director(s):** Jay M. Price  
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Founded in 1988, the Public History Program at Wichita State University is one of the oldest programs in the Midwest and offers a course of study that integrates a traditional history curriculum with Public History classes and fieldwork, leading to a Master of Arts degree. Nearly thirty students have graduate from the program since its creation. Each year, five to six students begin their coursework in the program.

**Type of Program:** Public History Graduate Program

**Degree(s) offered:** M.A. in History with a Certificate or Concentration in Public History

**Concentration(s):**

- Museum Studies
- Archival Practices
- Historic Preservation

**Course Offerings:**

- Introduction to Public History. Required; offered each fall.
- Advanced Historical Methods. Required; offered annually.
- One required; at least one course offered a semester:
  - o Interpreting the Past, Museum Administration, Historic Preservation, Introduction to Archives.
- Students have taken Anthropology courses in museum methods and museum administration in lieu of the above listed courses.]
- Internship in Public History (students may take History 781, Cooperative Education in History, in lieu of internship). Required.

**Thesis required?** Yes

**Special project required?** Not required but encouraged  
**Description:** N/A

**Credit Hour Requirement:** 35

**Internship Required?** Yes

**Who arranges internships?** Program director

**Credit hours earned for internships:** 1-3, depending on scale of work required

**Who evaluates internship? What are the criteria for evaluation?** Program director evaluates student. Each student is required to submit a final report discussing their experiences and reflections on lessons learned.

**Places where students have interned in the past three years:**

- Ablah Library
- Wichita State University
- Cessna Aircraft Company
- Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library
- City of Hutchinson Planning Department
- Old Cowtown Museum
- Raytheon Aircraft Corporation (Now Hawker Beechcraft)
- Sedgwick County Records Management
- Wichita Public Library
- Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Planning Department

**Admission Requirements:**

Minimum GPA: 3  
Transcripts  
Same as regular graduate program admission requirements. Applicants should have taken at least 15 credit hours of history, including Historiography.

**Financial Aid Available:**

Scholarships  
Assistantships

**Maximum annual stipend for:** MA: \$1500 a semester      PhD: N/A

**Average number of students who receive:** Stipend: 40180      Scholarships: varies

**How many students are admitted annually?** BA: N/A      MA: Graduate program admits about 15 annually, of whom approximately 3-5 are public history students  
PhD: N/A

**Placement assistance offered?** Because each track is so individual, guidance has to be on a case by case basis. Students receive regular notices of job openings and are encouraged to attend conferences and professional events.

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

Students and graduates of the program have obtained jobs with:

- Sedgwick County Records Management
- Old Cowtown Museum, Department of Special Collections
- Wichita State University Archives
- Block Island Historical Society
- U.S. Air Force History Program
- Old Cowtown Museum

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