PROPOSAL

MUSEUM STUDIES GRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM
Division of Art History, School of Art
College of Fine Arts, University of Arizona

I. Certificate Name and Description:

The Museum Studies Graduate Certificate Program (MSGCP), sponsored by and affiliated with the graduate degree programs (M.A. and Ph.D.) in the Division of Art History, School of Art, provides high-quality learning experiences derived from leading museum studies research and practice. It equips students with the scholarly methodological tools necessary to negotiate the changing museum sector as it fosters critical faculties and prepares students for further academic research and practice in museum studies.

Museology is a complex and rapidly growing field of study. It examines the roles, function, and social histories of museums, as well as the theory and history of collecting. Theories of cultural transmission, exhibition practices, social history, structures of knowledge and communication, and architectural studies all inform this interdisciplinary field of inquiry. Moreover, recent developments in public policy and the arts have resulted in a reexamination of the manner in which museums have contributed to processes of social formation and the creation of national identity. The MSGCP is situated within an interdisciplinary arena and places the work of museums in its broader historical, social, ideological, and cultural contexts.

The curriculum for the Museum Studies Graduate Certificate Program is designed to enhance the existing degree programs (M.A. and Ph.D.) in Art History for those students seeking scholarly expertise and practical experience in the burgeoning field of museum studies. In fact, the program was first conceived in direct response to the needs of graduate students desiring to merge their advanced art historical studies with a particular interest in institutional history, museological theory, and archival and curatorial practices. Moreover, the program responds to the recent growth of cultural institutions in our region and the rapid emergence of new scholarship in museum studies that now legitimately constitutes an important concentration within the discipline of Art History. Our commitment is to create scholars who can impact the field of museum studies within Art History as well as advance their careers in museum settings.

The theoretical and scholarly approach of the MSGCP to museum theory and history is balanced with real archival and curatorial practice through internships profiting from our close relationship with the Center for Creative Photography, the University of Arizona Museum of Art, the Arizona State Museum, and other relevant cultural institutions in the region. The internships have a significant scholarly component that link the practical work with the academic requirements for the certificate. This dynamic combination of
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- Expectations of academic excellence and rigor are the same as those for the graduate degree programs in Art History. Any grade below a B does not constitute graduate-level work and will not be counted toward the requirements for the MSGCP.

Courses that are designated under the rubric of the MSGCP will be offered each fall and spring semester. All of the following courses have been approved, having undergone the rigorous course review process of the School of Art and College of Fine Arts Curriculum Committees.

ARH 580: Topics in Art History
ARH 582: Connoisseurship: Theory and Practice
ARH 583: Framing Memory: Social History of Museums and Collecting
ARH 596F: Seminar in Photographic History
ARJ 506K: Museological Theory
ARH 596L: Seminar in Museum Studies
ARH 596N: Seminar in American Art

ARH 693A: Art Museum Training
ARH 693B: Curatorial Training
ARH 693C: Archivist Training
ARH 693D: Archives of Photography: Presentation and Cataloguing

ABC 571G: Museum: History, Theory, and Design is offered through the College of Architecture and is taught by Dr. Laura Hollengren, Affiliated Faculty in Art History.

To date, no distance learning courses have been proposed.

Other courses with relevant subject matter may be approved by the Museum Studies Graduate Advisor in the Division of Art History.

Upon completion of the MSGCP, the student will have a sophisticated knowledge of the history and theory of museums and will have applied that knowledge to practical experience in the field. Given the small number of such programs in the nation, it is the expectation that students who complete the MSGCP will be highly competitive in the dynamic scholarly arena of museum studies.

IV: Admission Policies/ Advising/Completion of Certificate Program

Students must be concurrently enrolled in a graduate degree program in Art History (M.A. or Ph.D.) in order to enroll in the Museum Studies Graduate Certificate Program. Students concurrently enrolled in a graduate degree program in the School of Art (M.A. or M.F.A. in Art Education) (M.F.A. in Studio Art) may also enroll in the MSGCP with the written permission of the Museum Studies Graduate Advisor. There are no prerequisites or standardized tests required for admission. Up to six hours of transfer credit hours may be accepted if approved by the Museum Studies Graduate Advisor.
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The Division of Art History has a Chair of Museum Studies who will serve as the Museum Studies Graduate Advisor and will be the principal advisor for all certificate students. The Division also has a Graduate Advisor who may also advise students seeking the certificate.

