

History, B.A.

The Major in History

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Overview

History (HIS) is a research- and writing-intensive major that emphasizes analysis of change over time and in-depth understanding of the societies, cultures, economies, political systems and conflicts that have shaped our world. History electives focus on areas of faculty expertise such as science, technology, race, culture, public health, environment, gender, labor, war, politics, sports, education, and criminal justice.

All majors take Introduction to Historical Research & Writing (79-200, 9 units) and the capstone Advanced Seminar in History (79-420, 12 units), where they conduct individualized projects using archival and other primary sources. Several students have published the results of their research, and we are exploring new ways to facilitate future publication of students' research in both undergraduate and professional history journals.

The broad analytic, research, and writing skills cultivated by the History major prepare students for success in a wide variety of graduate and professional schools, and for exercising leadership in careers in business, law, government, education, journalism, public policy, social work, the armed services, Foreign Service, media, museums and libraries. Often, history graduates pursue post-undergraduate professional school, such as law, business administration, education, public policy, urban planning, librarianship, journalism, the ministry, and social work.

For students interested in pursuing a professional career in History, options today include not only research and teaching -- our graduates have earned Ph.D. degrees at Harvard, Northwestern, and other major universities -- but also expert positions as historians in museums, archives, historic sites, the armed services, media outlets, and other public history venues.

History may be elected as a **primary** or an **additional** major; the requirements for each are the same.

Curriculum

All students in the History major are required to complete two reading- and writing-intensive courses: Introduction to Historical Research & Writing (79-200, 9 units), and Advanced Seminar in History (79-420, 12 units), which is regularly offered in the Fall semester of the senior year. Students must earn a final grade of "C" or better in these two courses in order to fulfill the requirements for the History major.

Students in the History major are also required to take at least one of the following general education courses: Genocide and Weapons of Mass Destruction (79-145, 9 units) Introduction to the History of Science (79-160, 9 units), or Democracy and History: Thinking Beyond the Self (79-189, 9 units). In addition, students must take two historical *survey courses* from a wide range of attractive options that include most major regions of the world. Otherwise, students enjoy great flexibility: they are free to take additional survey courses or to specialize in thematic topics or regions of the world that are of special interest to them.

Students may "double-count" a maximum of four courses for the History major that are used to fulfill the requirements of other majors and programs--with the notable exception of the Ethics, History, and Public Policy major, for which a student can double-count a maximum of two courses.

The Major in History

93 units

I. Required General Education Course 9 units

	Units
79-145 Genocide and Weapons of Mass Destruction	9
79-160 Introduction to the History of Science	9
79-189 Democracy and History: Thinking Beyond the Self	9

II. Required History Department Courses 21 units

79-200 Introduction to Historical Research & Writing	9
79-420 Advanced Seminar in History	12

III. Required Survey Courses (choose two) 18 units

79-110 Introduction to the Medieval Mediterranean World	9
79-112 Introduction to Asian American History	9
79-116 Introduction to the Modern Middle East	9
79-120 Introduction to African American History: Black Americans and the World	9
79-170 Introduction to Science, Technology, and Society	9
79-174 Introduction to Latin America	9
79-202 Flesh and Spirit: Early Modern Europe, 1400-1750	9
79-203 The Other Europe: The Habsburgs, Communism, & Central/Eastern Europe, 1740-1990	9
79-204 American Environmental History	9
79-205 20th Century Europe	9
79-206 Crime and Punishment in Early Modern Europe	9
79-211 Modern Southeast Asia: Colonialism, Capitalism, and Cultural Exchange	9
79-212 Jim Crow America	9
79-223 Mexico: From the Aztec Empire to the Drug War	9
79-225 West African History in Film	9
79-226 African History: Earliest Times to 1780	9
79-227 Modern Africa: The Slave Trade to the End of Apartheid	9
79-240 U.S. History and Culture	9
79-241 The Holocaust: What You Should Know and Why	9
79-242 African American History: Reconstruction to the Present	9
79-245 Capitalism and Individualism in American Culture	9
79-246 War, Genocide, and Gender in Modern Europe	9
79-248 U.S. Constitution & the Presidency	9
79-249 20th Century U.S. History	9
79-250 Voting Rights: An Introduction	9
79-255 Modern Ireland: Politics and Culture from the Famine (1847) to Today	9
79-260 Nazi Germany: A Practical History	9
79-261 The Last Emperors: Chinese History and Society, 1600-1900	9
79-262 Modern China: From the Birth of Mao ... to Now	9
79-265 Russian History: Game of Thrones	9
79-266 Russian History and Revolutionary Socialism	9
79-269 Russian History: From Socialism to Capitalism	9
79-270 Anti-Semitism Then and Now: Perspectives from the Middle Ages to the Present	9
79-272 Coexistence and Conflict: Muslims, Christians and Jews in Spain and Portugal	9
79-288 Bananas, Baseball, and Borders: Latin America and the United States	9
79-320 Women, Politics, and Protest	9
79-329 Introduction to Queer Studies	9

IV. History Elective Courses 45 units

Students must complete 45 elective History units (*typically 5 courses*) for the History major. Any History Department courses not fulfilling another major requirement may be chosen as an elective.

