

Undergraduate Research Opportunity

PROJECT

Local Museums: Archives & Collections Research

Experience

Erin Craft

History

Hours required p/week:	9
Credits anticipated:	3

The collections at the Arizona Historical Society (AHS), Tempe History Museum, and the Arizona Jewish Historical Society broadly represent Arizona History and are invaluable to researchers of various disciplines and the public. Students will work with Senior Program Coordinator Erin Craft and Professor Mark Tebeau, as well as the archivists, collections manager and librarians at one or more of the three museum locations, to engage in hands on work surrounding digital and physical collections and archive management. Tasks might include item evaluation, collection management, exhibit design, or research, and will be designed to meet student's skill and interests as much as possible.

TEMPE

STUDENT

Research assistant's duties:

Student duties will include working with the staff at the Arizona Heritage Center (one of AHS's museums), the Tempe History Museum, or the Arizona Jewish Historical Museum to process collections; data entry; writing; collection care; evaluation of artifacts; and assisting collections manager and archivists as needed. Student will need to be available for in-person work for four hours per week during operating hours at the museums. (M-F, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.). Student will be required to attend one virtual meeting per week with other public history students.

Required skills or qualifications:

Desired qualifications include strong writing and communication skills; research experience; time management skills, basic computing skills, and an interest in archives, collections, exhibits or museums. Seats are limited each semester, so preference will be given to Upper Division students majoring or minoring in History or similar degree program. Student must live within the greater Phoenix Metro area.

Skills student will acquire:

Students will learn various aspects of working in an archive or physical collection and working within the museum field. Tasks may include evaluating items in a collection; organizing materials; archival research; curating items in a digital exhibit or collection; artifact preservation; creating programming around an exhibit or event; and digital resource collection and curation.