



Undergraduate Study in

History



University of Missouri-Columbia



Goals of the Curriculum

The purpose of the undergraduate curriculum (bachelor of arts) in history is to provide the student with four elements of educational attainment:

- 1) a general frame of historical reference for understanding both past and current developments in life and society; 2) some advanced and specialized knowledge in a number of historical areas selected with reference to personal interests; 3) highly developed skill in expository writing, including the ability to conduct independent study, to define and research problems, to locate and critically evaluate evidence, and to organize material for effective communication to others; and 4) the ability to draw on a broad range of human experience, both recent and remote in time and place, in order to understand and solve current problems. The major curriculum will prepare the student for successful postgraduate study in history, the social sciences, and a number of professional and vocational fields. More important, however, it should help the graduate to continue his or her own intellectual, personal, and vocational growth and to cope intelligently, effectively, and flexibly with the diverse and often unpredictable problems that each individual and society as a whole must face. It should help the student develop into an effective worker, an informed and useful citizen, and an individual capable of personal and social growth.

I. University and College of Arts and Science Requirements

Overall Requirements

- A total of 120 semester hours is required for graduation.
- Thirty of the 120 total hours required for graduation must be in courses numbered 3000 or above.
- Graduation requires a cumulative gpa of at least 2.0 in all courses taken in the major department; a cumulative gpa of at least 2.0 in courses taken after a student has accumulated 60 hours of college credit; a gpa of at least 2.0 in all courses taken in the final 30 hours; and a overall gpa, for all course work, of at least 2.0

University Wide General Education Requirements

Every student in the University must complete general education requirements. Described below are some of the ways that history majors meet those requirements.

- **English Composition:** Students meet this requirement by taking English 1000 or English 1000GH. After completion of English 1000, students who begin college-level work in Fall 1993 and thereafter must complete one writing intensive course with a grade of C- or better
- **Mathematics:** Students must complete the requirement by earning credit or exemption for Math 1110/1120 (College Algebra). In addition, students who begin college-level work Fall 1993 and thereafter must complete one course certified as Math Reasoning Proficiency (MRP). Both Math 1100/1120 and the MRP course must be completed with grades in the C range or higher. Each semesters schedule of courses lists available options.
- **State law requires that all students take at least one course in American history or American government which deals with the United States Constitution. Among the courses that satisfy the requirement are History 1100, 1200, 2210, 4000, 4220, and 4230; and Political Science 1100 and 2100. Note that these history courses can count both for the state law requirement and for the major; the political science courses may be used both for the state law requirement and for the foundation requirement in the social sciences area.**

Arts & Science Basic Skill Requirements

- Foreign language: Students are required to attain fluency equivalent to completion of 12 or 13 hours in a single foreign language. Some students satisfy this requirement partially or entirely with high school credit.

Arts & Science Foundation Requirements

- Biological, Physical, and Mathematical Sciences: Students must complete at least 9 hours in at least two of the three areas. At least one course must include a lab.
- Behavioral Sciences: At least 5-6 hours in psychology, sociology, or anthropology are required.
- Social Sciences: History majors must complete 9 hours in political science, economics, or geography or certain other interdisciplinary studies. Two of the three fields must be represented. History majors may, not use history courses to satisfy this requirement.
- Humanities and Fine Arts: Students must complete at least 12 hours in three humanities fields. Check with the History advisor for a list of humanities areas.
- At least three of the courses used to meet the requirements in the areas of Biological, Physical, and Mathematical Sciences; Behavioral Sciences; Social Sciences; and Humanities and Fine Arts must be numbered 2000 or above. One of the 2000 level courses must be taken at NW. The three courses must be distributed in at least two of the four areas.
- No course in the major, even if not used as part of the major, may be used to satisfy the foundation requirements.

II. Miscellaneous Academic Regulations

- No course in which a student earns lower than a C- maybe counted toward the history major.
- The last 30 hours of course work for the degree must be completed in residence at NW.
- You are expected to enroll in a minimum of 12 hours each semester. Students on probation should check with the Dean's office regarding this regulation. Four full-time semesters are required for graduation.
- Up to 6 hours of music ensemble and up to 12 hours of art, music, and theatre applied courses maybe counted toward graduation for non-art, non-music, and non-theatre majors.

