

Department of History

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Degrees offered: Bachelor of Science (BS), Bachelor of Arts (BA),
Master of Science (MS), Master of Arts (MA) in History; participates in
Master of Social Sciences (MSS)

Undergraduate Programs

Objectives

The Department of History offers a flexible program to accomplish the following objectives:

1. To train undergraduates to research, analyze, synthesize, and communicate reasonable conclusions about the past by using the historical method.
2. To teach cultural literacy and provide the knowledge necessary for informed decision-making by citizens of Utah, the United States, and the world.
3. To provide students with crucial work skills in research, analysis, communication, and collaboration, while enriching their lives.
4. To contribute to the liberal arts curriculum of the University through general education, general interest courses, the history major, the history teaching emphasis, minors in history and classics, and the interdisciplinary programs of folklore, religious studies, American studies, and British and commonwealth studies.

History is a reading- and writing-intensive program.

Requirements

Transfer Students

The History Department accepts all history courses taught by institutions within the Utah System of Higher Education. Students who are transferring may wish to consult the online *Advisor Handbook* for articulation information for the institution from which they are transferring. This information can be found at:

http://www.usu.edu/advising/for_advisors/handbook/

AP Credit

The History Department *does not* accept AP credit for use toward its degrees. However, if a student has passed an AP exam with a score of 3 or better, the equivalent lower-division course will be waived, and the student can complete the equivalent number of credits in an upper-division course. This waiver *does not* apply to students enrolled in the History Teaching Emphasis.

Departmental Requirements

New freshmen accepted in good standing by the University may apply for admission to the History Department. Students transferring from another institution or another major will be admitted if they have a minimum 2.5 GPA in history courses and an overall minimum GPA of 2.5. A minimum 2.75 GPA is required for entry into the teacher education program.

Since history can be classified in *both* the humanities *and* the social sciences, majors may receive either a Bachelor of Arts (BA) or a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree. However, because history primarily involves the study of written documents, the department encourages students to choose the BA, which requires proficiency in a foreign language.

Candidates for a degree must earn a grade of C or better in all history courses used to meet the requirements for a history major or minor, a history teaching emphasis or teaching minor, or a classics minor.

Bachelor of Arts Language Track

The BA degree requires a minimum proficiency in a foreign language. This proficiency may be established in one of the following ways:

1. 16 credits in a single language.
2. Documentation of a proficiency level of "intermediate low" or better through an examination administered by the USU Department of Languages, Philosophy, and Speech Communication.
3. Completion of any upper-division foreign language course constituting a third-year course of study with a grade of C or better.

Note: Demonstration of proficiency in American Sign Language will *not* meet the foreign language requirement for the BA degree in history.

Bachelor of Science Mathematics and Science Track

For those interested in a BS degree, a significant amount of coursework in the College of Science is required. These courses must contribute significantly to an understanding of science and the scientific method. Therefore, students must complete 8 credits in one of the following course pairs: BIOL 1610/1620, CHEM 1210/1220, PHYS 2110/2120, or PHYS 2210/2220. Students *cannot* receive a BS in history unless they successfully complete one of these course pairs with grades of C- or better. Students must also complete at least 6 additional credits in math or science, 3 of which are required to be in *either* statistics (e.g. STAT 2000, 2300, or 3000) or social science statistics (e.g., PSY 2800, POLS 3000, or SOC 3120). The other 3 science credits may be chosen from any 2000-, 3000-, or 4000-level math or science course having one of the following prefixes: BIOL, CHEM, CS, GEO, MATH, STAT, or PHYS. For these 3 science credits only, students may petition the department head of the History Department to substitute a course from outside the College of Science, if it has a demonstrable scientific or technical focus (e.g., ADVS 3020, ETE 3200, PEP 4200, WATS 3000). In all instances, a grade of C- or better is required for any math or science course to be applied toward a BS degree.

Students who minor in a science field will fulfill the BS requirement through their minor.

