The certificate in folklore studies enables students to explore the processes of tradition that move through multiple expressive forms, such as folktales, folk beliefs, folk medicine, folk art, folksong, and literature. As a discipline based on ethnographic fieldwork, folklore studies offers students a chance to work in communities and collect living traditional materials that are critical to human identity and values. Interdisciplinary by nature, folklore thrives on local particularities as well as compelling global connections.

This certificate prepares students for careers in cultural agencies, governmental organizations, and teaching institutions, and advanced study in folklore and in the humanities.

The graduate certificate in folklore studies may be pursued on a part-time or full-time basis.

Admissions & Policies

Admissions

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions. For information specific to the graduate certificate in folklore studies, see Application Requirements and Deadlines (http://english.gmu.edu/programs/la-cerg-flks/application).

Requirements

Certificate Requirements

Total credits: 18

For policies governing all graduate certificates, see AP.6.8 Requirements for Graduate Certificates.

Core Courses

Pathways to Folklore Scholarship

- ENGH 681 Advanced Topics in Folklore Studies

Total Credits: 3

1. Topic must be Pathways to Folklore Scholarship. May also be repeated for additional credit when topic is different.

Required Courses

Select three courses from the following:

- ENGH 526 Special Topics in the History and Criticism of Children's Literature
- ENGH 590 Topics in Folk Narrative

Total Credits: 9

Electives

Select 3 credits of a relevant elective with the prior written approval of the director.

Total Credits: 3

Research Course

Select one research course from the following:

- ENGH 701 Research in English Studies
- HIST 610 The Study and Writing of History
- SOCI 634 Qualitative Research Methods

Total Credits: 3