

Graduate Certificate in Historic Preservation

Program Policy Statement

Program Overview

In a world of rapid change, historic preservation professionals help revitalize and sustain communities by recognizing and preserving the stories embodied in their built heritage. They also encourage the reuse of existing buildings and infrastructures for a more sustainable future. Training in historic preservation theory and practice prepares students for a number of careers in the private and public sectors, and also enhances the work of professionals in fields like policy, planning, public history, architecture, and landscape architecture. Preservation practitioners ensure that historic resources are considered during planning and policy development at local, state, national, and international levels. They carry out original scholarship on architectural history, cultural landscapes, and other topics related to the built environment, as well as prepare nominations for the National Register of Historic Places and National Historic Landmark programs. They also document historic properties through measured drawings and photography; conduct historical research with primary and secondary sources and incorporate oral history techniques; and conduct cultural surveys that contribute to the creation of historic districts and heritage tourism.

The 12-credit Graduate Certificate in Historic Preservation was established in 2010 and grew out of an earlier Concentration in Historic Preservation within the MA program in Urban Affairs and Public Policy. It serves many types of students:

- Those new to preservation who wish to gain an overview of the field and some specific skills in survey and documentation. This can include staff and board members of preservation advocacy groups, cultural resource management firms, architects, or community members from varied backgrounds who are interested in historic resources.
- Practicing preservation professionals for whom a certificate program will update and upgrade their knowledge of current theory and state of the field, and who wish to improve their skills in documentation practices.
- Students in the UD Biden School's MA Program in Urban Affairs and Public Policy who can add the Certificate as their Area of Research, to integrate historic preservation concerns into a larger context of urban and regional planning.

- Students in other UD Masters or PhD programs (such as the Winterthur Program in American Material Culture and the MALS Program) who would like to add historic preservation skills and the additional credential to their professional portfolio.
- Undergraduate students who would like to add a related graduate credential simultaneously with obtaining their undergraduate degree (such as those in Public Policy, Art Conservation, History, Landscape Architecture, and others).

Admission Requirements

Admission requirements and procedures differ somewhat depending on whether an applicant is a current UD undergraduate or graduate student, or is an external applicant seeking to apply to the Historic Preservation Certificate Program. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis, and students can begin either in Fall or Spring semesters.

- External applicants apply online through the Graduate Admissions portal on the UD Graduate College website (<https://www.udel.edu/academics/colleges/grad/prospective-students/grad-admissions/>). Applicants must hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited four-year College or University. Required elements are the online application form, undergraduate transcripts, and a short essay on why the candidate is interested in the program. GRE scores and letters of recommendation are not required.
- Current UD graduate students from any degree program can add the Historic Preservation Certificate Program using the Graduate Certificate Enrollment Request Form available at: <http://www1.udel.edu/gradoffice/forms-new/gradcertificate-enrollment.pdf>
- Current UD undergraduate students can add the program using the Graduate Certificate Enrollment Request Form for Current Undergraduate Students available at: <http://www1.udel.edu/gradoffice/forms-new/undergrad-cert-approval-form.pdf>

Academic Requirements

The Graduate Certificate in Historic Preservation requires 12 credit hours.

Two 3-credit core courses are required:

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| UAPP629 | Historic Preservation Theory and Practice (3) [taught every Fall semester] |
| UAPP630 | Methods in Historic Preservation (3) [taught every Spring semester] |

The remaining 6 credits can be chosen from the following courses:

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| UAPP613 | Planning Theory and Urban Policy (3) |
| UAPP618 | Traditional Architectural Materials (3) |
| UAPP627 | World Heritage Sites (1) |
| UAPP631 | Documentation of Historic Structures (3) |
| UAPP636 | Research Topics in Historic Preservation (3) |
| UAPP652 | Geographic Information Systems in Public Policy (1) |
| UAPP654 | Architecture of Everyday Life (3) |
| UAPP706 | Planning Sustainable Communities and Regions (3) |
| ANTH663 | Archeology, Engagement, Heritage (3) |
| EAMC607 | British Design History 1530-1930 |
| EAMC609 | Craftsmanship in America |
| MSPE605 | Park and Site Management (3) |
| MALS627 | Studies in Material Culture: Architecture of Delaware (3) |

Other relevant courses can be substituted with permission of the program director.

Undergraduate students adding the Graduate Certificate should ensure they are enrolled in these graduate-level sections and not in an undergraduate 400-level section.

For all students, Certificate courses must be taken for a grade rather than with a Pass/No Pass option (with exceptions for Spring and Fall 2020 semesters due to temporary UD COVID-19 pandemic accommodations). Each course must be completed with a grade no lower than B-.

Financial Aid

University or Biden School financial aid is not available to students enrolled solely in the Historic Preservation Graduate Certificate Program. However, for all students, part-time paid research assistantships are often available at the Center for Historic Architecture and Design. Certificate students work on a variety of projects that involve the development of skills useful in professional positions in historic preservation, planning, or public policy. The type and number of positions depends upon available project funding.

Program Operations

The program is administered by the Joseph R. Biden, Jr. School of Public Policy & Administration's Center for Historic Architecture and Design. A Program Director oversees the administration of the program with the support of the core program faculty, who also come from the faculty and staff of that Center.