You may appeal for the waiver of any A&S academic regulations by filing an appeal with the Dean's office. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of, and to follow, the regulations detailed in the MU Undergraduate Catalog; ignorance of the rules is not a strong basis for a waiver or appeal.

Advising

Students entering the history major for the first time should see the Senior Academic Advisor in 103 Read Hall.

Students are reminded that they must assume primary responsibility for learning the University's rules and procedures; and for meeting the University's bureaucratic requirements and deadlines. Advisers can help immensely but are no substitute for the student's own initiative and effort.

III. History Major

The History major requires a total of 33 hours of history courses. The history courses are distributed as follows:

1. Introductory Courses (numbered below 2000)

Three courses, one from three of the following four areas:9

- a) United States to 1865
- b) United States since ca. 1865
- c) Europe (from antiquity to the present)
- d) Third World (Africa, Asia, Latin America)

2. Area Specific Courses

One course, numbered 1000 or above, from each of the following areas (not to include 1100, 1200, 1500, 1510):9

- a) European
- b) U.S.
- c) Third World

3. History Electives

Three electives at the 3000 level, or higher, to be selected from any history field:.....9

4. Capstone.....6

Choose one option

- a) one undergraduate seminar and one additional history course at the 4000 level, or
- b) two undergraduate seminars in history
- c) Undergraduate Thesis: 4970, 4971, 4972 & 4981 or 4980 & 4981
- d) Honors Thesis: 4970, 4971, 4972 & 4996 or 4995 & 4996

Total hours required in history courses33

5. History Writing Intensive

Each major must take one history course, designated as writing intensive, at the 3000 level or higher. This course may also be used to meet an Area Specific, History Elective, or Capstone requirement.

DUAL PROGRAMS: With the consent, of the adviser and the Director of Undergraduate Studies, a student who is planning a double major or a dual degree program may be excused from certain of the requirements, provided that student takes at least 30 history hours, including an undergraduate seminar or an undergraduate thesis and one course with Writing Intensive designation.

A MINOR IN ANOTHER DISCIPLINE: History majors may choose to minor in another department of the College of Arts & Science or in another Division. In general, minors require a minimum of 15 hours, at least 6 of which must be upperclass. However, the specific requirements for a minor are established by the individual department, and students should

Filing a Graduation Plan

Undergraduates in the College of Arts & Science officially select a major by filing a Graduation Plan. Students planning to major in history must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 and must also have successfully completed Math 1100/1120 and English 1000 in order to file a Graduation Plan. You should file your Graduation Plan no later than during the first semester of your junior year. Failure to do this in a timely fashion will result in a costly delay in your registering for future course work.

The Graduation Plan is a contract between yourself, the Department of History and the College of Arts & Science. The contract specifies the courses you will complete in order to satisfy the various degree requirements discussed above. Because a Graduation Plan is a contractual agreement, you should not put more courses on the form than are necessary to meet the minimum requirements. In order to graduate you must complete all of the courses on your Graduation Plan (original or revised) and accumulate 120 hours. It is your responsibility to initiate the process of filing your Graduation Plan. Contact the History Department advisor to begin the process.

Double Majors/Dual Degrees

Many history majors earn a second or “double” major in another discipline within the College of Arts and Science. Such students receive one degree (B.A.) but have two majors listed. The student must meet the requirements of both departments. Usually the same courses can be used to meet the University and A&S Basic Skills and Foundation requirements for both majors. Student pursuing a double major need to file two Graduation Plans, one with the Department of History and a second with the other major department.

It is also possible to earn a dual degree by completing the requirements for two separate schools or colleges, for example A&S and the School of Education, or A&S and the School of Journalism. The minimum number of hours required to earn a dual degree is 132 rather than 120.

Honors Program

The Department of History offers an Honors Program leading to the bachelor’s degree with the notation “BA in History, with Honors” on both the diploma and transcript. Participation in the departmental Honors Program does not require that the student be admitted to the Honors College. The Honors Program requires that the student complete a six-hour research sequence, a history seminar course (4970, 4971, 4972) the first semester and History 4996: Honors Thesis, the second semester. Students could take the seminar course in their Junior year or first semester of their Senior year. The student’s work focuses on the writing of a satisfactory honors thesis, which must be defended before a faculty examining committee. The thesis is directed by one or more History department faculty members. The successful completion of the defense of the honors thesis, and the maintenance of a 3.3 cumulative GPA together satisfy the requirements for a history degree with honors. Interested students should make application for the History Honors Program through the Departmental Advising Office, 103 Read Hall.

