

# MUSEUM STUDIES, MASTER OF ARTS

## MA in Museum Studies (<https://advanced.jhu.edu/academics/graduate/ma-museum-studies/>)

To prepare current and future museum professionals to be the visionary leaders of museums in contemporary society, Johns Hopkins University offers an innovative Master of Arts in Museum Studies program. The format of the program itself—offered almost fully online—looks to the future. It offers the expertise of highly regarded professors and museum professionals from around the world, innovative virtual field trips, and global resources from a wide array of museums brought together in new and exciting ways. An international student body provides diverse perspectives and experiences in a dynamic online learning environment.

Museums are more relevant today than ever before. They are responsible for cultural stewardship and serve as a gathering place for communities, a space for reflection, interaction, participation, and learning (on-site and online), and act as an agent of social change. New demands and challenges are emerging in every aspect of the museum landscape. Innovations in information and communication technologies are being integrated into the core strategies of the museum. Museums are increasing in number, expanding in size, and attracting more diverse audiences every day. The museums of the 21st century need leaders who possess a vision for the future and the knowledge and skills to face the challenges ahead.

This program aims to provide a perspective on the theory and practice of museums in a changing technological, social, and political environment for current and future museum professionals. It emphasizes the role of technology as a pervasive aspect in today's museum; examines new models of education, exhibition, and business strategies; and explores the role of the museum in a global society and as an agent of social change.

The Museum Studies program welcomes students interested in all types of museums, including history, technology, science, art, special topic or themed museums, historic sites, national parks, and zoos, and those interested in collections and exhibitions for corporations, government agencies, and private organizations.

## Admissions Criteria for All Advanced Academic Programs (<https://e-catalogue.jhu.edu/arts-sciences/advanced-academic-programs/Admission/#admissionrequirementstext>)

### PROGRAM-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the materials and credentials required for all programs, the Master of Arts in Museum Studies also requires:

- **Resume**
- **Statement of Purpose:** Applicants should provide a statement, up to one page in length, describing their personal background and/or a part of their life experience that has shaped their goals. The statement may elaborate on personal challenges and opportunities

that have influenced the decision to pursue a graduate degree at Johns Hopkins.

#### • Two Recommendations

## Program Requirements

Students must take a total of ten courses:

- Five customizable core courses
- Five elective courses

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Core Courses - Customizable</b>		<b>15</b>
Select one of the following: <sup>1</sup>		
AS.460.601	Exploring Museum Professions	
AS.460.602	Museums in the Digital Age	
Select three of the following: <sup>1</sup>		
AS.460.604	Introduction to Museum Education	
AS.460.606	Exhibition Strategies	
AS.460.608	The Business of Museums	
AS.460.611	History & Philosophy of Museums	
AS.460.621	Museum Evaluation and Audience Research	
AS.460.666	Collection Management	
AS.460.671	Foundations of Digital Curation	
<i>Core Course - Seminar</i>		
Select one of the following (students are limited to one)		
AS.460.610	Two-Week Onsite Seminar	
AS.465.708	Two-Week Onsite Cultural Heritage Management Seminar	
AS.460.752	Museums in a Changing Time: Virtual Seminar	
AS.460.753	Museum Studies Virtual Field Course	
<b>Electives</b>		<b>15</b>
Select five of the following:		
AS.460.615	Museums and Community Engagement	
AS.460.618	Museum Controversies: Ethical Issues in Museums	
AS.460.619	Museums, Race, and Inclusion	
AS.460.620	Accessibility in the Museum	
AS.460.622	Evaluation Projects and Practice	
AS.460.628	Architecture of Museums	
AS.460.632	Practice of Public History	
AS.460.633	Conservation-Restoration: A 21st Century Approach	
AS.460.635	Curatorship: Principles and Practices	
AS.460.636	Living Collections	
AS.460.637	Curating Online Exhibitions and Experiences	
AS.460.639	Material Culture and the Modern Museum	
AS.460.640	Educational Programming for Museum Audiences	
AS.460.649	Shaping Reality: Immersive Technologies in the Museum	
AS.460.655	Museum Marketing and Communications	
AS.460.657	Fundamentals of Museum Fundraising	
AS.460.663	Social Media Strategies for Museums	
AS.460.665	Introduction to Archives	

AS.460.667	Collection Management Systems	
AS.460.668	Cataloging Museum Collections: History, Standards, and Applications	
AS.460.670	Digital Preservation	
AS.460.672	Managing Digital Information in Museums and Archives	
AS.460.673	Digital Curation Internship	
AS.460.674	Research/Capstone in Digital Curation	
AS.460.675	Leadership of Museums	
AS.460.683	Project Management in Museums	
AS.460.684	Museum Finance and the Economy	
AS.460.685	Private Collectors, Collections, and Museums	
AS.460.686	Culturally Specific Museums	
AS.460.687	Provenance Research: Connecting Histories	
AS.460.690	Science, Society, and the Museum	
AS.465.706	Research/Capstone in Heritage Studies	
AS.465.710	The Protection of Global Cultural Heritage: Laws, Policies, Politics, and Advocacy	
AS.465.736	Understanding NAGPRA, Repatriation Laws and Ethical Practice	
AS.460.750	Internship	
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>30</b>

<sup>1</sup> Any customizable core courses beyond those that count toward core requirements may count as electives for your degree.

## Learning Outcomes

Graduates of the Master of Arts in Museum Studies program should be able to:

- Understand the roles and responsibilities of museums and museum practitioners in changing times.
- Develop practical skills in museum work, including communication, collaboration, and planning.
- Generate solutions to current challenges facing museums.
- Analyze museum practices, theories, and methodologies through the lens of diversity, equity, accessibility, and inclusion.
- Analyze the intersection of museum practice and technology.