

University of South Carolina
Public History Program

Department of History
University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC 29208 USA
<http://www.artsandsciences.sc.edu/hist/pubhist/>

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Program Description: Established in 1975 as the Applied History Program, the Public History Program at the University of South Carolina admits six to eight graduate students each year. The program offers an M.A. in Public History with a concentration in either historic preservation or museum studies. Students in the history Ph.D. program may select public history, historic preservation, or museum studies as one of their fields of study. At any one time, there are about fifteen Ph.D. students who have declared public history as one of their fields. In addition, students have the choice of two graduate certificate programs: the “Certificate in Museum Management” and the “Certificate in Historical Archaeology & Cultural Resource Management,” as well as the dual-degree Joint Program with the School of Library and Information Science. Over 200 students have graduated from the program since 1975, with a current average of eight graduating annually.

Degrees Offered:

- B.A. in History
- M.A. in Public 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 a Certificate or Concentration in Public History
- Certificate in Museum Management
- Certificate in Historical Archaeology & Cultural Resources Management
- Dual Degree with School of Library & Information Science

Program Strengths: Historical Archaeology
Historic Preservation
Library Science Program
Material Culture
Museum Studies
Oral History

How Many Students are Admitted Annually:

BA: N/A MA: 6-8 PhD: 10

Financial Aid Available: Assistantships
Fellowships
In-State Status
Tuition Waiver

Deadline to Apply: Once per year in early January

Credit Hour Requirement: 30 for M.A. in Public History. The optional certificate requires additional coursework.

Internship Requirement: The internship is arranged by the student in consultation with his/her Public History faculty advisor. It is a program requirement but not a tuition-paying course. Students work 145 hours in a professional capacity in an historical institution or agency. Internships can be paid and unpaid.

Places Where Students Have Interned During the Past Three Years:

- Bermuda National Trust
- Bowes Museum, England
- Yad Vashem, Israel
- National Park Service
- Smithsonian National Museum of American History
- Palmetto Trust for Historic Preservation
- Redcliffe Plantation State Park
- South Carolina Department of Archives and History
- South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office
- South Carolina State Museum
- City of Columbia Planning Department
- Higgins Armory Museum, Massachusetts
- Historic Columbia Foundation
- Historic Preservation Trust of Berks County, Pennsylvania
- Jamestown Foundation, Virginia
- Los Angeles County Museum of Art
- Museums of Old York, Maine
- Nantucket Historical Association, Massachusetts
- Newport Historical Society, Rhode Island
- Preservation Society of Charleston
- Riley County Historical Museum, Kansas

Job Placement Assistance Offered: Close consultation with faculty advisor; professional workshops and the portfolio presentations; in-house and alumni listservs; 225+ alumni network; multiple opportunities for hands-on experience in assistantships, internships, courses, field schools.

Employers Who Have Hired Graduates from this Program within the Past Five Years:

- National Archives
- National Park Service
- Smithsonian National Museum of American History
- Mississippi Department of Archives and History
- New York State Historic Preservation Office
- Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
- South Carolina State Museum
- South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office
- Texas Department of Transportation
- Tryon Palace, North Carolina
- Baranov Museum, Alaska
- Columbus Museum, Georgia
- The Hermitage, Home of President Andrew Jackson, Tennessee
- Nantucket Historical Association, Massachusetts
- Spartanburg County Historical Association
- Emory University Libraries
- University of Georgia Libraries

- University of Houston Libraries
- University of South Carolina Libraries
- Multiple Local and Regional Historical Consulting Firms