Not only did I learn how to be a historian through the public history program at Texas State University, but I discovered how to bring that knowledge to everyday people, to compel them to think critically about their past as well.

– Sarah Marshall, M.A. ’12,
Texas Historical Commission

Students apply public history skills and methods to the study, documentation, preservation and management of historical and cultural resources.

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Department Mission
The mission of the History Department at Texas State University is to shape exceptional scholars and broaden historical horizons by offering a rigorous program for students who are passionate about history and about furthering their education. Small classes and close mentoring with top research faculty mean a personalized graduate experience and access to a close-knit community of scholars. Hands-on learning immerses students in historiographical debates, tightens analytical and writing skills and develops research abilities. The department is committed to the highest levels of academic excellence and to providing top-quality mentoring and training for its students.
Why choose Texas State?
San Marcos offers a rich locale for public history practice with more than 50 history museums, archives, preservation organizations and historic sites within a 100-mile radius, including The LBJ Presidential Library and Museum, the San Antonio Missions, the Bullock Texas State History Museum and the Texas State Library and Archives.

Students gain practical skills and knowledge through internships and Center for Texas Public History projects. Partnerships and interdisciplinary cooperative agreements provide additional resources that enhance each student’s experience.

Course Work
The master of arts in history with a specialization in public history is available with a thesis or a non-thesis option. The non-thesis option requires 36 credit hours, 18 of which must be in designated public history courses. Students also take 18 hours of history courses in an approved period, region or thematic area. The thesis option requires 39 credit hours, including the general research seminar and six hours of thesis credit. Collaborative efforts with the Center for Texas Music History, the Center for the Study of Southwest, the Center for International Studies and the Center for Texas Public History complement outstanding scholarship and curricular opportunities throughout the graduate program.

Faculty
The History Department boasts an impressive faculty known for their varied research projects and professional expertise. The curriculum takes full advantage of established scholars and practicing professionals in the fields of historic preservation, oral history, local and community history, historic site interpretation, cultural resource management, and museum and archival management. Areas of faculty specialization include American, European, Latin American, East Asian, South Asian and West and North African history as well as Public History.

Career Options
This program prepares students for public history careers in a variety of settings and leads students to pursue doctoral studies. Graduates find professional employment in historic preservation, oral history, historic site interpretation, public programming, museums and archives management.

Important Deadlines*
Admissions
Priority Fall: February 15
Fall: June 15
Spring: October 15
Summer: April 15
Summer midterm: June 1

Funding: Scholarships, Fellowships and Assistantships
Applications must be complete by the priority deadline to be considered for funding.

How to Apply
For information regarding admission requirements and submission instructions, please visit:
gradcollege.txstate.edu/apply

*International applicants can view specific deadlines and requirements at:
gradcollege.txstate.edu/international

For information on deadlines, admission requirements and funding, visit:
gradcollege.txstate.edu/programs/history