“If you are interested in any aspect of history and think about doing something outside of academia with it—get involved with that activity or organization or subfield or whatever it may be. Just get involved” Lincoln Bramwell, chief historian, National Park Service, Perspectives on History, May 2014

“… getting some public history training, an internship, a summer job, or something like that, even if it’s just something small, shows employers that you are interested in a variety of ways of doing history.” LuAnn Jones, historian, Park Service Program, NPS, Perspectives on History, May 2014

Course Description:
HST 599/698 Internship in Public History
Prerequisite: 60 hours and permission of the department head and host institution.
Supervised and approved work in a public or private agency which manages a museum, archive, or historic sites. One credit hour is awarded for each 40 hours of service. May be repeated for credit but only 3 hours may be counted towards the BA, BSEd, or MA major in History. May be taught concurrently with HST 698. Cannot receive credit for both HST 698 and HST 599.
Credit hours: 1-3 Internships may or may not include a stipend.

Students may also arrange internships at other public or private agency, museum, archive or historic site.
History Museum on the Square

Learn the realities of working in a small museum. Design, install and break down exhibits. Learn proper handling and housing of archival material. Do historic research in the archives.

Ozarks Lesbian and Gay Archives Oral History Project

Receive training to conduct interviews with individuals for oral history projects. Record interviews with members of the region’s LGBT community, as well as other advocates for gay rights.

Meyer Library Archives

An internship in Special Collections and Archives is intended to give the student an introduction to archives and rare book librarianship. While the experience will vary based on the department’s needs, the overall experience will include introductions to a range of archival principles and practices. Students might be involved with appraising and processing archival collections, digitizing materials, preservation of books and archival material, and exhibit development.

Nathan Boone State Historic Site

Work with Park Superintendent in general management of the park. Write your own tour based on historic research in the park archives. Interact with public giving tours appropriate for age group and interests. Curate artifacts found on the site.

Wilson’s Creek National Battlefield

In the museum and archives, students will receive orientation to natural and cultural resources, and career opportunities in the National Park Service. Work on a special project coordinated with your research interest in the museum collection or archives.

Interns in visitor service will gain experience in interpretation, giving tours to various age groups, and creating brochures, exhibits and trail guides.

Missouri State Archives Local Records Program

Learn to prepare public records for permanent preservation. Clean, repair, process and index 19th century court records.

Work with professional archivists learning document handling, preservation techniques, processing, record analysis, arrangement and description.

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