M.A. in Public History 
Curriculum Guide 

Department of History 
Wayne State University 

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Museum Studies Track

MAPH Core Courses

HIS 7835, Public History: Theory and Method (3 cr.)
HIS 7855, Memory and History (3 cr.)
HIS 7998, Internship in Public History (3 cr.)
HIS 7999, Master’s Project (3 cr.) & Portfolio

Track Core Course

ANT 5600, Museum Studies (3 cr.)

One Methodology Course, selected from among the following:

HIS 7994, Digital History Seminar (3 cr.)
INF 7710/HIS 7840, Archival Administration (3 cr.)
INF 7770/HIS 7860/ANT 6360, Oral History (3 cr.)
INF 7885/HIS 7880, Administration of Historical Agencies (3 cr.)
UP 6700/GPH 6700, Geographic Information Systems (4 cr.)

Three History Courses numbered 5000 or above in a geographic specialization (U.S., European, or World history), at least one of which must be an 8000-level seminar.

Two Public History Electives, selected from list of current electives

Students who are interested in administrative positions at museums should strongly consider electives in public or nonprofit management, grant writing, and/or budgeting and finance.
Digital History Track

MA PH Core Courses

HIS 7835, Public History: Theory and Method (3 cr.)
HIS 7855, Memory and History (3 cr.)
HIS 7998, Internship in Public History (3 cr.)
HIS 7999, Master’s Project (3 cr.) & Portfolio

Track Core Course

HIS 6000, Introduction to Digital Humanities

Methodology Course

HIS 7994, Digital History Seminar (3 cr.)

Three History Courses numbered 5000 or above in a geographic specialization (U.S., European, or World history), at least one of which must be an 8000-level seminar.

Two Public History Electives with course content at the intersection of digital technology and history. These may be housed in any campus unit. Review the list of public history electives in this guide and the Skills and Electives courses listed for Digital Humanities minor in the Undergraduate Bulletin for examples of relevant courses. The School of Information Science also offers several relevant courses. Electives should be selected in consultation with and must be approved by the Digital History/History Communication Coordinator.
Public Policy Track

MAPH Core Courses

HIS 7835, Public History: Theory and Method (3 cr.)
HIS 7855, Memory and History (3 cr.)
HIS 7998, Internship in Public History (3 cr.)
HIS 7999, Master’s Project (3 cr.) & Portfolio

Track Core Course

PS 7410, Policy Formation and Implementation (3 cr.)

One Quantitative Reasoning Course, selected from among those offered across the university (see especially courses in the School of Education and in Political Science), in consultation with the MAPH advisor (3-4 cr.)

Three History Courses numbered 5000 or above in a geographic specialization (U.S., European, or World history), at least one of which must be an 8000-level seminar.

Two Public History Electives, selected from among those courses on list of current electives offered by the Department of Political Science. Students are strongly encouraged to take PS 7480, Policy Analysis for Administration (3 cr.).

Students in the public policy track should select electives that focus on practical, rather than theoretical, applications. Courses on budgeting and management will be especially helpful for students who want to work in this area. As such, students are advised to review course offerings in social work, sociology, management, finance, or business administration, as they may be relevant to their career goals.
Cultural Resource Management Track

MAPH Core Courses

HIS 7835, Public History: Theory and Method (3 cr.)
HIS 7855, Memory and History (3 cr.)
HIS 7998, Internship in Public History (3 cr.)
HIS 7999, Master’s Project (3 cr.) & Portfolio

Track Core Course

ANT 6555, Cultural Resource Management and Public Archaeology (3 cr.)

One Methodology Course, selected from among the following:

ANT 5280, Field Work in the Archaeology of the Americas (4 cr.)
ANT 6570, Archaeological Laboratory Analysis (3 cr.)
INF 7885/HIS 7880, Administration of Historical Agencies (3 cr.)
UP 6700/GPH 6700, Geographic Information Systems (4 cr.)

Three History Courses numbered 5000 or above in a geographic specialization (U.S., European, or World history), at least one of which must be an 8000-level seminar.

Two Public History Electives, selected from list of current electives
African American History and Culture Track

MAPH Core Courses

HIS 7835, Public History: Theory and Method (3 cr.)
HIS 7855, Memory and History (3 cr.)
HIS 7998, Internship in Public History (3 cr.)
HIS 7999, Master’s Project (3 cr.) & Portfolio

Track Core Course

HIS 7261, African Americans, History and Memory (4 cr.)

