

West Virginia University  
**Public History and Cultural Resource Management**



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[http://history.wvu.edu/graduate\\_programs](http://history.wvu.edu/graduate_programs)

**Director(s):** Melissa Bingmann; Larry Sypolt, Cultural Resource Management Coordinator  
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Established in 1980, the Public History Program admits six to eight students each year. The program offers an MA in History with a concentration in Public History, PhD field in Public History, and a graduate certificate in Cultural Resource Management. Approximately 80 students have graduated from the program.

**Type of Program:** Public History Graduate Program

**Degree(s) offered:** B.A. in History  
M.A. in History  
M.A. in History with a Certificate or Concentration in Public History  
Ph.D. in History  
Ph.D. in History with a Certificate or Concentration in Public History  
Graduate certificate in Cultural Resource Management

**Concentration(s):**

- Cultural Resource Management
- Appalachian Studies
- Civil War Studies

**Course Offerings:**

- Public History Interpretation and Methodology, required, annually
- Local History Research Methods, required, annually
- Introduction to Cultural Resource Management, not required, annually
- Archives, not required; every other year
- Historic Preservation, not required, every other year
- Historic Site Interpretation, not required, every other year
- Historical Administration, not required, every other year
- Museum Studies, not required, every other year
- Oral History, not required, every other year
- Advanced Historic Preservation Methodology and Fieldwork, not required, occasionally
- Historical Archaeology, not required, occasionally
- Collections Management, not required, occasionally

**Thesis required?** No

**Special project required?** Yes

**Description:** An extended applied research project.

**Credit Hour Requirement:** 36

**Internship Required?** Yes

**Who arranges internships?** Director of Public History, Cultural Resource Management Coordinator, Student

**Credit hours earned for internships: 6**

**Who evaluates internship? What are the criteria for evaluation?** Director of Public History and Cultural Resource Management Coordinator. Students are required to develop a six to eight page reflection paper and deliver a presentation to students and faculty.

**Places where students have interned in the past three years:**

- Smithsonian National Museum of American History
- Cheseapeake & Ohio Canal National Historic Park
- Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Memorial Park
- Gettysburg National Historic Park
- Richmond National Battlefield Park
- Arthurdale Heritage, Inc.
- Cockayne House/Marshall County Historical Society
- Preservation Alliance of WV
- WV State Museum
- WV State Historic Preservation Office
- U.S. Army Heritage & Education Center

**Admission Requirements:**

- Minimum GPA: 3
- Statement of Purpose
- Letter(s) of Recommendation
- Transcripts
- Writing Sample
- GRE Aptitude Score

**Financial Aid Available:**

- Loans
- Scholarships
- Assistantships
- Stipends
- Fellowships
- Tuition Waiver

**Maximum annual stipend for:** MA: 10000 PhD: 12200

**Average number of students who receive:** Stipend: 6 Scholarships: 2

**How many students are admitted annually?** BA: N/A MA: 7 PhD: 2

**Placement assistance offered?** Job announcements are disseminated to current students and alumni through listservs. Three students have recently secured employment with the National Park Service through its STEP program as a result of the Department's partnerships with the NPS.

**Employers who have hired your graduates in the past three years:**

- Richmond National Battlefield Park
- Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Memorial Park
- WV State Archives
- Preservation Alliance of WV
- Meadowcroft Rockshelter
- The Jewish Museum of Maryland
- Jefferson National Expansion Memorial
- Appalachian Forest Heritage Area
- Records Management Division, Missouri Office of the Secretary of State
- GAI Consultants
- WV Independence Hall Museum
- Northern Kentucky University
- Wheeling National Heritage Area