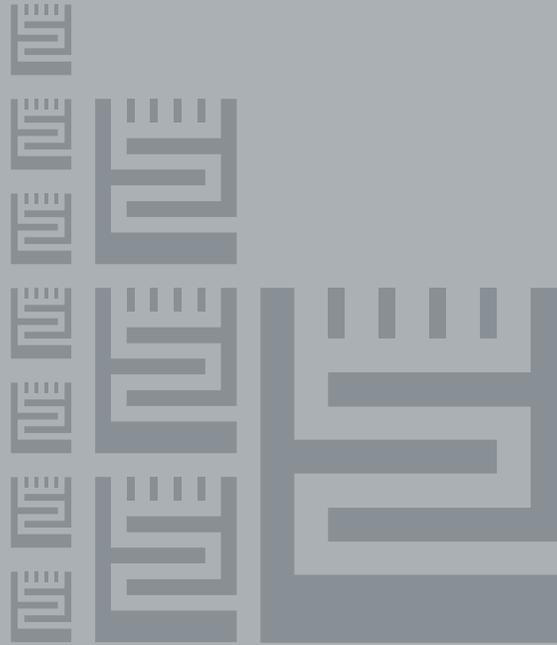




Museums have changed dramatically in the last few decades.

Today's museums are dynamic institutions playing increasingly important roles in the communities they serve. In addition to being a place for collecting, preserving, studying, and exhibiting "things," museums have become vital arenas for learning, exploring, and negotiating the complex relationships that people have with the social and natural environments in which they live.

In response to this movement, the museum profession has seen significant growth and greater demand for qualified museum specialists. It is an arena that offers many exciting opportunities for the application of knowledge, skills, and critical thinking associated with a variety of disciplines.

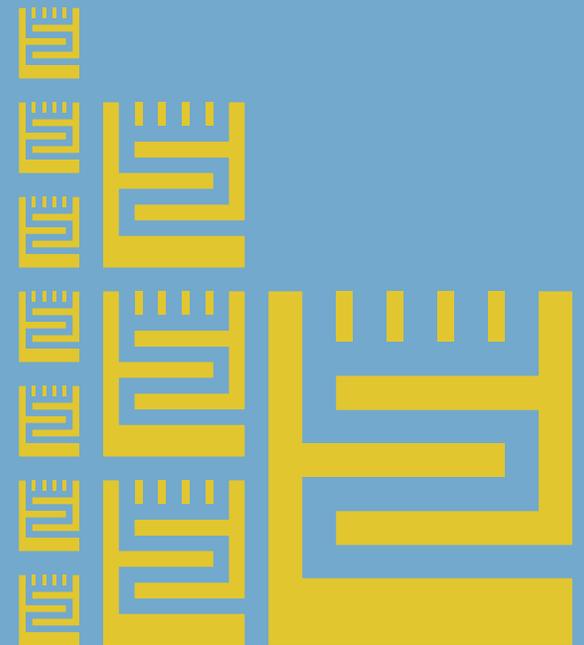


RACKHAM GRADUATE SCHOOL
MUSEUM STUDIES PROGRAM
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Charles H. Sawyer Center for Museum Studies
University of Michigan
525 South State Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1354

734-936-6678
ummsp@umich.edu
<http://ummsp.rackham.umich.edu>

Graduate Certificate in Museum Studies



Rackham Graduate School
University of Michigan



The University of Michigan's unique interdisciplinary graduate program in museum studies draws on the exceptional intellectual and material resources of the university and surrounding region in the arts, humanities, sciences, social sciences and technology.

The Museum Studies Program immerses students in the theory and practice of working with objects and in the places where objects reside. The program views museums as institutions that deal with the preservation and interpretation of inanimate and living collections and with "things" tangible and intangible. Unique objects and collections of objects are considered within their broader physical, social, ideological and institutional contexts.

As an applied theory program, students engage in a critical examination of the ideas and practices that have shaped museums and related institutions, and are provided with opportunities to meld this critical perspective with first-hand experience working in specific institutional settings.

The Museum Studies Program is explicitly cross-disciplinary and cross-cultural in orientation and prepares students for careers in a variety of professional settings including educational institutions, museums, arboreta, zoos, botanical gardens, heritage sites, science centers, archives, and the entertainment industry.

The Museum Studies Program is administered by the Rackham Graduate School. Students who have been admitted to or who are currently enrolled in a graduate degree program at the University of Michigan, or who have received a graduate degree from an accredited university within the last five years, are eligible to apply for admission to the program.

Twelve credit-hours of study are required for the Certificate in Museum Studies, up to six of which may be double-counted with coursework taken in the student's primary field. Students must also complete a Museum Studies practicum. Program requirements are:

- A two-semester proseminar on theoretical, historical and methodological issues in museum studies. The proseminar draws upon the expertise of faculty from across the disciplines and on the knowledge and experience of regional museum professionals. This six credit-hour sequence is offered each year during the fall and winter terms. Students must commit to enrolling in both semesters in a given year.
- Six credit-hours of elective study from courses that have been approved by the Museum Studies Program.
- The Museum Studies practicum is a three-month internship, independent study, or research assistantship, carried out in a museum or related institution virtually anywhere in the world.

The Museum Studies Program offers students further opportunities for engagement through museum site visits, a capstone project, an active program of public events, and access to members of a dynamic regional museum community.

The Museum Studies Program provides stipends to defray the cost of pursuing the practicum requirement. Professional development funding is available to students who have completed the museum studies proseminar. MSP also offers a competitive fellowship for students who have completed the requirements for the Graduate Certificate in Museum Studies and whose doctoral dissertation research is focused on or around museums.

Enrollment in the program is competitive. Admission is limited to roughly twelve students per year. Decisions regarding admissions are made by the program's steering committee.

Students interested in applying to the Museum Studies Program are encouraged to contact the Program's Director. Guidelines for applying for admission are available at:

<http://ummsp.rackham.umich.edu>

About Our Mark

The MSP mark is derived from an ideogram created by the Akan peoples of Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire. The name of the design, nkyinkyin, may be translated "twistings" and embodies ideas of change, resilience, adaptability and creativity.