

Department of History

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Field Description

The Department of History has three paramount aims for its undergraduates, whether they are majors, minors, or students in the required core courses.

First, we foster an appreciation for studying the past for its own sake, in all its variety, ambiguity, and strangeness. To this end, each course emphasizes the exploration and interpretation of primary sources, the raw materials with which historians construct the narrative of the past.

Second, the faculty aims to help students understand that the past has shaped the present. We ask them to participate in the never-ending dialogue between the past and the present by encouraging them to explore difficult questions: What happened? Why did it happen? What were the consequences? What were the dominant values and the dissident voices? How did different cultures and societies interact? How did contemporaries and later generations differ in interpreting events? What are the context and meaning of the changes that have occurred in business, medicine, economics, politics, religion, culture, urban affairs, and gender and race relations? After exposure to these questions, students enter the world personally enriched and better equipped for whatever profession they choose.

Third, the department understands its role in educating students for effective membership and leadership in a global political, social, and economic community by providing an historical understanding of the major world cultures. In courses that range from ancient to modern times, from Asia to New York City, and from the history of women to African-American history, we try to contextualize the world for students.

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The Major

History majors are required to take at least eight history courses (24 credits) numbered 3000 and above. They are encouraged to take courses in at least three of the six different geographical areas of our curriculum; these areas are Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, The United States, and Global, Comparative, or Transnational History. Majors are required to take the Capstone Course (History 4900). Students may take six credits toward their majors in other departments, if the courses are related to their program of study; prior consultation with a history department advisor is required.

Program Learning Goals

Upon completion of a major in History, students will be able to:

1. Identify and explain significant issues and trends in parts of the globe.
2. Place people and events within their historical contexts and relationships and with regard for race, gender, and other diverse experiences and identities.
3. Explain change over time.
4. Describe the factors that caused the major transformations in any epoch, be they social, economic, political, or cultural.
5. Identify and explain the theses, major arguments, strengths, and weaknesses of scholarly books and journal articles.
6. Locate primary and secondary sources and explain their evidentiary merit.
7. Use primary and secondary evidence to support observations and claims.
8. Produce a written work of historical research that demonstrates proficiency in the other goals.

Major Course Requirements

Program Prerequisite - Complete one of the following courses:

HIS 1000	Themes in American History	3 credits
HIS 1001	Themes in Global History to 1500 C.E.	3 credits
HIS 1003	Themes in Global History Since 1500 C.E.	3 credits
HIS 1005	Modern American History	3 credits

Required Course:

HIS 4900	Capstone Course: In Search of History	3 credits
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Electives:

Africa

HIS 3061	Survey of African History (BLS 3061)	3 credits
HIS 3062	Women in African History (BLS 3062)	3 credits
HIS 3063	History of the African Diaspora (BLS 3063)	3 credits
HIS 3065	The History and Archaeology of Ancient Egypt	3 credits
HIS 3815	History of African Religions (REL 3815)	3 credits

Asia

HIS 3080	A Survey of Asian History (AAS 3080)	3 credits
HIS 3084	The Historical Search for the Prophet Mohammed (REL 3084)	3 credits
HIS 3085	The Islamic Middle East and North Africa: 622-1789	3 credits
HIS 3086	The Modern Middle East and North Africa (POL 3086)	3 credits
HIS 3346	The Rise of Asia in World Affairs (AAS 3346), (POL 3346)	3 credits
HIS 3446	History of Modern Iraq	3 credits
HIS 3780	Vietnam at War (AAS 3780)	3 credits
HIS 3820	History of Chinese Religion (AAS 3820), (REL 3820)	3 credits
HIS 3841	Ancient India	3 credits
HIS 3842	The Making of Modern India (POL 3842)	3 credits

HIS 3851	The Heritage of Chinese Civilization (AAS 3851)	3 credits
HIS 3852	Modernization and Westernization in Asia	3 credits
HIS 3853	The Emergence of Modern Japan (AAS 3853)	3 credits
HIS 3854	China in Revolution (AAS 3854)	3 credits

Europe

HIS 3011	Ancient Greece	3 credits
HIS 3012	The Ancient World: Rome	3 credits
HIS 3016	Europe in the Age of the Renaissance	3 credits
HIS 3100	Jesus—A Historical and Critical Approach (REL 3100)	3 credits
HIS 3221	European Thought in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries	3 credits
HIS 3222	European Intellectual History in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries	3 credits
HIS 3250	The Third Republic in France	3 credits
HIS 3340	Women in Europe: Ancient to Modern	3 credits
HIS 3351	Russia Under the Tsars	3 credits
HIS 3352	The Russian Revolution and the Soviet Regime	3 credits
HIS 3360	Topics in European History	3 credits
HIS 3538	The Holocaust in History and Memory (JWS 3538)	3 credits

Latin America and the Caribbean

HIS 3010	Central America: A Regional Study	3 credits
HIS 3020	Afro-Brazilian History (LACS 3020)	3 credits
HIS 3025	Race, Class, and Gender in Brazil (LTS 3025)	3 credits
HIS 3070	History of Civilizations in Latin America	3 credits
HIS 3071	History of Colonial Latin America	3 credits
HIS 3072	History of Modern Latin America	3 credits
HIS 3073	History of U.S.-Latin American Relations	3 credits
HIS 3075	History of Caribbean Civilizations	3 credits

