

New Mexico State University
Public History Program

Department of History, New Mexico State University
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<http://web.nmsu.edu/~publhist/~publhist.htm>



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Established in 1983, the Public History Program at New Mexico State University offers an MA in History, with a concentration in Public History. Approximately sixty students have graduated from our program, with an average of five students graduating each year. The 36-credit-hour program requires courses in public history and traditional history, one or more internships, and the preparation of a journal article and a portfolio. Public history courses include living history, museum studies (in collaboration with the anthropology and art departments), interpretation of historic sites, historic preservation, oral history, and archives. Students also receive strong preparation in historical research, writing, and interpretation through a common core of graduate courses. Students may undertake a “dual track” that combines public history coursework with a thesis. A joint MA in History and MPA in public administration with the Department of Government is also available.

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
- Historic Preservation
- National Park interpretation

Course Offerings:

- Public History Seminar; required; offered annually
- Oral History; offered every other year
- Time Traveling Through New Mexico's Past; offered every three semesters
- History, Myth, and Memory (reading seminar); offered every other year
- Historic Preservation; offered every other year
- Cultural Resources Management (in anthropology dept.); offered every other year
- Interpreting Historic Places for the Public; offered annually
- Museology (in anthropology dept.); offered every other year
- Museum Conservation Techniques I, II, and III (in art department); one course offered each semester

Thesis required? No

Special project required? Yes

Description: Students must prepare a publishable journal article related to one of their internships and present a portfolio.

Credit Hour Requirement: 36

Internship Required? Yes

Who arranges internships? The student arranges internships, in consultation with an advisor.

Credit hours earned for internships: 3-9 CR

Who evaluates internship? What are the criteria for evaluation? The organization with whom the internship is undertaken, along with the internship advisor. Each internship is evaluated individually, based on the work program developed for the internship.

Places where students have interned in the past three years:

- National Park Service (various locations)
- Autry Museum of the American West
- Mystic Seaport
- National World War I Museum
- New Mexico Farm and Ranch Heritage
- Magoffin Home State Historic Site
- El Paso Holocaust Museum
- New Mexico Historic Preservation Division
- Cornerstones Community Partnerships
- Las Cruces Museum of Natural History

Admission Requirements:

- Minimum GPA: 3
- Statement of Purpose
- Letter(s) of Recommendation
- Transcripts
- Writing Sample

Financial Aid Available:

- Loans
- Scholarships
- Assistantships
- In-State Status

Maximum annual stipend for: MA: 15800 PhD: N/A

Average number of students who receive: Stipend: 5 Scholarships: 1

How many students are admitted annually? BA: N/A MA: 10-12 PhD: N/A

Placement assistance offered? We train and mentor students in conducting job searches and forward announcements of opportunities to students. The university's Career Services program offers assistance in preparing resumes.

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

- Klondike Gold Rush National Historic Park
- New Mexico Farm and Ranch Heritage
- Magoffin Home State Historic Site
- El Paso History Museum
- Arizona State Archives
- New Mexico Historic Preservation Division