Qualified history majors are also encouraged to participate in the Honors College’s other programs, including designated honors courses and a separate honors certificate. Regarding such general honors matters, contact the Honors College, 211 Lowry Hall (882-3893).

Directed Study

The Department also offers the opportunity for individual study in cooperation with a faculty member under the course titles History 4085 (Special Problems) and History 4960 (Special Readings). The arrangements for such courses, including the amount of credit awarded, should be negotiated with the faculty member involved, in advance of registration deadlines.

Study Abroad

MU offers a variety of opportunities for students who wish to attend college in another country as part of their undergraduate program. In most cases, a student can study abroad for a semester, possibly even a year, without extending the length of time it will take to complete their undergraduate degree. Most of these programs involve some additional costs, but, in some cases, this increased burden might make the student eligible for more financial aid.

Scholarships and Financial Aid

Most financial aid in the form of scholarships, grants, loans, and work-study is centrally administered through MU's Office of Student Financial Aid, 11 Jesse Hall.

The Department of History awards several departmental scholarships to students who major in History have a minimum GPA of 3.0, and have filed a Graduation Plan in history. The Harvey Kantor Memorial Scholarship is granted in the fall semester of each year for an outstanding student majoring in history. Glen M. McCaslin Memorial Scholarships in History each are awarded annually to outstanding juniors majoring in History at UMC. Other awards include, but are not limited to, the Tom Berenger Opportunities for Excellence Scholarship and the McReynolds Scholarship. All scholarship applications are due during the fall semester. For information and application materials for these scholarships, see the Senior Academic Advisor in 103 Read Hall.

Student Organizations

Undergraduate history majors are invited to participate in both the Undergraduate History Association and the MU chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, an international honor society made up of individuals interested in the discipline of history. Information regarding the meetings and activities of both groups is available in the Advising Office, 103 Read Hall.

*For additional information,
check the History website
<http://history.missouri.edu>*



NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

The University of Missouri-Columbia does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, disability, or status as a disabled veteran or veteran of the Vietnam era.

Current Department Faculty

Carol Anderson, (PhD, Ohio State; associate professor) Diplomatic 20th century United States, African American
John L. Bullion (PhD, Texas; professor; American colonial
Mark Carroll (PhD, University of Houston; associate professor) U.S. South
Robert M. Collins (PhD, Johns Hopkins; professor) recent United States
Susan L. Flader (PhD, Stanford; professor) American West, American environmental
John Frymire (PhD, Arizona; assistant professor) early modern Europe
Lois Huneycutt (PhD, California-Santa Barbara; associate professor & Director of Undergraduate Studies) medieval women, European
Abdullahi A. Ibrahim (PhD, Indiana; associate professor) African, Islam
Wilma King (PhD, Indiana; Arvarh E. Strickland Distinguished Professor of African-American History & Culture) African American
Theodore Koditschek (PhD, Princeton; associate professor) modern British social
Kerby A. Miller (PhD, California-Berkeley; professor) American urban, immigration, modern Irish
Lawrence Okamura (PhD, Michigan; associate professor) ancient, late antiquity, Roman frontier
Jeffrey Pasley (PhD, Harvard; associate professor) early U.S.
Linda Reeder (PhD, Rutgers; associate professor) modern European, women
Catherine Rymph (PhD, Iowa; assistant professor) recent U.S., women
Robert Smale (PhD, Univ. of Texas at Austin; assistant professor) Latin America
A. Mark Smith (PhD, Wisconsin; professor) medieval, history of science
Jonathan Sperber (PhD, Chicago; professor and Department Chair) modern Germany
Julius E. Thompson (PhD, Princeton; professor and Director of Black Studies) African American
Steven A. Watts (PhD Missouri-Columbia; professor) American Intellectual and early republic
Robert E. Weems, Jr. (PhD, Wisconsin; professor) African American
LeeAnn Whites (PhD, California-Irvine; professor) Civil War and reconstruction, women, nineteenth century South
John H. Wigger (PhD, Notre Dame; associate professor & Director of Graduate Studies) United States social, cultural, and religious to 1865
Ian Worthington (PhD, Monash University; professor) ancient Greece
Russell Zguta (PhD, Penn State University; professor)