History majors have considerable flexibility in choosing their elective courses, but should consult with the Academic Advisor, Beth Jameson, History Department, Baker Hall 240A, in making their selections.

For a complete list of elective course options in History, please consult the History course descriptions elsewhere in this catalog. The selections below are designed to give you a sense of the great variety of thematically centered courses (in addition to the survey courses listed earlier) that History Faculty members regularly teach:

79-115	Introduction to Jewish Studies	9
79-122	Ancient Mediterranean Civilizations	9
79-150	Medieval Science, Magic, and Wonders of Nature	9
79-153	Ancient Rome: How Often Should You Think About It?	9
79-155	Introduction to African American Studies	9
79-175	Moneyball Nation: Data in American Life	9
79-178	Equality Under the Law	9
79-201	Introduction to Anthropology	9
79-207	Asian American History through the Novel	9
79-208	Witchcraft and Witch-Hunting	9
79-210	Identity, Ethnicity, and Place in Modern China	9
79-218	Tiananmen Square and Popular Protest in Modern China	6
79-220	Screening Mexico: Mexican Cinema, 1898 to Present	9
79-221	From Compton to Kabul: Sound, Power, and Global History	9
79-234	Technology and Society	9
79-236	Gender and Sexuality in Eastern Europe	9
79-237	Comparative Slavery	9
79-239	Theories of Nationalism	9
79-243	The Civil War in American Memory	6
79-247	African Americans, Imprisonment, and the Carceral State	9
79-252	"Harriet": Harriet Tubman, Slavery, and the Underground Railroad	6
79-255	Modern Ireland: Politics and Culture from the Famine (1847) to Today	9
79-256	Introduction to Masculinity Studies	9
79-257	Germany and the Second World War	9
79-260	Nazi Germany: A Practical History	9
79-264	Tibet and China: History and Propaganda	9
79-267	The Soviet Union in World War II: Military, Political, and Social History	9
79-268	World War I: The Twentieth Century's First Catastrophe	9
79-273	Jews & Arabs: From the Time of Muhammad to the Present	9
79-276	Beyond the Border	9
79-278	How (Not) to Change the World	9
79-280	Coffee and Capitalism	9
79-281	Introduction to Religion	9
79-283	Anthropology of Energy	9
79-289	Animal Planet: An Environmental History of People and Animals	9
79-290	The Slave Passage: From West Africa to the Americas	9
79-292	China and the West	9
79-296	Religion in American Politics	6
79-297	Technology and Work	9
79-298	Guns, Gun Cultures, and Gun Violence in American History	6
79-300	History of U.S. Immigration Policy	9
79-302	Killer Robots? The Ethics, Law, and Politics of Drones and A.I. in War	9
79-303	Pittsburgh and the Transformation of Modern Urban America	9
79-304	History of Eugenics and Scientific Racism	9

79-305	Global Perspectives in LGBTQ+ History	9
79-313	"Unwanted": Refugees, Asylum Seekers, and Patterns of Global Migration	6
79-314	How Do We Remember? The Politics and Cultures of Memory	9
79-315	The Politics of Water in Global Perspective	9
79-316	Photography, the First 100 Years, 1839-1939	9
79-317	Art, Anthropology, and Empire	9
79-318	Sustainable Social Change: History and Practice	9
79-319	India Through Film	9
79-322	Stalin and the Great Terror	9
79-328	Photographers and Photography Since World War II	9
79-330	Medicine and Society: Health, Healers, and Hospitals	9
79-331	Body Politics: Women and Health in America	9
79-338	History of Education in America	9
79-339	Juvenile Delinquency & Film: From Soul of Youth (1920) to West Side Story (1961)	6
79-340	Juvenile Delinquency & Film: From "Boyz N the Hood" (1991) to "The Wire" (2008)	6
79-342	Age of Crusading, 1000-2000	9
79-343	Education, Democracy, and the Arts	9
79-345	Roots of Rock & Roll	9
79-346	U.S. Political Films and Satire	9
79-350	Early Christianity	9
79-352	Christianity Divided: The Protestant and Catholic Reformations, 1450-1650	9
79-355	Fake News: "Truth" in the History of American Journalism	6
79-357	Science and the Body	6
79-359	Truth, Lies, and Conspiracies	9
79-360	Crime, Policing, and the Law: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives	9
79-363	The Rise of Modern Golf, 1860 to Present	9
79-368	Un-natural Disasters: Societies and Environmental Hazards in Global Perspective	6
79-371	African American Urban History	9
79-373	Culture and Revolution: The Socialist Experiment in Soviet Russia	6
79-377	Food, Culture, and Power: A History of Eating	9
79-378	Gender in South Asia	9
79-379	Experimental Ethnography	9
79-380	Hostile Environments: The Politics of Pollution in Global Perspective	9
79-383	The History of Capitalism	9
79-385	Out of Africa: The Making of the African Diaspora	9
79-387	Battle Ground of Ideologies: The Spanish Civil War and Legacies of Fascism	9
79-392	Europe and the Islamic World	9
79-393	Institutions of the Modern Church	9
79-395	The Arts in Pittsburgh	9