Given that enrollment in the MSGCP is concurrent with enrollment in a graduate program in the Division of Art History, there should be little additional time needed to complete the requirements of both the degree program and the certificate program. Graduate College rules stipulate that the completion of a certificate program should not exceed four years.

Students must have completed the 18 required hours (University credit) for the MSGCP in order to be awarded the certificate. Pending Graduate College approval, the successful completion of the certificate will be listed on the student's official transcript.

V: Certificate and Student Outcomes

Assessment for student and certificate outcomes will take place biennially, tracking the number of students enrolled, those who completed the requirements, financial resources and/or internships available for support of the students in the program, and the professional and/or academic track of students following completion of the MSGCP.

Our commitment is to create scholars who can impact the field of museum studies within Art History as well as advance their careers in museum settings. The MSGCP is designed to equip students with the scholarly methodological tools necessary to negotiate the changing museum sector as it fosters critical faculties and prepares students for further academic research and practice in museum studies. Assessment will be a valuable tool in determining the successes of this certificate program.

VI: Student Demand for Certificate

The Museum Studies Graduate Certificate Program was first conceived in direct response to the needs of graduate students desiring to merge their advanced art historical studies with a particular interest in institutional history, museological theory, and archival and curatorial practices. Moreover, the program responded to the recent growth of cultural institutions in our region and the rapid emergence of new scholarship in museum studies that now legitimately constitutes an important concentration within the discipline of Art History.

Six students are currently engaged in the course of study for the MSGCP, including the first recipient of the Museum Studies Fellowship. This generous fellowship is supported by the Graduate College and Vice-President for Research at the University of Arizona ($12,000.00 plus tuition and registration waivers) for a period of four years. It suggests a significant level of institutional support for and recognition of the value of such a post-graduate certificate program at the University of Arizona. Moreover, this fellowship will serve as a valuable recruitment tool for high quality students who seek admission to
graduate programs in the Division of Art History but cannot attend due to lack of financial support. The anticipated student enrollment for the MSGCP in any given year is 10-15.

Collaboration with other departments and divisions at the University of Arizona (Center for Creative Photography, Museum of Art, Arizona State Museum, and the College of Architecture) in order to maximize resources and offer our students a rigorous program of study is an integral part of the MSGCP, in particular the internship component.

VII: Expected Faculty and Resource Requirements

The Division of Art History in the School of Art is in an ideal position to offer a post-graduate certificate program in museum studies given the expertise of its faculty and affiliates, the dynamic relationship between Art History and museum studies, and recent hires in both our school and across the campus in related areas. There has been an increase in the Division of Art History faculty; Drs. Julie Hansen and Jennifer Vigil were hired, in part, due to their expertise in the arena of museum studies and its intersection with the History of Art. Dr. Doug Nickel, Director of the Center for Creative Photography, is a member of the Art History faculty and an important member of the MSGCP faculty. Dr. Britt Salvesen, Curator at the Center for Creative Photography is Affiliated Faculty in Art History as is Dr. Laura Hollengreen, College of Architecture, and Charles Guerin, Director, Museum of Art. Dr. Lisa Fischman has recently been hired as the Curator at the Museum of Art and Dr. Hartman Lomawaima, Director, Arizona State Museum has extensive experience with the field of museum studies. As such, at no cost to the School of Art and with no need for additional faculty, there is a large field of expertise within existing faculty and affiliated faculty from which to cover the courses required for the MSGCP.

Faculty:

Pia Cuneo, Ph.D.
Julie Hansen, Ph.D.
Paul Ivey, Ph.D.
Therese Martin, Ph.D.
Keith McElroy, Ph.D.
Sarah Moore, Ph.D.
Doug Nickel, Ph.D.
Mikelle Onari, Ph.D.
Julie Plax, Ph.D.
Jennifer Vigil, Ph.D.
Stacie Widdifield, Ph.D.
Affiliated Faculty:

Lynn Beudert, Ph.D., Art Education, School of Art
David Darts, Ph.D., Art Education, School of Art
Elizabeth Garber, Ph.D., Art Education, School of Art
Laura Hollengreen, Ph.D., College of Architecture
Britt Salvasea, Ph.D., Center for Creative Photography
David Soren, Ph.D., Department of Classics

Museum Professionals:

Lisa Fishman, Ph.D., Museum of Art
Charles Guerin, M.F.A., Museum of Art
Betsy Hughes, M.A., Museum of Art
Hartman Lonawaima, Ph.D., Arizona State Museum
Anne-Marie Russel, M.A., Museum of Contemporary Art, Tucson
Blake Shell, M.F.A., School of Art Gross Gallery