

ANNOUNCEMENT

UConn Maritime Studies

Paid Summer Museum Internship

Spend your summer as a paid intern at Mystic Seaport Museum. See how the academic subjects you've studied at university get translated into public history.

UConn Maritime Studies is seeking applicants for the 2025 AIMS/UConn Maritime Museum Studies internship. This internship explores the many facets of public history work through academic exploration and hands-on practice in public engagement, research, and program development. The program benefits students enrolled at the University of Connecticut Maritime Studies program with an interest in the public humanities, particularly museum work, historical research, or public engagement. This is a paid internship.

UConn interns earn three credits as MAST 3991. The internship is expected to run 10 weeks, from June 2 through August 8 or later. **Priority will be given to applications received by March 14, 2025.** Applications submitted after that date will be considered only as space allows. See application below. Preference will be given to Maritime Studies students and other students majoring in 4-year degrees at Avery Point. Questions can be directed to Professor Syma Ebbin at syma.ebbin@uconn.edu.

2025 Theme: Museums and the Semiquincentennial

"This moment is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to renew public engagement with history. It is a chance for Americans to learn about and reflect upon the full sweep of our nation's past, celebrating examples of liberty, courage, and sacrifice while reckoning with moments of injustice, racism, and violence. The occasion calls on us to use knowledge of our country's past—beginning millennia before 1776 and continuing to the present— to build a stronger future." *Making History at 250: The Field Guide for the Semiquincentennial*, American Association for State + Local History

This summer, we'll explore the role of museums in commemorating the nation's Semiquincentennial in 2026. We'll explore – and critically examine - the themes set forward by the American Association for State + Local History: Unfinished Revolutions; Power of Place; We the People; the American Experiment; and Making History. In collaboration with the Museum's America 250 Committee, interns will develop projects, programming, and research that expand and challenge existing narratives of commemoration, and center more inclusive, community-grounded storytelling.

Interpretation + Research

The AIMS/UConn Maritime Museum Studies intern will split their time between engaging with Museum visitors as an interpreter in the Museum's Interpretation Department and conducting independent research to develop new content and/or programs for exhibition spaces on the Museum's campus.

As part of the Interpretation Department, the intern will may lead tours, participate in living history demonstrations, interact with visitors inside Museum galleries, and more. They will facilitate visitor conversations and educational experiences, as well as gain experience in public engagement and historical interpretation.

Interns will also tackle independent projects with host departments across the Museum in preparation for the nation's Semiquincentennial in 2026. Depending on project work, interns will develop skills in areas such as curatorial and archival research, interpretive and educational content development, public program development, or others.

Professional Development

The intern will also join the wider cohort of Mystic Seaport Museum Summer Interns. As a cohort, interns will participate in common teambuilding activities, professional development sessions, and discussion seminars around emergent topics in the field of public humanities and engagement. Interns will also participate in a weekly museum studies course, exploring museum theory, procedures, and ethics, as well as critical perspectives and best practices around the 250th.

The summer internship period will run for 10 weeks from June 2 – August 8 or later. Interns should expect to work onsite at Mystic Seaport Museum for 35 hours/week and should expect to work at least one weekend day per week.

Application for
UConn Maritime Studies (MAST)
Paid Summer Museum Internship

Instructions: Please provide the information requested. For each question, please submit a well-written statement. Submit your application by email to syma.ebbin@uconn.edu. Priority will be given to applications received by March 14, 2025.

Name: _____

Address: _____

UConn email: _____

Phone number: _____

Major: _____

Class year: _____

Name of a faculty member willing to serve as a reference (we will contact them; there is no need for them to write a letter.) _____

Check which of these classes you have taken:

MARN/MAST 1001E ____

MAST 2101 ____

ANTH/MAST 3531 and/or 3532 ____

ECON/MAST 2467E ____

ENGL/MAST 3652/3652W and/or 3653/3653W ____

GEOG/CE 2500 and/or GEOG/MAST 3600 ____

HIST/MAST 2210E and/or 3544 ____

POLS/MAST 3832 and/or MAST 2300E ____

Other MAST courses and/or internships (please list) ____

Please attach a copy of your resume.

Answer the following two questions (typed, double-spaced).

1. Provide a clear, full statement explaining why you are interested in interning at a museum. Discuss any course work or other experiences you have that might be relevant to museums.

2. This internship will require students to work independently and steadily throughout the summer on a project. Please describe any experiences you have had working independently, either in the context of a course or outside of classes.