History Department

Public History Internship

The Rutgers Public History Internship provides practical and meaningful hands-on experience at dozens of historical agencies in New Jersey.

Over 100 different Public History Internships are offered in the Spring, Fall, and Summer semesters. Students interested in pursuing a public history internship must meet with the director of the Public History Program, Dr. Kristin O’Brassill-Kulfan in the semester in which they plan to do an internship. The Public History Internship may be used as the capstone experience for the History major in place of the History Seminar.

Why are public history internships so important?

Internships allow you to put your history skills to work. They allow you to try out a career and learn about the variety of ways you can use your degree, by gaining real-world experience working in museums, archives, libraries, historic sites, and other public and non-profit agencies. Along the way, you learn practical and transferrable skills to carry with you into the job market in almost any field.

Requirements for 506:451 Public History Internship (3 credits):

- Students should be History majors or minors, or completing coursework in a related field, such as American Studies or CHAPS, and in their junior or senior year.
- Before registering, students should make arrangements for the internship with both the History department and the hosting agency. These arrangements should be made in consultation with the internship director, Dr. O’Brassill-Kulfan.
- Students must work a minimum of 112 unpaid hours at the site.
- Students will have the chance to meet biweekly throughout the semester with other interns in their cohort to discuss their experiences, and hear from a variety of guest speakers who work in the field of public history.
- Students will make arrangements for the internship director to visit their site and observe their work.
- Students will submit a final report to the internship director by the last week of the semester.

Please see http://history.rutgers.edu/undergraduate/internships for more information and a list of available internships. Feel free to contact the director, Dr. Kristen O’Brassill-Kulfan, by email at kristin.obrassillkulfan@rutgers.edu or in person in Van Dyck Hall 213C.