Museum Studies Minor (Non-Teaching)

Museum Studies Minor

To understand the cultural significance of museums and to explore contemporary museum practices, Montana State University-Bozeman offers an interdisciplinary minor in Museum Studies that is administered through the Department of History and Philosophy. The Museum Studies minor offers students in many disciplines the opportunity to learn about the role of museums in advancing public education and academic research, to deepen students’ understanding of museums, and to better position them to learn about possible employment in the museum field.

In consultation with a Museum Studies Minor advisor in the Department of History and Philosophy, students in the minor select 12 credits from a secondary field outside their major and appropriate to museum topics. Half of these credits must be at the 300 or 400 level. The goal of this secondary field is for students to develop expertise beyond their major that would be of use to them in a museum career. Generally, all 12 credits should be in one area, though interdisciplinary secondary fields may be considered where intellectually warranted. The minimum number of credits for a non-teaching minor is twenty-one, with nine of those being upper division credits; the Museum Studies Minor must meet this requirement. Students may fulfill this requirement by majoring in one of the following secondary fields if, in addition, they choose 12 credits from an additional one of the secondary fields. Some possible secondary fields are noted below, though other appropriate fields may be considered in consultation with an advisor.

- Anthropology
- Art History
- Biology
- Business Administration
- Education
- English Literature
- English Writing
- Geography
- Geology
- History
- Native American Studies
- Sociology

In addition, all students must take the following Museum Studies (MOR) courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MOR 301</td>
<td>Museum Practices</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HSTR 486</td>
<td>Museum History</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HSTR 498</td>
<td>Internship</td>
<td>3-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>or HSTR 490R</td>
<td>Undergraduate Research</td>
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In consultation with the Museum Studies minor advisor in the Department of History and Philosophy, students select 6 credits of Museum Experience work, either through an internship alone or through a combination of internship and undergraduate research. All students must do at least 3 credits of internship at a museum or other similar institution. Students may earn the remaining 3 credits either by continuing their internship or through an undergraduate research course. The 3 credits of undergraduate research may be done in either their major or secondary fields. Each student’s specific Museum Experience program will be determined in consultation with an advisor in the Department of History and Philosophy, and when appropriate, an advisor in the student’s secondary field.