

Public History Graduate Internship
The University of Texas at El Paso
HIST 5390 (28844)
Spring 2019

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Office hours: Tuesdays 1-2:30 and Thursdays 1-2:30 and by appointment

Course Overview:

History 5390 is a public history internship course designed to familiarize students with the practice of public history through hands-on experience. Interns will perform at least 9 hours of work per week and submit the writing assignments described below.

This course provides students the opportunity to see how the theories and issues in the field of public history actually function. A well-done and well-documented internship can be an asset as students move ahead in their careers as scholars, historians, and public historians. Prior to beginning the internship, students must make arrangements with the internship site that include a schedule and specific work expectations. In order to pass the internship, students must fulfill the course objectives, receive a favorable review from their internship site supervisor, and submit all required assignments. Public History Internships are open to all graduate students in History and, upon approval, to graduate students in fields related to history.

Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, students will:

- Understand how his or her academic training as a historian can be applied in professional workplaces and in advancing the work of public history institutions and organizations.
- Have gained professional-level workplace experience that has utilized the intern's historical training.
- Appreciate the nature of the professional work environment at public history institutions.
- Be familiar with operations of a public history institution, including such things as the institution's mission, vision, leadership structure, staffing, finances, and programming.
- Successfully fulfill the organizational responsibilities as defined by the internship application.

- Have received information and mentorship regarding professional careers, professional organizations, and future employment.

Evaluation:

The intern's supervising faculty member will evaluate the intern's performance based on the following criteria:

- Learning objectives statement: In a short, one page paper describe your learning objectives for the semester. What do you hope to get out of this internship? (Due the first Friday of the semester by noon. Email to yleyva@utep.edu)
- Weekly Journal Entries (7): These journal entries should describe the intern's activities at their internship site. The entries should clearly explain how the internship experience is fulfilling the intern's learning objectives. Each entry should conclude with a reflection on what the student has learned through their internship experience. The entries are due on Friday at noon of weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14) Each entry should be approximately 250-500 words in length and should be emailed to yleyva@utep.edu. Use the subject "Journal entry."
- Final Paper: This paper should describe the work you did during your internship and explore how it connects to your overall graduate education. The paper should culminate in a discussion of how this experience will serve you in your post-graduate career. This paper, which should be 8-10 pages in length, must be submitted to your site supervisor and your faculty supervisor. Due May 15, 2019.
- Written Evaluation from Site Supervisor: A written evaluation from the on-site supervisor is a critical component in determining whether the student has fulfilled their responsibilities as defined in the internship application.