One Methodology Course, selected from among the following:

HIS 7994, Digital History Seminar (3 cr.)
INF 7710/HIS 7840, Archival Administration (3 cr.)
INF 7770/HIS 7860/ANT 6360, Oral History (3 cr.)
INF 7885/HIS 7880, Administration of Historical Agencies (3 cr.)
ANT 5210, Anthropological Methods (4 cr.)
UP 6700/GPH 6700, Geographic Information Systems (4 cr.)

One History Seminar, selected from among the following:

HIS 8010, Seminar in Early American History (3 cr.)
HIS 8020, Seminar in Nineteenth Century US (3 cr.)
HIS 8030, Seminar in Modern American History (3 cr.)

Two History Courses, selected from among the following*:

HIS 5235, The Civil Rights Movement (3 cr.)
HIS 6170, Studies in Ethnicity and Race in American Life (3 cr.)
HIS 7241, Readings in American Slavery (4 cr.)

*Courses listed at the 5000-level in the Department of African American Studies may be suitable substitutions for those listed above, with permission of DGS

Two Public History Electives, selected from list of current electives
Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies Track

MAPH Core Courses

HIS 7835, Public History: Theory and Method (3 cr.)
HIS 7855, Memory and History (3 cr.)
HIS 7998, Internship in Public History (3 cr.)
HIS 7999, Master’s Project (3 cr.) & Portfolio

Track Core Course

GSW 7200, Feminist, Gender, and Queer Theory (3 cr.)

One Methodology Course, selected from among the following:

HIS 7994, Digital History Seminar (3 cr.)
INF 7710/HIS 7840, Archival Administration (3 cr.)
INF 7770/HIS 7860/ANT 6360, Oral History (3 cr.)
INF 7885/HIS 7880, Administration of Historical Agencies (3 cr.)
ANT 5210, Anthropological Methods (4 cr.)
UP 6700/GPH 6700, Geographic Information Systems (4 cr.)

History Seminar

HIS 8150, Seminar in the History of Gender, Women, and Sexuality (3 cr.)

Two History Courses, selected from among the following:

HIS 5875, Gender in Modern East Asia (4 cr.)
HIS 7200, Readings in Women, Gender, and Sexuality in U.S. History (3 cr.)
HIS 7251, History of Feminism (4 cr.)
HIS 8030, Seminar in Modern American History (3 cr.)
HIS 8240, Seminar in Modern Europe (3 cr.)

Two Public History Electives, selected from list of current electives
**Urban and Labor History Track**

**MAPH Core Courses**

- HIS 7835, Public History: Theory and Method (3 cr.)
- HIS 7855, Memory and History (3 cr.)
- HIS 7998, Internship in Public History (3 cr.)
- HIS 7999, Master’s Project (3 cr.) & Portfolio

**Track Core Course**, selected from among the following:

- HIS 7290, Readings in American Labor History (4 cr.)
- HIS 7670, Modern American Cities (4 cr.)
- HIS 7660, Global Cities (3 cr.)

**One Methodology Course**, selected from among the following:

- HIS 7994, Digital History Seminar (3 cr.)
- INF 7710/HIS 7840, Archival Administration (3 cr.)
- INF 7770/HIS 7860/ANT 6360, Oral History (3 cr.)
- INF 7885/HIS 7880, Administration of Historical Agencies (3 cr.)
- ANT 5210, Anthropological Methods (4 cr.)
- UP 6700/GPH 6700, Geographic Information Systems (4 cr.)

**History Seminar**

- HIS 8060, North American Labor History (3 cr.)

**Two History Courses**, selected from among the following:

- HIS 7290, Readings in American Labor History (4 cr.)*
- HIS 7660, Global Cities (4 cr.)*
- HIS 7670, Modern American Cities (4 cr.)*
- HIS 7725, Readings in African Cities (4 cr.)
- HIS 8030, Seminar in Modern American History (3 cr.)
- HIS 8240, Seminar in Modern Europe (3 cr.)

