

History Major (HIS)

History involves the study of most aspects of the human experience over time – politics, social life, cultural developments, military affairs, diplomacy, ethnicity, technology, economics, religion, literature, and so much more. It is a story of real people and how they responded to change, choice, or conflict. Studying the past offers us a valuable perspective for understanding our own time. Students in the history department learn valuable skills- how to do research, analyze evidence, put issues in proper context, and communicate in a clear and coherent way- that can be used in many different contexts. Internships and study abroad represent examples of the ways students can learn more outside the college classroom. In short, the history department prepares students to do well in the wider world.

History majors will complete requirements for the major – including producing and defending a primary research paper – in a timely fashion while meeting departmental standards. Additionally, students who major in history will be presented with opportunities for involvement in the field of history outside of the classroom, including membership in the Phi Alpha Theta history honorary, field study, study abroad, and attendance at and submission of papers to history conferences and contests. History majors will:

- demonstrate a workable knowledge of important facts, themes, and issues of American, European, and world history;
- use a variety of historical sources and demonstrate competence in the techniques of source evaluation and methods of historical interpretation utilized by historians;
- use critical thinking and analysis skills that allow for informed assessment, debate, and defense of historical issues and arguments;
- use the skills of written and oral communication that allow for informed assessment, debate, and defense of historical issues and arguments;
- distinguish the historical similarities and differences among different cultures/societies and across time.

For more information about the History major leading to a teaching certification, please contact the Associate Dean of Undergraduate Education.

DEGREE TYPE: BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA)

PROGRAM CONTACT: PROFESSOR Cliff Wargelin

Program: History

Type: B.A.

Core Courses	6 hours
Chronological Sequence Selection	6 hours
Required Course Selections	9 hours
Non-Western History	
American History	
European History	
Elective Courses	12-15 hours
Total	33

Core Courses

Item #	Title	Credits
HIS250	Historical Methods	3
HIS450	Senior Seminar	3

Chronological Sequence Selection

Select one of the following two course sequences:

Item #	Title	Credits
	History of Civilization Sequence	6
	Asian Civilization Sequence	6
	Intro to American History Sequence	6
	1789–1949 European History Sequence	6

Required Course Selections

Select one course from each group:

Note: Students may count three hours from their core chronological sequence toward the required course selections. In such cases, students will take an additional three hours of elective courses to complete the remainder of the thirty-three hour requirement.

Non-Western History

Item #	Title	Credits
HIS211	Asian Civilization I	3
HIS213	Asian Civilization II	3
HIS321	History of Japan	3
HIS424	History of the Middle East	3
HIS426	History of the American Indian	3

American History

Item #	Title	Credits
HIS223	Introduction to American History: 1492-1877	3
HIS225	Introduction to American History: 1877 to Present	3
HIS304	Kentucky History	3
HIS306	Colonial and Revolutionary America, 1607-1783	3
HIS308	History of the Early Republic: 1783-1848	3
HIS310	History of the South	3
HIS312	Civil War and Reconstruction	3
HIS314	Gilded Age through the 1920s	3
HIS325	United States Diplomatic History	3
HIS338	Religion in American History	3
HIS409	Modern Kentucky Politics and Government	3
HIS430	Recent America	3
HIS475	Topics in the Social and Intellectual History of the United States	3

European History

Item #	Title	Credits
HIS323	Renaissance and Reformation	3
HIS331	Revolutionary Europe 1789-1871	3
HIS333	Europe in Crisis 1871-1949	3
HIS335	History of England	3
HIS337	Modern England	3
HIS343	Modern Central Europe	3
HIS345	Military History	3
HIS412	Ancient History	3
HIS417	History of Modern Russia	3

Elective Courses

Select twelve to fifteen additional hours in history courses.

Note: Students must take at least 18 hours of 300–400 level history courses to complete the major.

Total credits:

33
