The program in Museum and Exhibition Studies (MUSE) in the School of Art and Art History supports study and research leading to the interdisciplinary Master of Arts in Museum and Exhibition Studies. The MA in MUSE offers a synthesis of research and professional practice appropriate to professions in museums and exhibitions.

Admission and Degree Requirements

- MA in Museum and Exhibition Studies

MUSE 400. Topics in Museum and Exhibition Studies. 3-5 hours.
Investigation of a problem, topic or issue relevant to the interdisciplinary field of Museum and Exhibition Studies. Content varies. Course Information: 3 to 4 undergraduate hours. 4 to 5 graduate hours. May be repeated for credit. Extensive computer use required.

MUSE 532. Museum Collections. 4 hours.
Practical, theoretical and institutional settings of the museum and exhibition professions. Students meet in seminar environments, read and discuss core texts and ideas; travel to representative exhibition and cultural heritage sites. Course Information: Extensive computer use required. Previously listed as AH 532. Prerequisite(s): Approval of the Department.

MUSE 542. Exhibition Practices. 4 hours.
Core course in exhibition making history and practices. Exposure to the mechanics of preparing exhibitions in physical and virtual environments; exhibition planning, design, management, and marketing. Course Information: Previously listed as AH 542. Prerequisite(s): Approval of the Department.

MUSE 543. Writing for Exhibitions. 4 hours.
Practicum in producing texts for sites across physical and virtual museum and exhibition environments, from labels to exhibition catalogs. Includes digital and virtual exhibition venues. Course Information: Previously listed as AH 543. Prerequisite(s): Approval of the Department.

MUSE 544. Public Engagement in Museums. 4 hours.
Development of methods of audience and public interaction with exhibiting institutions and forms. Includes practicum in publicity, promotion, audience-development assessment. Course Information: Previously listed as AH 544. Prerequisite(s): Approval of the Department.

MUSE 545. Museum Genres, Practices, and Institutions. 4 hours.
History of museums, cultural heritage sites, other sites of preservation and exhibition; includes discussion of contemporary sites of virtual display. Course Information: Previously listed as AH 545. Field trips to multiple cultural sites in the Chicago area. Prerequisite(s): Approval of the Department.

MUSE 546. Seminar in Museum and Exhibition Studies. 4 hours.
Investigation of a problem, topic or issue relevant to the interdisciplinary field of Museum and Exhibition Studies. Content varies. Course Information: Previously listed as AH 546. Field trips required at a nominal fee. Recommended background: MUSE 532 and MUSE 543 and MUSE 545.

MUSE 582. Supervised Internship in Museum and Exhibition Studies. 4 hours.
Practical supervised experience in institutions serving the visual arts. Placements in museums; community arts centers; college, commercial, or non-traditional galleries; public agencies, and commercial and not-for-profit sites. Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. Previously listed as AH 582. Prerequisite(s): Approval of the Department.

MUSE 590. MUSE Paper Research. 0-4 hours.
Students will work with advisors on two qualifying papers: Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. May be repeated to a maximum of 4 hours. Prerequisite(s): Approval of the Program.

MUSE 596. Readings in Museum and Exhibition Studies. 0-8 hours.
Individually planned readings on selected topics under the supervision of a faculty member. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor.

MUSE 597. Project Research. 0-8 hours.
Capstone project appropriate to area of study, developed in consultation with graduate advisor. Projects may cover areas of visual exhibition or professional practice that fall outside traditional boundaries of scholarly research. Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours. Previously listed as AH 597. Extensive computer use required. Prerequisite(s): Approval of the Department.

MUSE 598. MUSE Thesis Research. 0-16 hours.
Individual research under faculty direction. Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours.