

Rochester INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Minor Program proposal form

college of Liberal Arts

**Department of Performing Arts & Visual Culture and Department of History**

**Name of Minor:** Museum Studies

**Brief description of the minor to be used in university publications**

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| The Museum Studies minor provides students with a foundation in the history and practice of the museum as an institution and in the history, theory, and practice of collecting, exhibiting, and preserving the cultural heritage that define the purpose and function of the museum. Courses cover a wide range of topics that are relevant to contemporary museology: the history of museums and collecting, the technical study of art and materials, the history and theory of exhibitions, interactive design, public history, the rise of the museum profession, legal and ethical concerns, and conservation. This minor is closed to students majoring in museum studies. |

**1.0 Minor Program Approvals**

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|  | Approval request date: | Approval granted date: |
| Academic Unit Curriculum Committee | 27 March 2013 | 29 March 2013 |
| College Curriculum Committee | 30 April 2013 | 30 April 2013 |
| Inter-College Curriculum Committee | 8 May 2013 | 8 May 2013 |

**2.0 Rationale:**

A minor at RIT is a related set of academic courses consisting of no fewer than 15 semester credit hours leading to a formal designation on a student's baccalaureate transcript

How is this set of academic courses related?

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| Each of the courses in the Museum Studies minor relates to the broad and interdisciplinary field of museology, focusing on its history, theory, and practice. Museums, archives, libraries, galleries, and collections are the venues within which most members of our society interact with art, history, and science, and students in a wide range of disciplines will benefit from understanding the history and function of these institutions. In this minor, students will learn about the history of museums and collecting, study the technologies of art materials, and investigate the history and practice of public history, exhibition design, interactive design, and conservation. |

**3.0 Multidisciplinary involvement:**

If this is a multidisciplinary minor spanning two or more academic units, list the units and their role in offering and managing this minor.

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| The Department of Performing Arts & Visual Culture and the History Department offer courses in the minor. One elective course from each department is required for the minor. The Director of the Museum Studies program will manage the minor. |

**4.0 Students ineligible to pursue this minor:**

The purpose of the minor is both to broaden a student's college education and deepen it in an area outside the student’s major program. A minor may be related to and complement a student’s major, or it may be in a completely different academic/professional area.   It is the responsibility of the academic unit proposing a minor and the unit’s curriculum committee to indicate any home programs for which the minor is not a broadening experience.

Please list below any home programs whose students will not be allowed to pursue this minor, provide the reasoning, and indicate if this exclusion has been discussed with the affected programs:

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| BS Museum Studies |

**5.0 Minor Program Structure, Sequence and Course Offering Schedule:**

Describe the structure of the proposed minor and list all courses, their anticipated offering schedule, and any prerequisites.

* All minors must contain at least fifteen semester credit hours;
* Minors may be discipline-based or interdisciplinary;
* In most cases, minors shall consist of a minimum of two upper division courses (300 or above) to provide reasonable breadth and depth within the minor;
* As per New York State requirements, courses within the minor must be offered with sufficient frequency to allow students to complete the minor within the same time frame allowed for the completion of the baccalaureate degree;
* Provide a program mask showing how students will complete the minor.

Narrative of Minor Program Structure:

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| The minor provides students with a broad and interdisciplinary overview of museology, beginning with the required courses MUSE 220 Intro to Museums & Collecting and MUSE 221/HIST 221 Intro to Public History. Students must choose three electives, at least one from MUSE and one from HIST.  Required:  MUSE 220 Introduction to Museums & Collecting  MUSE 221/HIST 221 Introduction to Public History  Optional (choose any three, at least one from MUSE and one from HIST):  MUSE 222 Panel Painting  MUSE 223 Historic Photographic Processes  MUSE 224 History and Theory of Exhibitions  MUSE 356 Interactive Design for Museums  MUSE 438 Conservation and Analysis  HIST 322 Monuments and Memory  HIST 323 America’s National Parks  HIST 324 Oral History  HIST 325 Museums and History |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Course Number & Title | SCH | Required | Optional | Fall | Spring | Annual/Biannual | Prerequisites |
| MUSE 220 Introduction to Museums & Collecting | 3 | X |  | X |  | Annual | none |
| MUSE 221/HIST 221 Introduction to Public History | 3 | X |  |  | X | Annual | none |
|  | 3 |  | X | X |  | Annual | none |
| MUSE 223 Historic Photographic Processes | 3 |  | X |  | X | Annual | none |
| MUSE 224 History and Theory of Exhibitions | 3 |  | X |  | X | Annual | none |
|  | 3 |  | X |  | X | Annual | none |
|  | 3 |  | X | X |  | Annual | none |
| MUSE 489 Special Topics | 3 |  | X |  |  | Annual | none |
| HIST 322 Monuments and Memory | 3 |  | X | X |  | Annual | none |
| HIST 323 America’s National Parks | 3 |  | X | X |  | Annual | none |
| HIST 324 Oral History | 3 |  | X | X |  | Annual | none |
| HIST 325 Museums and History | 3 |  | X |  | X | Annual | none |

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| Total credit hours: | 15 |

**Minor Course Conversion Table: Quarter Calendar and Semester Calendar Comparison**

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| **Directions: The tables on this page will be used by the registrar’s office to aid student’s transitioning from the quarter calendar to the semester calendar.**  **If this minor existed in the quarter calendar and is being converted to the semester calendar please complete the following tables.**  **If this is a new minor that did not exist under the quarter calendar do not complete the following tables. This is a new minor.**  Use the following tables to show minor course comparison in quarter and semester calendar formats. Use courses in the (2011-12) minor mask for this table. Display all required and elective minor courses. If necessary clarify how course sequences in the quarter calendar convert to semesters by either bracketing or using some other notation. |

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| Name of Minor in Semester Calendar: |  |
| Name of Minor in Quarter Calendar: |  |
| Name of Certifying Academic Unit: |  |

| **QUARTER: Current Minor Courses** | | | **SEMESTER: Converted Minor Courses** | | |  |
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| Course # | Course Title | QCH | Course # | Course Title | SCH | **Comments** |
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