Sample Curriculum

First-Year	Second-Year		
Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring
79-145 Genocide and Weapons of Mass Destruction or 79-189, Democracy and History: Thinking Beyond the Self	HIS Survey Course	HIS Survey Course	HIS Elective Course
First-Year Writing Requirement	36-200 Reasoning with Data	General Education Course	General Education Course
Grand Challenge Seminar	General Education Course	General Education Course	Third Course (open)
General Education Course	Fourth Course (open)	Fourth Course (open)	Fourth Course (open)
General Education Course	Fifth Course (open)	Fifth Course (open)	Fifth Course (open)
99-101 Core@CMU			

Third-Year		Fourth-Year	
Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring
79-200 Introduction to Historical Research & Writing	HIS Elective Course	79-420 Advanced Seminar in History	HIS Elective Course
HIS Elective Course	HIS Elective Course	Second Course (open)	Second Course (open)
General Education Course	General Education Course	Third Course (open)	Third Course (open)
General Education Course	Fourth Course (open)	Fourth Course (open)	Fourth Course (open)
Fifth Course (open)	Fifth Course (open)	Fifth Course (open)	Fifth Course (open)

The table above represents a four-year plan for completing all requirements for the History Major. Students may declare the major and begin course requirements as early as the second semester of their first year. Students should meet with the department's Academic Advisor, Beth Jameson, Department of History, Baker Hall 240A, for both short- and long-term course planning.

* Some History majors choose to apply for the senior honors thesis program. The department strongly encourages students to take advantage of this option.

V. Courses in Other Departments that Satisfy History Elective Requirements (up to 27 units)

Students may satisfy the elective requirements in History with *up to 27 units* of the following courses offered by other departments in Dietrich College:

76-230	Literature & Culture in the 19th Century	9
76-239	Introduction to Film Studies	9
76-295	Russian Cinema: From the Bolshevik Revolution to Putin's Russia	9
80-135	Introduction to Political Philosophy	9
80-226	The Nature of Scientific Revolutions	9
80-335	Social and Political Philosophy	9
82-245	New Directions in Hispanic Studies	9
82-247	US Latinos Literature	9
82-293	Russian Cinema: From the Bolshevik Revolution to Putin's Russia	9
82-327	The Emergence of the German Speaking World	9
82-427	Nazi and Resistance Culture	9
84-275	Comparative Politics	9
84-322	Nonviolent Conflict and Revolution	9
84-324	The Future of Democracy	9
84-325	Contemporary American Foreign Policy	9
84-362	Diplomacy and Statecraft	9
84-380	US Grand Strategy	9
84-386	The Privatization of Force	9
84-389	Terrorism and Insurgency	9
88-234	Negotiation: International Focus	9
88-281	Topics in Law: 1st Amendment	9
88-284	Topics of Law: The Bill of Rights	9

VI. History Internship 3-9 units

79-505	Social & Political History Internship	3-9
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The History program strongly encourages students to locate internship opportunities in Pittsburgh or elsewhere that complement their historical interests (as, for example, in a museum or historical society) or in areas of policy research that complement their historical interests (as, for example, in a government agency or non-profit organization). The Academic Program Manager, Dr. Alexandra Garnhart-Bushakra, will assist students with matching their interests to local organizations. History students can earn up to 9 units in each internship. Up to 9 history internship credits may count toward fulfillment of elective course requirements for the History major.

VII. Additional Major in History

The History Major may be scheduled as an additional major in consultation with the Academic Advisor, Beth Jameson, History Department, Baker Hall 240A. To reiterate, the requirements for History as either a primary or an additional major are the same.