The Master of Arts Degree in Public History offers options in historic preservation and heritage interpretation.

The M.A. in Public History: Historic Preservation Option prepares the student for further study or career placement in museums, historical sites or agencies. Students will develop familiarity with issues in public history, material culture, the historic landscape, and the built environment. Students will participate in field exercises and projects that take history out of the classroom and into public venues.

The M.A. in Public History: Heritage Interpretation Emphasis prepares the student for fields at the intersection of education and public history. Students will hone skills aimed at connecting classrooms with museums and historic sites. Students will develop a familiarity with issues confronting social studies teachers and public history educators, study the contexts in which those professionals work, and develop plans for increasing student learning in those contexts that highlight the collaborative possibilities between classrooms and public history institutions.

Faculty support the development of individual interests through research and independent projects. They are well-prepared instructors and active scholars, encouraging students to explore history beyond the classroom. Professors have demonstrated expertise in museums, historic sites, archives, public programming, architectural history, the National Register of Historic Places, and preservation of the built environment. Graduate classes average fewer than 15 students, which allows for meaningful interaction between students and instructors.

Becoming Career Ready...
/Develop advanced knowledge and skills relevant to the documentation and interpretation of historical documents, objects, buildings, landscapes, or historic sites.
/Develop advanced historical research and analysis skills through work with varied primary and secondary source materials.
/Develop expertise in communications history to a variety of audiences, including public, professional and academic.

Career Planning
Career Fields for Program Graduates
- Historic Preservation Agencies and Organizations
- Museums
- Historic Sites
- Archives
- Non-Profit Organizations
- Education

Internship and Employment Opportunities of Recent Graduates/Graduate Schools and Programs of Recent Graduates
- State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma Historic Society
- North Carolina Maritime Museum
- National Park Service, Alaska Regional Office
- Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site
- Old Town Cape, Cape Girardeau, MO Main Street program
- Field Archaeologist at US Army Corps
- Executive Director at Preservation Alliance of Minnesota
- NEPA Program Manager, Schofield Barracks, Waialua, Hawaii
- Archaeologist, US Forest Service
- Head, Special Collections and Archives, Idaho State University
- Curator, Governor’s mansion, Jackson, Mississippi
- Manuscript Specialist, State Historical Society of Missouri-Kansas City
- History Associate, Missouri History Museum
- Architectural Historian, Historic Preservation Division, Alabama Historical Commission
- Consulting Service Associate, Partners for Sacred Places
- Curator, Bolduc House Museum
- Archival Technician, Arkansas State Archives
- Historic Macon Foundation
- Landmark Society of Western New York
- Castine Historical Society
- Deutschheim State Historic Site

Admission Requirements
In addition to the criteria established for general admission to graduate studies are the following departmental criteria:

1. Undergraduate GPA of 2.75 on a 4 point scale in history and/or related disciplines.
2. A letter of intent which indicates how the applicant’s past experiences have prepared him or her for a graduate degree. A letter of intent for the MA in Public History should indicate how the applicants past experiences have prepared him or her for a graduate degree in Public History and to succeed at the graduate level.
3. Two letters of recommendation which attest to the applicant’s academic and/or professional achievement and ability to succeed in the graduate program.
4. An academic or professional writing sample.

Letters should be addressed to the Director of Admissions. All documents should be submitted directly to the Office of Admissions.

Provisional and Probationary Admission:
An applicant lacking any of the above requirements may, under certain circumstances, be admitted provisionally or on probation.
Graduate Program Coordinator
Victoria McAlister
(573) 651-2180
vmcalister@semo.edu

To explore the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, visit semo.edu/hss

To learn more
Office of Admissions
(573) 651-2590
admissions@semo.edu
www.semo.edu

COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
Public History

Master of Arts (MA)

This is a guide based on the 2019-2020 Graduate Bulletin and is subject to change. The time it takes to earn a degree will vary based on factors such as course load and summer enrollment. Students meet with an academic advisor each semester and use Degree Works to monitor their progress.

CURRICULUM CHECKLIST

36 Hours Required

Required Courses:

___EH620/US620/WH630 Seminar in History (6)
___GH600 Introduction to Public History (3)
___GH610 Methods of Research in History (3)
___HP588 Legal and Economic Principles of Historic Preservation (3)
___US635 American Material Culture (3)
___GH695-697 Thesis (6)

OR

___HP640 Internship (3)

AND

___HP645 Advanced Project in Applied History (3)

Choose one option:

HISTORIC PRESERVATION OPTION

___HP585 History of American Architecture (3)

Choose 9 hours from:

___GH520 Techniques of Oral History (3)
___HP540 Topics in Historic Preservation (3)
___HP552 Historic Preservation Field School (3)
___HP575 Collections Management (3)
___HP580 History of American Building Materials and Techniques (3)
___HP589 Historic Preservation Based Economic Revitalization (3)
___HP630 Issues in Historic Preservation (3)
___HP640 Historic Preservation Internship (3)
___HP645 Advanced Project in Applied History (3)
___HP650 Problems in Historic Preservation (3)

HERITAGE INTERPRETATION OPTION

___HP635 Issues and Interpretations in Public History (3)

Choose 9 hours from:

___GH520 Techniques of Oral History (3)
___HP540 Topics in Historic Preservation (3)
___HP552 Historic Preservation Field School (3)
___HP575 Collections Management (3)
___HP580 History of American Building Materials and Techniques (3)
___HP589 Historic Preservation Based Economic Revitalization (3)
___HP630 Issues in Historic Preservation (3)
___HP640 Historic Preservation Internship (3)
___HP645 Advanced Project in Applied History (3)
___HP650 Problems in Historic Preservation (3)

Sample Two-Year Plan - Historic Preservation

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<td>First Year</td>
<td>GH600, Intro to Public History</td>
<td>GH610, Methods of Research in History</td>
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<td>US635, American Material Culture</td>
<td>US620, Seminar in U.S. History</td>
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<td>WH630, Seminar in World History</td>
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<td>HP650, Problems in Historic Preservation</td>
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Sample Two-Year Plan – Heritage Interpretation

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<td>US620, Seminar in U.S. History</td>
<td>GH653, Problems in Social Studies</td>
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<td>US635, American Material Culture</td>
<td>US507, Civil War and Reconstruction</td>
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Students may also choose HP585 or GH653 if not otherwise required.