

NVCC (Loudoun)  
Public History and Historic Preservation Certificate Program  
May 2021 Update

Please let us know of any ideas or suggestions that you might have.

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### **Advisory Committee, 2021-2023**

Christopher Barbushchak, archivist, Virginia Room, Fairfax County Public Library

Heather Bollinger, Historic Records Center Manager, Fairfax Circuit Court

Jackie Cohan, City Records Administrator and Archivist, City of Alexandria, Va.

Archives & Records Center

Stanley Contrades, program graduate, Senior Military Operations Analyst

Paige Gibbons-Backus, Historic Site Manager, Prince William Historic Preservation  
Division

Tracy Gillespie, historic site manager, NOVA Parks

Cynthia Liccese-Torres, Historic Preservation Program Coordinator, Arlington County  
Government

Patrick O'Neill, History Interpreter, Archaeologist

Jana Shafagoj, Director of Preservation & Education, Morven Park

John Sprinkle, Bureau Historian, National park Service

### **Impact of covid**

Negative: prevented us from offering the field archaeology course last summer (2020)  
and this summer (2021)

Positive: Using zoom (synchronous) instruction increased course accessibility to  
students outside of the immediate Northern Virginia region, maybe 10% of our  
enrollment. We'd like to expand this.

Neutral: We had to make some curricular changes to courses because students couldn't  
go to off-campus sites (negative), but we balanced that by the increased use of guest  
lecturers in our classes, made easier by zoom (positive).

### **Courses offered this year**

Fall 2020: HIS 180 Historical Archaeology and HIS 183 Survey of Museum Practice

Spring 2021: HIS 181 Introduction to Historic Preservation and HIS 187 Interpreting  
Material Culture

Summer 2021, we have scheduled HIS 186 Collection Management

Also, Charlie taught our HIS 218, Introduction to Digital History (online)

### **Student enrollment**

Fall 2020 (37 students)

HIS 180: 19

HIS 183: 13 (most since Fall 2017)

HIS 190: 5

Spring 2021 (39 students)

HIS 181: 21

HIS 187: 18

Summer 2021 (26 students)

HIS 186: 16

HIS 190: 3

HIS 218: 7

Fall 2021 (23 students as of today, with three months to go)

HIS 181: 14

HIS 183: 8

HIS 190: 1

For comparison:

Fall 2019 (24 students)

HIS 180: 18 (at Alexandria Campus)

HIS 183: 5 (at Loudoun Campus)

HIS 190: 1

Spring 2020 (24 students)

HIS 181: 12 (at Loudoun Campus)

HIS 187: 10 (at Annandale Campus)

HIS 190: 2

### **Our guest experts**

Chris Barbushchak

Heather Bollinger

Cynthia Liccese-Torres

Patrick O'Neill

Jana Shafagoj

John Sprinkle

### **More guest experts**

Drew Gruber, Civil War Trails

Sarah Janesko, Veterans Curation Project

Chris Milko, Slavery Inventory Database

Rob Orrison, Prince William County Historic Preservation Division

Steve Phan, National Park Service, Civil War Defenses of Washington

Emma Richardson, Historic Alexandria

Maureen Santelli, Professor of History at NOVA's Woodbridge campus

Pastor Michelle Thomas, Loudoun Freedom Center

Kacey Young, Purcellville Historical Society

### **Historical markers**

Over the course of fall 2019, spring 2020, fall 2020, the museum class, with the assistance of Professor Al Carroll (Loudoun), designed a new historical marker for the Anker's historic site on the grounds of the campus.



Currently, material culture classes have been working on some historical markers for the Annandale campus.

### **Certificate graduates**

2019-2020 (summer, fall, spring) 7 graduates

2020-2021 academic year 6 graduates

Summer 2020 2

Fall 2020 2

Spring 2021 2

We are on pace for maybe 10 graduates this academic year, 2021-22.

### **Mary Washington**

As of last spring, 2021, we have finally reached agreement with Mary Washington's undergraduate B.A. historic preservation program.

Mary Washington will accept our HIS 181 Introduction to Historic Preservation course as their HISP Introduction course and our HIS 180 Historical Archaeology course as their HISP the American Built Environment. They will also accept our HIS 183 Survey of Museum Practice and HIS 187 Interpreting Material Culture courses as major electives. In other words, a student who completes our certificate program will arrive at Mary Washington with 12 major credits towards their B.A. preservation degree program.

At NOVA, students intending to transfer to Mary Washington will aim for completion of our Liberal Arts Associate Degree.

Hopefully we will be able to send a student to Mary Washington sometime.