

Internship Requirements for the Minor in Museum Studies at the University of Wyoming

Goals for Internships in the Museum Studies Minor at UW:

Internships in Museum Studies should provide students with exposure to the workings of individual departments and practical and theoretical training in museum practices, and the role of museums in contemporary society. Such an internship would ideally provide elements of breadth and depth within the institution:

Breadth:

Interns should gain insight into the functions of individual departments and learn about the museum's various operations. Interns should be invited to visit specific departments to become familiar with the spectrum of daily activities behind the scenes. Interns should meet with curators, educators, and other key museum staff who provide a broader understanding of the museum's mission, collections, organizational systems, and programs for visitors. Curators could give talks or tours in conjunction with the museum's exhibitions to explain interpretive strategies and challenges.

Depth:

Working under the supervision of one of the museum's professional staff, interns should contribute to a larger-scale project, involving them with collections, exhibitions, and/or educational programs. Internship projects are based on the museum's needs and should match the appropriate skills and interests of the individual. Ideally, this project would include elements of responsibility and research that correspond with the expectations of academic course credit.

Academic Course Credit:

Hours:

Interns will enroll in 3-6 hours in their major department's internship course number. The calculations for work hours are based on the following formula: 3 hours in a regular class would equal 3 hours of in-class time plus 2 hours per credit hour of studying, etc. Hence, the equivalent in an internship would be:

3 hours credit = 9 hours work/week
6 hours credit = 18 hours work/week

Grading:

1. Students may sign up for S/U (Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory) or the A-F grading scale. S/U credit in the minor is fine, but students must stay under the university requirement of number of hours taken for S/U, for which each individual needs to check with registration and records to be sure that they will not exceed that limit.
2. The instructor of record for the internships will be the Head of the Department in which the student majors. Museum supervisors will communicate with the

department head (or internship coordinator) throughout the semester about grades for the course credit.