**Two Public History Electives**, selected from list of current electives

*If not selected as track core course
MAPH-MLIS Joint Degree Requirements

Total Credits: 55 (61 if also completing Archival Administration certificate)

History Requirements

All MAPH students are required to take HIS 7835 (Public History: Theory and Method), HIS 7855 (History and Memory), HIS 7998 (Internship in Public History), and HIS 7999 (Master's Project). Students must apply in writing to the graduate director for any exemptions. Students must complete a methodology course and at least 18 credits in one MAPH track. MAPH tracks include Museum Studies; Public Policy; Cultural Resource Management; African American History and Culture; Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies; and Labor and Urban History. (See Attachment A for MAPH Program Requirements by Track)

Required MAPH core courses (15 credits):

- HIS 7835 Public History: Theory and Method (3 credits)
- HIS 7855 Memory and History (3 credits)
- HIS 7998 Internship in Public History* (3 credits)
- HIS 7999 Master's Project (3 credits)
- Methodology course must be selected from among INF 7700 Oral History (3 credits), INF 7710 Archival Administration (3 credits), and INF 7440 Scripting (3 credits) and would be double-counted as an INF elective.

MAPH Track requirements (18 Credits)

Core course (3 credits)
History seminar (3 credits)
History electives (6 credits)
Public History electives (6 credits); students in the joint MAPH/MLIS program must select two from among a variety of INF elective courses, to be chosen in consultation with your MAPH advisor. Such courses may include:

- INF 7440 Scripting Languages (3 credits)
- INF 7450 Digital Imaging (3 credits)
- INF 7710 Archival Administration (3 credits)
- INF 7730 Administration of Audio Visual Collections (3 credits)
- INF 7740 Archives and Libraries in the Digital World (3 credits)
- INF 7770 Oral History (3 credits)
- INF 7780 Description and Access for Archives (3 credits)
- INF 7885 Administration of Historical Agencies (3 credits)

Total: 33 hours of study for MAPH degree (8 of which are from INF classes)
Library and Information Science Requirements

Required INF Courses (18 credits):

- INF 6010 Introduction to the Information Profession (3 credits)
- INF 6080 Information Technology (3 credits)
- INF 6120 Access to Information (3 credits)
- INF 6210 Organization of Knowledge (3 credits)
- INF 7040 Library Administration and Management (3 credits)
- INF 7996 Research for the Information Profession (3 credits)

Elective INF Courses (12 credits); students should use INF electives to fulfill the MAPH methodology and public history elective requirements.

Elective History Courses (6 credits)

Total: 36 hours of study for the MLIS degree (6 of which are from HIS classes)

*Students completing the Archival Administration certificate may choose to substitute INF 7685—Archival Practicum for HIS 7998. Students who choose to do so must instead select an additional History or Public History elective.
Public History Electives

Courses not listed here may also be appropriate as electives; this is particularly true of courses in Communications and Business, which may have prerequisites or require special permission to enroll. Please work with the Director of Public History and your advisor to identify electives relevant to your track and your professional goals.

ACS 5650, Museum Culture: Histories, Critiques, Practices (3 cr.)
ANT 5060, Urban Anthropology (3 cr.)
ANT 5500, Historical Archaeology (3 cr.)
ANT 5565, Urban Archaeology (3 cr.)
ANT 5600, Museum Studies (3 cr.)
ANT 6555, Cultural Resource Management and Public Archaeology (3 cr.)
ANT 6990, Grant Proposal Writing for the Social Sciences (3 cr.)
ANT 7625, Material Culture and the Social Meaning of Things (3 cr.)
HIS 6993/ANT 6993, History Communication (3 cr.)
HIS 7994, Digital History Seminar (3 cr.)
INF 7415, Project Management (3 cr.)
INF 7440, Scripting Languages (3 cr.)
INF 7710/HIS 7840, Archival Administration (3 cr.)
INF 7730/HIS 7890, Administration of Audio Visual Collections (3 cr.)
INF 7740/HIS 7745, Archives and Libraries in the Digital World (3 cr.)
INF 7770/ HIS 7860/ANT 6360, Oral History (3 cr.)
INF 7780/HIS 7820, Description and Access for Archives (3 cr.)
INF 7885/HIS 7880, Administration of Historical Agencies (3 cr.)
PS 6700, Financial Management for Nonprofit Organizations (3 cr.)
PS 6710, Introduction to Nonprofit Organizations (3 cr.)
PS 6720, Marketing, Development & Grant Writing for Nonprofit Organizations (3 cr.)
PS 7240/UP 7650, Urban Public Policy (3 cr.)
PS 7250 Seminar in Urban Administration (3 cr.)
PS 7330, Public Budgeting and Finance (3 cr.)
PS 7340, Public Personnel Management (3 cr.)
PS 7350, Managing Public Organizations and Programs (3 cr.)
PS 7375, Professional Development Seminar (2 cr.)
PS 7460, Program Evaluation (3 cr.)
PS 7480, Policy Analysis for Administration (3 cr.)
UP 5110, Urban Planning Process (3 cr.)
UP 6510, Urban and Regional Systems (3 cr.)
UP 6700/GPH 6700, Geographic Information Systems (4 cr.)
Public History Internship

All MAPH students must complete a 135-hour internship (HIS 7998). You are responsible for identifying and securing an internship at an appropriate point in your education—for full-time students who will complete their degree in two years, this is typically the summer between the first and second years in the program. See the WSU Department of History Internship Handbook for complete details (available at go.wayne.edu/historyinternships), with special attention to pg. 2, which details the role and responsibilities of students.

Locally, you can find internship opportunities on the websites of cultural institutions, or you might consider directly approaching an institution with which you would like to intern and asking if they can create a position for you. For national and international opportunities, check out the National Council on Public History and American Association of State and Local History websites, the Michigan Museum Association website, and the University of Delaware’s MuseWeekly e-newsletter.

You should plan to work closely with your advisor and/or the Internship Director to determine which institutions and what kinds of work experience will help you achieve your career goals.

Exceptions and special cases:

MAPH students who are also full-time professionals in a field directly related to their track (i.e., Detroit Historical Museum employees who follow the Museum Studies track) may elect to replace HIS 7998 (the internship) with a methodology or skill-building course selected in consultation with their advisor. This exception is meant for professionals who are returning to school to advance their current careers and who work full-time while pursuing the MAPH degree.

Students enrolled in the MAPH-MLIS joint degree program and who will also earn an archival administration certificate may elect to use INF 7970 (the archives practicum) to fulfill HIS 7998 (the internship); if they do so, they must take an additional methodology or skill-building course selected in consultation with their advisor. MAPH students who are not enrolled in the MAPH-MLIS joint degree program but who will earn an archival administration certificate must complete both HIS 7998 (the internship) and INF 7970 (the archives practicum).
Public History Portfolio

You are required to create a professional portfolio as part of your degree requirements. This will contain two components: a traditional portfolio submitted as a single PDF file, which will be used to assess your progress in the program; and a companion website, which will showcase your work for potential employers.* You will typically begin compiling materials in HIS 7835 (though you should begin earlier if you do not take the course in your first term) and add to the portfolio over the course of your academic program. The goal is to assemble materials to use to seek employment in your chosen field. The portfolio is an individualized document, and in consultation with your advisor, you should include examples of the work you believe best represents your skills and abilities as a public history practitioner.

**Deadline:** Both portfolio components must be submitted for review to your advisor and the Director of Public History at least six weeks before your anticipated MA Project defense. The Director of Public History will solicit feedback on your materials from a professional historian working in your field and relay it to you. You should revise your portfolio accordingly and submit it to your advisor with your final MA essay and via email to the Director of Public History in advance of graduation.

Your traditional portfolio must include:

1. Cover page and Table of Contents
2. Resume (which should include a link to your website)
3. 250-word abstract of Master’s Project
4. Internship Report
5. Summaries of two informational interviews, one completed in HIS 7835 and one completed the semester you submit your Master’s Project
6. A 5-7 pp. reflective essay on the theoretical and methodological underpinnings of your area of specialization that explores how you conceptualize your role as a public historian. The essay should not be an account of your coursework or what you learned in the program Instead, you should approach the essay as an opportunity to reflect on the field of public history in general and your area of specialization in particular

Your companion website should incorporate the following elements in some way, but the way you do so is up to you and your advisor and may vary widely. You may use any digital format and host you choose. **Reclaim Hosting** is a cost-effective choice with full installs of many of the platforms students are likely to use in their courses, including WordPress and Omeka.

