The Art History Department of the University of Illinois at Chicago offers a Master of Arts in Museum and Exhibition Studies—MUSE. MUSE is an interdisciplinary program with a social justice focus. It emphasizes the evolving social and political contexts of today’s cultural institutions and provides students with the experience necessary to thrive in a multitude of positions, including as curators and exhibit developers, gallery directors, museum educators, and social media influencers.

Past and present places of employment for MUSE alumni include:

- Women’s Board Education Fellow, the Art Institute of Chicago;
- Community Engagement and Programming Coordinator, Rebuild Foundation;
- Visitor Service Engagement Representative, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum;
- Project Manager for Marketing & Development, Adler Planetarium;
- Research Assistant, MIR Appraisal Services;
- Botany Contractor, Smithsonian Institution, Museum of Natural History;
- Collections Assistant, The Field Museum of Natural History;
- Academic Operations Facilities Specialist, Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design;
- Invertebrate Zoology Contractor Smithsonian Institution, Museum of Natural History; Associate Registrar, John Michael Kohler Arts Center.
Full-time resident students take five core courses that focus on exhibition-making, collections, writing for exhibitions, strategies for public engagement, and museum genres and histories; select five elective courses that support their interests; participate in a supervised internship; and complete a capstone activity (thesis or project) during the two-year program. MUSE uses Chicago’s many museums and cultural spaces as classrooms. UIC’s Jane Addams Hull-House Museum and Gallery 400 serve as the program’s teaching partners and support in-depth research and practice opportunities.

Recent Capstone Titles:

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<td>Reinterpreting Ethnographic Collections: Online Community Curation of the Philippine Collection at The Field Museum</td>
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