JOINT BA FOR SELECT MAJORS/MA IN MUSEUM STUDIES

For undergraduate majors in American Studies, Anthropology, Art and Art History, Journalism, or History who decide that they wish to apply their undergraduate knowledge to work in museums, the department offers a joint bachelor and master degree. Students should apply for the graduate program in their junior year and can take one undergraduate course, and three graduate courses, MST 5304 Collections Management, MST 5309 Museum Education, and MST 5311 Issues in Museum Administration, during their senior year. Having completed the BA, they can graduate after one additional year of study. Students are required to meet all requirements for the BA in their undergraduate major for a total of 124 credit hours.

Admission Process

Students would apply to the graduate program in their junior year. Like the traditional MA program, applications would be due February 15. Successful applicants would begin their graduate coursework the following fall.

Eligibility Requirements

Eligible students must apply for formal admission to the Graduate School. This process will not require the GRE. Students must submit the following:

- Two academic letters of reference
  - One letter of reference must be from a professor in the student’s major degree program.
- One professional letter of reference
  - This letter of reference should come from an individual who can speak to the student’s professional potential. The individual may have supervised the student in a paid or volunteer position or served as an advisor to a student organization in which the student served in a leadership position.
- Personal statement
- Project sample
  - This should be a meaningful project (e.g. an academic paper, a website, an exhibit, a public program, an artwork) that would be included in a professional portfolio.

Eligible students also need to complete the following prior to submitting their application:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MST 1300</td>
<td>Introduction to Museums</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MST 2303</td>
<td>Museum Educational Programming</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MST 3304</td>
<td>Introduction to Cultural Collections</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MST 4308</td>
<td>Introduction to Material Culture</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MST 4301</td>
<td>Nonprofit Perspectives</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MST 4309</td>
<td>Introduction to American Decorative Arts</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MST 4331</td>
<td>Exhibit Design and Preparation</td>
<td>3</td>
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Total Hours: 6

- Interview with the Graduate Program Director to discuss degree planning and program goals.

During the senior year, students must complete the following in order to continue in the joint B.A./M.A. program:

- Earn a B or higher in each course taken toward the completion of the 12 hours of graduate credit in the senior year.

Degree Plan for the Joint BA/MA

Students enrolled in the BA/MA program would fulfill all the requirements of their undergraduate major, and they will also complete an additional 30 hours of graduate study. (Note: MST 5304 Collections Management, MST 5309 Museum Education, and MST 5311 Issues in Museum Administration, taken during the senior year, will count toward both the B.A and the M.A. Students must separately complete all A & S and university requirements for the B.A. in their major for a total of 124 credit hours.)

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<th>Code</th>
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<tr>
<td>MST 5304</td>
<td>Collections Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MST 5309</td>
<td>Museum Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MST 5311</td>
<td>Issues in Museum Administration</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MST 5340</td>
<td>Capstone: Major Issues in Museum Administration</td>
<td>3</td>
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Electives

Select at least 9 hours of 5000-level MST seminars from the following:

- MST 5312 Outreach and Community Relations
- MST 5318 Ethical Issues in Museums, Libraries, and Archives
- MST 5323 Historic Preservation
- MST 5324 Archival Arrangement and Description
- MST 5326 Archival Technology and Digital Collections Management
- MST 5327 Special Topics in Museum Studies
- MST 5328 American Material Culture
- MST 5329 American Decorative Arts
- MST 5331 Design and Management of Museum Exhibits
- MST 5333 Issues in Preservation Management
- MST 5V40 Independent Studies in Museums

The remaining 6 hours of coursework may be completed from the following:

- Any 5000-level MST seminar (see above listing)
- Any 5000-level graduate seminar in a cognate field (i.e. history, English, etc.) listed in the most recent Graduate Catalog, selected in consultation with the Graduate Program Director.
- Any 4000-level course in a cognate field (i.e. American studies, anthropology, art and art history, history, English, etc.) listed in the most recent Graduate Catalog and taught by a member of the graduate faculty, completing the additional requirements designated for graduate credit, selected in consultation with the Graduate Program Director.

Total Hours: 27
Comprehensive Exam
Students will complete a comprehensive exam testing the student’s mastery of the four core areas of museum practice: history and philosophy, museum education, museum collections management, and museum administration.