The United States

HIS 3005	Social Welfare Policy (POL 3005)	3 credits
HIS 3008	Religion and Politics in the United States (POL 3008), (REL 3008)	3 credits
HIS 3041	Colonial America: From Settlement to Independence	3 credits
HIS 3044	The Civil War and Reconstruction: 1850-1880	3 credits
HIS 3055	The Sixties in America (BLS 3055), (LTS 3055)	3 credits
HIS 3056	The Civil Rights Movement (BLS 3056), (LTS 3056)	3 credits
HIS 3060	African American History (BLS 3060)	3 credits
HIS 3102	American Conservatism: Origins, Development and Contemporary Controversies (POL 3102)	3 credits
HIS 3345	Asian American History (AAS 3345)	3 credits
HIS 3400	City and Suburb in Twentieth-Century America	3 credits
HIS 3140	History of American Business Enterprise	3 credits
HIS 3415	U.S. Economic History	3 credits
HIS 3450	History of American Medicine	3 credits
HIS 3455	Science and Technology in American Life	3 credits
HIS 3456	American Intellectual History	3 credits
HIS 3456	Topics in American History	3 credits
HIS 3472	American Urban History	3 credits
HIS 3550	The Immigrant in American History	3 credits
HIS 3551	History of the People of the City of New York	3 credits
HIS 3552	The Great Depression, 1929-1940	3 credits
HIS 3560	History of the Jewish People in America	3 credits
HIS 3650	Women in America	3 credits

Global, Comparative, or Transnational History

HIS 3009	Topics in the History of Globalization	3 credits
HIS 3110	Food History	3 credits
HIS 3230	Modern Imperialism	3 credits
HIS 3367	Comparative Revolutions	3 credits

HIS 3380	Contemporary Islamic World	3 credits
HIS 3390	Naval Battles and Society: A Global History	3 credits
HIS 3420	American Foreign Relations in the Twentieth Century	3 credits
HIS 3430	World War II: A Global History	3 credits
HIS 3445	History of the Cold War	3 credits
HIS 3860	Topics in African, Asian, or Latin American History	3 credits
HIS 3890	Encounters in Global Ancient Empires	3 credits
HIS 3950	Special Topics in Global History	

Methods

HIS 3495	Hands-On History	3 credits
HIS 3500	Colloquium in History	3 credits
HIS 5000	Independent Research and Reading in History	3 credits
HIS 5100	History Internship	3 credits
HIS 6001H HIS 6002H HIS 6003H	History Honors, I, II, and III	3 credits

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The Minor

The minor in history is designed to provide an in-depth understanding of the discipline for students who are majoring in other academic areas. Students can choose electives from different regions, such as Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, The United States, and Global, Comparative, or Transnational History. History combines perfectly with studies in international business, economics, business ethics, or finance, as well as many other fields.

To complete the history minor, students take three upper-level courses (9 credits). Two of these courses must be at the 3000-level, followed by [HIS 4900](#), the history capstone course. Interested students should consult with the history department.

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Special Program

Honors Program in History

History majors and other interested students will be admitted to the program in their junior or senior year. All students will be required to have had at least 12 hours of history courses with B+ average in history and a general average of B. Students falling short of these requirements may be admitted to the program upon the recommendation of two history faculty members.

The honors program may consist of two tutorials taken consecutively and devoted to reading and researching an area of the students choice. For College requirements for honors, see the Honors Programs section of this bulletin.

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Courses

Courses in History (HIS)

HIS 1000	Themes in American History	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 1001	Themes in Global History to 1500 C.E.	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 1003	Themes in Global History Since 1500 C.E.	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 1005	Modern American History	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 1512	Introduction to the Religions of Asia	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 2013	Medieval Civilization	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 2022	Europe in the Eighteenth Century	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 2023	Europe in an Era of Revolution	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 2031	Nineteenth Century Europe	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 2032	Europe in the Early Twentieth Century	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 2033	Europe and the World Since 1945	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 2050	Modern America, 1880-1945	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 2053	Recent America, 1945 to the Present	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 2090	The Third World in the Modern Era	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 2165	Classical Buddhism	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 2170	Classical Chinese Philosophy	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 3005	Social Welfare Policy (POL 3005)	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 3008	Religion and Politics in the United States (POL 3008), (REL 3008)	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 3009	Topics in the History of Globalization	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 3010	Central America: A Regional Study	3 hours; 3 credits
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HIS 3012	The Ancient World: Rome	3 hours; 3 credits

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HIS 3061	Survey of African History (BLS 3061)	3 hours; 3 credits
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HIS 3445	History of the Cold War	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 3446	History of Modern Iraq	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 3450	Health Care in America: 1800 - Present	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 3455	Science and Technology in American Life	3 hours; 3 credits
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HIS 3854	China in Revolution (AAS 3854)	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 3860	Topics in African, Asian, or Latin American History	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 3890	Encounters in Global Ancient Empires	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 3950	Special Topics in Global History	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 4900	Capstone Course: In Search of History	3 hours; 3 credits
HIS 5000	Independent Study History I	Variable hours and credits
HIS 5001	Independent Study History II	Variable hours and credits
HIS 5002	Independent Study History III	Variable hours and credits
HIS 5003	Independent Study History IV	Variable hours and credits
HIS 5100	History Internship	6 - 8 hours; 3 credits
HIS 6001H	Honors History I	3 hours; 3 credits per semester
HIS 6002H	Honors History II	3 hours; 3 credits per semester
HIS 6003H	Honors History III	3 hours; 3 credits per semester

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