1. An “About Me” section (posting a photo is recommended but not required); you should consider linking to professional social media accounts, such as LinkedIn
2. Resume (which may be inclusive of some of the information listed in items 3-8)
3. A description of your Master’s project (if it is a digital project, you should link to it or incorporate it into the site)
4. Products from internships or class projects (i.e., photos of exhibit panels, a copy of a National Register nomination, a public policy brief)
5. Brief descriptions of and links to any digital projects to which you have contributed
6. Links to and/or summaries of published work
7. Links to and/or summaries of grant applications to which you contributed
8. Any other information that showcases your professional abilities as a public history practitioner, including projects that were not part of your academic program (i.e., consulting work, volunteer work, projects completed before beginning the MAPH program)
MASTER’S PROJECT

The culminating experience for the MAPH degree is a Master’s Project, completed under the direction of a Project Committee composed of the student’s advisor and a second reader, most commonly a second historian or a faculty member from SIS or Anthropology. The Project is analogous in scope to an MA essay (an approximately 40-page study), rather than a thesis.

You will develop and execute a project based on original research, which may be entirely new or may grow out of (but not include or duplicate) work completed as part of an internship or other professional experience. After submitting a proposal and receiving approval to proceed from the Project Committee, you will complete the project, document it for Committee Review, and compose a companion essay to submit with the project documentation.

The parameters of the project are flexible to accommodate a wide range of student interests. Recent examples include curating a travelling exhibit, creating a digital exhibit, designing a prototype and project management plan for a digitization project, and developing an interpretive plan for a museum. Other possibilities might include conducting an oral history project, completing a National Register nomination, developing a finding aid for a collection, or creating educational materials for a museum. To the extent possible, we encourage students to pursue a “real world” project in partnership with a history organization. In most instances, this will involve shared authority—i.e., demonstrating that you can identify and collaborate with relevant community stakeholders.

You should begin planning your project as early as possible. Students who plan to complete the degree in two years should submit their proposal at some point in their third semester in the program with the goal of having an approved proposal in advance of enrolling in HIS 7999 and completing the project in the fourth semester. In some cases, projects may extend into the summer following the fourth semester.

MA Project deadlines and deliverables:

**Project Proposal:** 750-1000 words, developed in consultation with and approved by the Project Committee. The proposal should include a brief project description, identify the need for the relevancy of the project, describe the scope of work and methodology you will use, identify any collaborators and their roles, and outline a timeline for completion. You must also append a preliminary bibliography, with each source briefly annotated.

**Deadline:** Semester before enrolling in HIS 7999.

**Project:** Your project should be completed per the timeline outlined in your proposal, with the understanding that timelines on “real world” projects will sometimes change for reasons beyond your control. You should arrange for your Project Committee members to review your work in a draft stage and address their feedback in the final project.

**Deadline:** To be determined in consultation with Project Committee, but typically a draft should be submitted for review at least six weeks in advance of your defense and documentation of the final project should be submitted with your essay, at least two weeks in advance of the defense.

**MA Essay:** 3,500-word essay that describes the historical context for the project and its significance, situates it in the relevant theoretical and methodological literature, explains the choices you made while completing the project, discusses collaborative aspects of the project, details challenges you faced and how you addressed them, and outlines remaining work required to
realize the project. Append your project documentation to the essay; what this looks like will vary based on the nature of the project, and should be agreed upon in advance with your Project Committee. Your essay must adhere to CLAS's Guidelines for Master's Essay. Please submit a copy of the final essay to the Director of Public History via email in advance of graduation.

**Deadline:** To be determined in consultation with Project Committee, but typically a draft should be submitted for review at least six weeks in advance of defense and the final essay should be submitted at least two weeks in advance of the defense.

**Defense:** In an hour-long meeting, you will make a 7-10 minute presentation on their project and its significance and answer questions from the Project Committee. It is your responsibility to bring a copy of the Master's Final Report for Certifying Fulfillment of Degree Requirements to the defense and ensure that it is signed and properly submitted.

**Deadline:** The defense must be completed and all paperwork submitted in advance of CLAS graduation deadlines. For the 2019-20 academic year, these are:

- December 17, 2019 for Fall graduation
- April 28, 2020 for Winter graduation
- August 12, 2020 for Summer graduation