Museum Studies Minor

OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM:

The 18 hour minor in Museum Studies is located in the College of Liberal Arts/Department of Social Sciences and physically housed at the Frank and Jane Gabor West Virginia Folklife Center. Students who complete the program receive a solid foundation in the various components of museum training including collections management, exhibit development and production, museum interpretation and education, and a broad understanding of museum concepts. Students are prepared for positions in small to medium size facilities as well as for further graduate studies.

History majors may be interested in the practical and professional training provided in the museum studies classes. This training prepares them for entry level careers or graduate study in public history. This minor also complements a variety of other programs of study such as English, folklore studies, art/art history, sociology, education, or natural sciences.

The Frank and Jane Gabor West Virginia Folklife Center is dedicated to the identification, preservation, and perpetuation of our region’s rich cultural heritage. The Center incorporates all processes of the museum setting in its environmental treatment, education, and programming with exhibits (both permanent and changing), management of a growing artifact collection, educational and interpretative offerings to the public, and various publications and library resources. This provides an ideal laboratory for the Museum Studies Program and an excellent in-house experience for students.

I had spent most of my life in Sutton, West Virginia, but it wasn’t until I moved away for several years and then returned that I developed a love for the state and its culture. It was love that gave way to a desire to help share and preserve our state’s unique culture.

I graduated in 2013 from Fairmont State University with a Bachelor of Science in History and a double minor; Folklore Studies and Museum Studies were natural extensions to the study of cultural history. With aspirations to pursue a career in either museums or education, I completed the Master of Education program at Fairmont State University, with an emphasis in Digital Media, New Literacies & Learning in 2014. Now as an employee of the Frank and Jane Gabor West Virginia Folklife Center, I am applying skills acquired in the Museum Studies minor: collections management, exhibit creation, and historical research in application to educational development, both public and private.

FAIRMONTSTATE.EDU/folklife

FAIRMONT STATE UNIVERSITY™
College of Liberal Arts

Tiffany Martin
MINOR IN MUSEUM STUDIES

Required Courses

MUSM 1100  Introduction to Museum Studies ....................... 3
MUSM 2150  Folk Arts or MUSM 3301 Material Culture .......... 3
MUSM 3210  Museum Interpretation and Education............... 3
MUSM 3220  Museum Collections Management.................... 3
MUSM 3230  Museum Exhibit Design and Construction......... 3
MUSM 4290  Museum Practicum/Internship/Capstone........... 3

CONTACT INFORMATION

Dr. Francene Kirk
Interim Director,
Frank & Jane Gabor West Virginia Folklife Center
Francene.Kirk@fairmontstate.edu
Phone: (304) 367-4403

Dr. Joshua Smallridge
Chair of Social Sciences, College of Liberal Arts
110 Hardway Building
jsmallridge@fairmontstate.edu
Phone: (304) 367-4740

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