Digital curation is an emerging field that encompasses the planning and management of digital assets over their full lifetime, from conceptualization through active use and presentation to long-term preservation in a repository for future reuse.

Museums and cultural heritage collections worldwide are now routinely digitizing all collection objects as they are acquired and loaned, not only for access but as documentation in the event of loss, damage, or theft, and to support research on collections and objects. They are also digitizing significant portions or even all of their holdings in order to create the robust websites that the public now expects. In addition, they are acquiring and creating born-digital content, such as digital media art, documentation of heritage sites, historical data in digital formats, administrative records, and scientific research data. The creation and acquisition of valuable digital assets continues at a rapid pace, and cultural heritage institutions now have a critical need for professionals in the field to manage and preserve all types of digital assets to ensure their long-term availability for researchers, educators, internal users, and the public, and to participate in the development and promotion of standards and best practices for digital curation in the scientific and cultural heritage sector.

The Johns Hopkins University Certificate in Digital Curation, offered through the graduate program in museum studies, advances the education and training of museum and other cultural heritage professionals worldwide in this emerging field. The certificate program offers a specialized curriculum that prepares current and aspiring professionals to work with digital collections, exhibitions, and research data to ensure the effective stewardship of our global cultural heritage in all types of museums, from art museums to zoos, and related scientific and cultural heritage organizations. Students in this program will also contribute to the critically needed professional literature in the field.

Admissions Criteria for all Advanced Academic Programs (https://e-catalogue.jhu.edu/arts-sciences/advanced-academic-programs/enrollment-services/admission/)

**PROGRAM SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS**

Applications to the Certificate in Digital Curation will be accepted from:

- Individuals with a bachelor’s degree and at least 3 years of experience working in a museum, library, archive, or related cultural heritage field.
- Individuals with a master’s degree in museum studies or other relevant fields.

In addition to the materials and credentials required for all programs, the Certificate in Digital Curation also requires:

- Statement of Purpose: A 500-word statement describing how your academic and professional experiences have led to your decision to pursue the Certificate in Digital Curation and how this credential will help you succeed in your career goals. Your statement will be reviewed for content, organization, and writing style.

- Recommendations: Two letters of recommendation that verify professional and/or academic accomplishment.

**Curriculum**

Students must take a total of six courses to complete the Graduate Certificate requirements: five required core courses and one elective. All courses are three credits.

**PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>AS.460.670</td>
<td>Digital Preservation</td>
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<td>Foundations of Digital Curation</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Managing Digital Information in Museums and Archives</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>AS.460.673</td>
<td>Digital Curation Certificate Internship</td>
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<tr>
<td>AS.460.674</td>
<td>Digital Curation Research Paper</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Elective Course**

Select one elective from the museum studies curriculum; Collection Management is recommended but another course may be substituted with approval.

Total Credits 18

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

The program prepares students to become leaders in the museum, cultural heritage, and digital curation communities upon successful completion of the program.

By the end of the program, students will be able to:

# Analyze and apply the principles of digital preservation and digital curation.

# Create and assess digital preservation plans and strategies.

# Demonstrate knowledge of key historical materials on digital curation, theoretical perspectives, institutional practices, and legal and ethical concerns.

# Analyze and apply archival principles of appraisal and the management of digital objects in trustworthy repositories.

# Evaluate and apply workflows for the creation and management of digital collections in museum and cultural heritage environments.

# Design and conduct a supervised digital curation research project.

# Apply and promote best practices and standards for digital curation of cultural heritage materials.