

Department of History

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History is not the memorization of names and dates; it is the study of human experience in all aspects. An understanding of the past is essential to interpreting the present and envisioning the future. History is by nature interdisciplinary and multi-cultural. Each course trains the student to think, to evaluate problems, and to reach logical conclusions. Special attention is given to the development of analytical and writing skills through essay examinations and research projects.

A degree in history provides excellent preparation for careers in international business, government/military service, law, education, library science, communications/media, and tourism/recreation.

The Department of History offers courses of study leading to the B.A. or the B.S. degree and has a staff of eight full-time professors who hold the Ph.D. degree. Currently there are 150 undergraduate history majors. Double majors can be arranged easily.

History faculty members also advise and participate in courses for majors in American studies, environmental science, international studies, interdisciplinary studies, and Latin American studies and for minors in religious studies, women's studies and American Indian studies.

Graduate study is offered in American, English, European (medieval through modern), and Latin American history. The degree programs include Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy, for which dissertation topics are limited to the fields of the North American West, U.S. since 1877, historical archaeology, and Europe since 1750.

Students applying for admission to graduate study in history must be approved by the majority of the history faculty. Students seeking graduate degrees in history must present recent GRE scores, an undergraduate transcript with at least a 3.00 average in all history courses and a 2.80 overall average that shows at least 12 credits earned in a foreign language. The language requirement is waived for those seeking the M.A.T.

Courses

See Part 6 for courses in History (Hist).

Undergraduate Curricular Requirements

HISTORY (B.A.)

Required course work includes the university requirements (see regulation J-3), the general requirements for the B.A. degree, and:

Lower-division courses selected from the following (9 cr):

- Hist 101-102 History of Civilization (6 cr)
- Hist 111-112 Introduction to U.S. History (6 cr)
- Hist 180 Introduction to East Asian History (3 cr)

Hist 290 The Historian's Craft (3 cr)

Upper-division history courses, including a seminar in senior year (27 cr)

Related fields (20 cr)

HISTORY (B.S.)

Note: Students expecting to study for an M.A. or Ph.D. degree in history should take the B.A. rather than the B.S. degree.

Required course work includes the university requirements (see regulation J-3), the general requirements for the B.S. degree, and:

Lower-division courses selected from the following (9 cr):

- Hist 101-102 History of Civilization (6 cr)
- Hist 111-112 Introduction to U.S. History (6 cr)
- Hist 180 Introduction to East Asian History (3 cr)

Hist 290 The Historian's Craft (3 cr)

Upper-division history courses, including a seminar in senior year (27 cr)

Related fields (20 cr)

Any combination of the following (12 cr):

- Any foreign language (high-school foreign language may be substituted at the rate of 4 cr per year)
- Engl 257-258 Literature of Western Civilization (6 cr)
- FLEN 313 Modern French Literature in Translation (3 cr)

FLEN 315 French Cinema (3 cr)
FLEN 323-324 German Literature in Translation (6 cr)
FLEN 363-364 Literature of Ancient Greece and Rome (6 cr)
FLEN 391 Hispanic Film (3 cr)
FLEN 392 Contemporary European Fiction Film (3 cr)
FLEN 393 Spanish Literature in Translation (3 cr)
FLEN 394 Latin American Literature in Translation (3 cr)

Academic Minor Requirements

HISTORY MINOR

History courses chosen from the following* (9 cr):

Hist 101-102 History of Civilization (6 cr)
Hist 111-112 Introduction to U.S. History (6 cr)
Hist 180 Introduction to East Asian History (3 cr)

History courses at the 300- or 400-level (at least 3 cr in U.S., Latin American, or African history and at least 3 cr in Ancient, European, or Asian history) (9 cr)

History elective (3 cr)

*For demonstrable cause, department chair or minor advisor may allow substitution of courses numbered above 100-level.

Graduate Degree Programs

Candidates must fulfill the requirements of the College of Graduate Studies and of the Department of History. See the College of Graduate Studies section of Part 4 for the general requirements applicable to each degree. Detailed information about requirements and procedures related to these programs is available in printed form from the head of the department.

Master of Arts. General M.A. requirements apply. This thesis and non-thesis degree is offered in all fields of history for which faculty is currently available. The work toward an M.A. degree stresses preparation for research as well as a balanced course program.

Doctor of Philosophy. The Ph.D. program is primarily oriented to research and writing to prepare the candidate for entry in a career in higher education. Among the requirements for the degree are the successful passage of comprehensive examinations covering three general and one specialized field of history, the demonstration of a reading knowledge of one foreign language (normally French, German, Spanish, Russian, or Italian), and the completion of a dissertation showing original research. Dissertation topics are limited to the fields of United States since 1877, North American West (U.S., Canada, and Mexico), historical archaeology, and Modern Europe (1750-present). Dissertations focusing on historical archaeology are to be undertaken with the collaboration of anthropology faculty specializing in this field.