Museum Studies MA Course Requirements: Public Engagement

**Museum Studies Program Summary**
The GW Museum Studies program is a 36-credit degree. Upon entering the program, every student will select a Museum Studies concentration in one of four areas of concentration:

- Museum Management
- Collections Management
- Exhibitions and Visitor Experience
- Public Engagement

All students will complete one core course entitled *Museum Ethics & Values*, one internship, five (5) courses as required in the selected concentration, and five (5) electives. Electives may be drawn from within Museum Studies (including a second internship) or up to four (4) courses from outside the program.

Throughout your program, you should work with your advisor to ensure that you will meet program requirements and your own career and educational goals.

**Public Engagement Concentration**
Students learn approaches and techniques for intentional, meaningful interactions between museums and the public to encourage mutual learning and enhance civic life. Courses consider the current and potential role of the museum in a variety of communities; strategies for encouraging dialogue and exchange; and topics such as relevance, multiple perspectives, co-creation, inclusion, access, advocacy, social justice, and civic responsibility. Prepares students for work as outreach directors, public programs managers, event organizers, community engagement specialists, social media managers, and public advocates.

**Required courses**
CMST 6107 Museum Ethics and Values (*during your first year*)
CMST 6501 Internship (*available after your first semester*)
CMST 6703 Museums & Community Engagement
Museums and Social Justice (*course in development -- offered Spring 2021*)

**Select three (3) courses from below**
CMST 6305 Visitor Perspectives: Museum Evaluation
CMST 6501 Internship #2 (*with public engagement focus*)
CMST 6307 Interpreting Historic Sites and House Museums
CMST 6404 Museums and Social Media
CMST 6701 Museum History and Theory

*In some semesters, the William Wilson Corcoran Visiting Professor may offer relevant courses for this requirement.*
Museum Studies Electives
CMST 6101 Museum Management
CMST 6102 Museum Financial Management
CMST 6104 Managing People and Projects
CMST 6105 Museum Fundraising (alternating years)
CMST 6106 Museum Marketing
CMST 6201 Introduction to Collections Management
CMST 6202 Collections Management: Practical Applications
CMST 6203 Preventive Conservation Concepts
CMST 6204 Preventive Conservation Techniques
CMST 6205 Archival Practice
CMST 6206 Digitization & Digital Asset Management
CMST 6301 Museum Exhibition: Curatorial Research and Planning
CMST 6302 Museum Exhibition Design
CMST 6304 Exhibition Development and Scriptwriting
CMST 6305 Visitor Perspectives: Museum Evaluation
CMST 6306 Race, Gender, Sexuality & the Museum
CMST 6307 Interpreting Historic Sites and House Museums
CMST 6403 Museums and Digital Technology
CMST 6404 Museums and Social Media
CMST 6501 Internship #2 (after your first semester)
CMST 6601 Museum Governance (alternating years)
CMST 6601 Community Practicum (when available)
CMST 6601 Critical Visitor Experience
CMST 6601 Issues Related to Collections Policy
CMST 6701 Museum History and Theory
CMST 6704 Museums and Cultural Property

External Electives
Students may select a content area related to their interests and/or previous academic experience for up to four (4) of their classes. While you may select a particular department (history, anthropology), the content area specialty is not necessarily defined by a discipline. You can create your own "interdisciplinary" area and pick courses throughout GW and its consortium schools that support that subject. Some examples include American Studies, African American and diasporic studies, material culture, and nonprofit management.