



Evaluation Criteria

Reviewers will use the following evaluation criteria to rate your application.

Background, Interests, and Achievements

- Evidence of sustained academic achievement or continued improvement (as demonstrated by transcripts and letter of recommendation)
- The candidate takes on a high level of responsibility, demonstrates maturity, and/or community engagement (employment experience, volunteer work, leadership service), demonstrating readiness for a “semester away” experience at the Smithsonian.

Museum Career Interest Statement

- **Enthusiasm for Museums:** Demonstrates clear enthusiasm for museums as places to work with an understanding of museums’ role society or communities.
- **Museum Career Alignment:** Clearly articulates career goals and how they align with one or more museum subfields offered by the program.
- **Relevant Skills and Experiences:** Details specific skills, personal, academic, or professional experiences with clear connection to how these will shape their contributions to the program and/or museum work.
- **Interest in Latino Art, History, and Culture:** Provides thoughtful connections explaining interest in museum studies through a Latino art, history, and culture lens.

Practicum Selection Interest Statements

- Demonstrates strong understanding of the practicum’s learning outcomes.
- Highlights relevant skills, experiences, and technical qualifications as relevant to the practicum.
- Practicum selection aligns to applicant’s career goals

Portfolio

- Portfolio demonstrates relevant skills, knowledge, or experience for selected practicums or the program overall.

Overall Application Assessment

- Overall application materials demonstrate strong alignment with a non-curatorial museum career and the mission of the Latino Museum Studies Program.