

MESSIAH COLLEGE
History Internships

Recently, the History Department added a required experiential learning component to its curriculum. Students can choose from a variety of options including a study abroad or internship experience. The internship experience helps students “learn by doing.” This means that history related internships should have two fundamental components. First, the experience should have a disciplinary focus, involving some form of historical research. Secondly, interns should have an opportunity to present the results of their research in written form. Messiah history majors possess many valuable skills gained through research and writing enriched coursework such as Historical Methods and Historiography/Philosophy of History. In addition, the department now offers a concentration in Public History for students who wish to focus on public preservation and representation of history.

What skills will Messiah history majors bring to your organization?

- Ability to conduct research and synthesize ideas
- Ability to clarify problems or situations
- Ability to document a conclusion and present it clearly and logically
- Ability to interpret both past and present events
- Ability to read carefully and extract relevant data
- Ability to discern long-term developmental trends within complex data
- Ability to assess conflicting interpretations of data
- Critical thinking, analytical thinking, and problem solving skills
- A broad knowledge of economics, social dynamics, political events, cultural formation and the interactions between these forces in history
- Communication proficiency (both oral and written forms)
- Organization (of information and people)
- Proficiency for accurate details
- Appreciation of ethical concerns
- Interpersonal relations skills
- Leadership and management skills

What kinds of internships can history majors do?

- Archives
- Museums
- Historical Libraries and Societies
- Historical Preservation
- Historical Research
- Public History

For more information about Messiah College History Department:
Visit our website at: www.messiah.edu/history