



What can I do with a Major in...

History

What is History?

History is the study of the past, focused on human activity and leading up to the present day. This study is facilitated by the formation of a 'true discourse of past'. The modern discipline of History is dedicated to the institutional production of this discourse. More precisely, *history* is the continuous, systematic narrative and research of past events as relating to the human race; as well as the study of all events in time, in relation to humanity.

What is History at U of L?

The University of Louisville Department of History offers a comprehensive undergraduate program. Our course offerings include an extensive array of classes covering American, South American, European, African, South Asian, and Asian history. Courses are taught by an internationally recognized faculty. Students who choose to pursue a history major or minor receive extensive, one-on-one advising with the department's faculty.

Degrees in History at U of L:

Bachelor of Arts in History with a concentration in Humanities:

This plan is intended solely as a guideline for students pursuing a four-year Bachelor of Arts degree in History. The particular needs of individual students may require a different timeframe; however, the History Department strongly advises students to complete as much of the General Education requirement as possible before undertaking requirements in the major.

Accelerated BA/MA

History majors who are already thinking about pursuing an M.A. in history can speed up the process by applying some of their undergraduate credit hours toward a Master's degree. The basic idea is to take three (3) graduate level courses (either 500-level with the additional graduate level assignments, or 600-level) while still an undergraduate, and then have those credits apply both toward the undergraduate degree and towards an eventual Master's degree from UofL. The advantages are in time and money. Paying undergraduate tuition for nine graduate hours saves almost \$800, and reduces the time to M.A. by one full-time semester.

MA Program

The Master of Arts program in History at the University of Louisville provides a flexible yet traditional program with rigorous standards. The breadth and reach of our faculty combined with the structure of the M.A. program encourages a worldwide vision of history. Rather than traditional concentrations in American or European history, M.A. candidates pursue a primary and a secondary area of emphasis in areas of concentration such as the Greater Atlantic World, the Greater Mediterranean Basin World, the Asia-Pacific Basin World, and the Indian Ocean World.



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Occupational Overview

History provides students with a greatly enriched view of the world around them as well as numerous real-world skills that will prove useful in many professional occupations. The study of history helps us to understand who we are and where we have been. That knowledge, in turn, helps to shape our future choices and directions. A major in history with its emphases on research, writing and creative and analytical thought prepares students for graduate student in history and in other fields, or for work in professions such as law, teaching, business, management, and publishing

Employment Requirements

A bachelor's degree is the minimum formal education required. However, depending on the field, many employers also require graduate school (for example, many professional historical or academic jobs will require a graduate degree).

Career Opportunities in Anthropology:

Anthropologist FBI / CIA Agent Journalist Archeologist Foreign News Corresp. Lawyer Archivist Foreign Service Officer Lecturer Biographer Genealogist Legal Assistant / Paralegal Clergy Government Official Librarian Community Relations Dir. Historian Lobbyist Congressional Aide Historic Preservationist Market Research Analyst Consumer Advocate Historic Site Tour Guide Media Consultant Counselor Historical Society Staff Museum Curator Criminologist Indicter Museum Tech. & Specialist Demographer Insurance Agent / Broker Park Ranger Economist Intelligence Analyst Peace Corps / Vista Worker Editor International Relations Political Scientist Psychologist Teacher, Social Studies Urban Administrator Public Relations Specialist Technical Writer Urban Planner Research Assistant Travel Agent Writer / Author Sociologist

Employers/Industries and Success Strategies:

Government: Federal agencies (e.g., Smithsonian Institute, Library of Congress, Foreign Service) – State and local agencies

(e.g., archives and libraries, museums, parks, historical sites, arts and humanities councils)

Suggested Strategy: Gain related experience in student government or other similar organizations. Complete an internship with a governmental agency. Develop foreign language skills for overseas work. Consider a variety of entry-level positions in all branches of government. An advanced degree may be required or aid employability.

Politics: Elected/appointed public officials – National political party headquarters – Public interest/advocacy groups – Campaigns

Suggested Strategy: Volunteer to work with interested groups or agencies. Participate in student government. Gain experience and make contacts through internships and informational interviewing with government agencies or public officials. Consider political science coursework or minor.



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Law: Law firms – Corporate legal departments – Government agencies – Public advocacy groups

Suggested Strategy: Participate in pre-law associations and seek pre-law advising through the College of Arts and Sciences. Gain experience through summer or part-time work in a law firm. Volunteer with a public advocacy group. Earn law degree.

Nonprofit organizations: History museums and historical sites – Historical associations/societies – Cultural heritage organizations – Historical projects – Research and service organizations

Suggested Strategy: Volunteer or intern with nonprofit organizations of interest. Considering coursework in other related areas.

Curatorial/Archival Management: Museums – Historical homes – Art galleries – Special collections – Historical societies – Libraries – Universities/colleges – National, state, local government – Corporations – Non-profit organizations – Research institutes

Suggested Strategy: Obtain an internship or volunteer in a related organization. Acquire strong “transferable skills” such as computer, written/oral communication, and organizational skills. An advanced degree may be required.

Journalism: Broadcast – Print – News departments of local, public, and commercial radio and TV stations – Newspapers – National, state, and regional radio networks – Syndicated radio services

Suggested Strategy: Obtain an internship or volunteer with campus or local newspaper, radio or TV station. Consider obtaining a double major or minor journalism or broadcasting/electronic media.

Education: Elementary, Secondary, Higher Education Teaching – Community Education – Public and private schools – Colleges/universities – Museums – Zoological parks, gardens, conservatories, refuges – Camps – National and state parks

Suggested Strategy: Obtain related experience (for university teaching, consider conducting research with a professor to help develop specialty area). Obtain teaching certification for public school teaching. Obtain graduate degree for college/university teaching. Develop “transferable skills” such as presentation, multimedia and curriculum development.

Business: Management – Sales – Office Administration – All major retail firms – Wholesales – Manufacturers – Insurance and real estate companies – Financial institutions – Nonprofit organizations

Suggested Strategy: Consider a minor in business. Obtain related experience. Consider an MBA for consulting work.

Related Links in the History Discipline:

Professional Association Links

American Historical Association www.historians.org

American Association for State and Local History <http://www.aaslh.org>

Bureau of the Census http://libfind.unl.edu:2020/alpha/Census_Bureau_Home_Page.html

Society for American Archaeology <http://www.saa.org/>



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Yahoo! Resources for History http://www.yahoo.com/Arts/Humanities/History/Organizations/Resources_of_Historical_&_Archaeological_Societies* http://www.lib.uwaterloo.ca/society/history_soc.html
Resources of Anthropological Societies http://www.lib.uwaterloo.ca/society/anthrop_soc.html

Career Planning Links

Careers in History <http://www.historians.org/pubs/free/careers/index.htm>
Museum Employment Resource Center <http://www.museum-employment.com/>
FAQ's About a Career in History <http://www2.ncsu.edu/ncsu/chass/history/hifaqs.html>

Ideas for Volunteer/Internship/ Co-op

UNCW Experience <http://uncw.erecruiting.com>
MonsterTRAK <http://www.monstertrak.com>
Organization of American Historians <http://www.oah.org/announce/jobs.html>
Museum jobs <http://jobsearch.about.com/cs/museumjobs/index.htm?terms=museums>
Government jobs <http://govtjobs.com/>
Jobs in archeology http://archaeologic.com/jobs_in_archaeology.htm
Museum job resources online <http://www.algonquincollege.com/museum/jobres/index.htm>

Salary/Outlook Info



<http://online.onetcenter.org>



<http://www.bls.gov/oco/>