



WESTERN
ILLINOIS
UNIVERSITY
Quad Cities

POST-BACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATE IN MUSEUM STUDIES

Higher Values in Higher Education
Academic Excellence • Educational Opportunity
Personal Growth • Social Responsibility

“As a Museum Studies student at Western Illinois University you have access to invaluable resources. The instructors are incredibly knowledgeable, classmates are welcoming, and there are many opportunities to work directly with museum professionals. The program prepares you for success in the museum field through hands on experience and a supportive learning environment.”

—Vanessa Brown, 2016 MST graduate



Program Location: Quad Cities

Program Description

The aim of the certificate program in Museum Studies at Western Illinois University is to provide knowledge and training in various aspects of museum work, including history, theory and practices in the museum profession, as well as exhibition development. Students select additional coursework to gain knowledge in museum administration, collections management, education, community development, tourism, fundraising, and art history.

As a practicing museum professional your work can include:

- Managing and caring for museum collections
- Hosting exhibitions and special events
- Engaging in educational outreach
- Designing exhibits
- Providing interpretive programming for visitors
- Performing research and publication activities
- Administrating museum resources and personnel

The Certificate in Museum Studies offers students in related graduate programs the opportunity to earn an 18 SH certificate. Students take 9 SH of Museum Studies coursework. Additionally, students take 6 SH of electives among offerings in the WIU Department of Art, the Museum Studies Program, or the Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Administration, and participate in a three-hour internship at a QC-area museum, or another chosen museum.

Certificate Requirements

I. Core Courses: 6 SH

- MST 500 Introduction to Museums: Purpose, Function and History (3 SH)
- MST 502 Museum Exhibition (3 SH)

II. Electives: 9 SH

Select from the following:

- MST 501 Museum Administration (3 SH)
- MST 503 Collections Management (3 SH)

- MST 515 Introduction to Museum Education (3 SH)
- MST 516 Visitor Studies (3 SH)
- MST 520 Independent Study in Museum Education (3 SH, repeatable)
- MST 599 Special Topics in Museums (3 SH)
- RPTA 424G Fund Raising and Volunteerism in Leisure Services (3 SH)
- RPTA 448G Interpretation of Cultural and Environmental Resources (3 SH)
- RPTA 460G Sustainable Tourism Development (3 SH)
- RPTA 467G Event Planning and Management (3 SH)
- ARTE 439G High School Art Methods (3 SH)
- ARTH 485G Research in Art History (3 SH)
- ARTH 496G History of Contemporary Art (3 SH)

III. Required Practicum: 3 SH

- MST 560 Practicum in Museums (3 SH)

Total Program: 18 SH

For the Gainful Employment Disclosure, visit wiu.edu/grad/gainfulemployment.

Contact Information

For admissions process and general program information, contact the School of Graduate Studies, Western Illinois University, 1 University Circle, Macomb, IL 61455, (309) 298-1806, (877) WIU GRAD toll-free, Grad-Office@wiu.edu, wiu.edu/grad.

For specific program questions, contact Pamela White, director, Museum Studies Program, Western Illinois University–Quad Cities, 3300 River Dr., Moline, IL 61264, (309) 762-9481, ext. 62340, PJ-White@wiu.edu, wiu.edu/museumstudies.

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