History Major

Minimum GPA for Admission: 2.5, major; 2.5, Career
Minimum GPA for Graduation: 2.5, major courses; 2.0, USU
Minimum Grade Accepted: C in major courses

Thirty-six credits of history coursework are required. A grade of C or better must be earned in all history courses used for the major. Each major must complete *one* of the following three courses in the area of premodern civilization:

HIST 1060 (BHU) Introduction to Islamic Civilization	3
HIST 1100 (BHU) Foundations of Western Civilization: Ancient and Medieval (F,Sp,Su)	3
HIST 1500 (BHU) Cultural and Economic Exchange in the Pre-Nineteenth Century World (F,Sp).....	3

Each major must complete *one* of the following two courses in the area of modern civilization:

HIST 1110 (BHU) Foundations of Western Civilization: Modern (F,Sp,Su)	3
HIST 1510 (BHU) The Modern World (F,Sp,Su)	3

Each major must complete *one* of the following two courses in the area of American history:

HIST 2700 (BAI) United States to 1877 (F,Sp,Su)	3
HIST 2710 (BAI) United States 1877-Present (F,Sp,Su).....	3

(Note: HIST 1700 does *not* count toward this requirement.)

No student, including transfer students, may count more than 12 credits of lower-division coursework toward the history major.

Every senior must take HIST 4990 (Special Topics in History), the capstone course for the major. Students should complete their remaining 21-24 credits by taking 3000- and 4000-level history courses. Since new courses may be approved from time to time, any upper-division course having a HIST prefix is acceptable.

No more than 3 credits of HIST 4930 (Directed Readings) may be applied toward the major.

Since the study of history requires an understanding of many fields of human endeavor, **students majoring in history must select a minor.** Historians are encouraged to take electives in fields that will broaden their knowledge of the world and are closely allied to history, such as religious studies, literature, economics, geography, anthropology, political science, sociology, classics, philosophy, or foreign language.

Students wishing to undertake graduate work should pursue the BA degree. During their senior year, they should take the graduate record exam (GRE).

History Teaching Emphasis

Minimum GPA for Admission: 2.5, major; 2.75, Career
Minimum GPA for Graduation: 2.75, major courses; 2.75, Career
Minimum Grade Accepted: C in major courses

Thirty-nine credits, earned in history courses, are required. A grade of C or better must be earned for all history courses used for the emphasis. Each student in the History Teaching Emphasis must complete *one* of the following three courses in the area of premodern civilization:

HIST 1060 (BHU) Introduction to Islamic Civilization	3
HIST 1100 (BHU) Foundations of Western Civilization: Ancient and Medieval (F,Sp,Su)	3
HIST 1500 (BHU) Cultural and Economic Exchange in the Pre-Nineteenth Century World (F,Sp).....	3

Each student must complete *one* of the following two courses in the area of modern civilization:

HIST 1110 (BHU) Foundations of Western Civilization: Modern (F,Sp,Su)	3
HIST 1510 (BHU) The Modern World (F,Sp,Su)	3

Each student must complete *both* of the following two courses in the area of American history:

HIST 2700 (BAI) United States to 1877 (F,Sp,Su)	3
HIST 2710 (BAI) United States 1877-Present (F,Sp,Su).....	3

(Note: HIST 1700 does *not* count toward this requirement.)

Each student must complete the following government and politics course:

POLS 1100 (BAI) United States Government and Politics (F,Sp).....	3
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No student, including transfer students, may count more than 12 credits of lower-division coursework toward the history teaching emphasis.

Every student in the History Teaching Emphasis must take *one* of the following three courses as a senior capstone course:

HIST 4850 Interpreting the Past for Teachers (F,Sp).....	3
HIST 4860 Teaching History (F)	3
HIST 4870 Teaching World History: Themes, Approaches, and Materials (Sp)	3

Students should complete their remaining 21 credits by taking 3000- and 4000-level history courses. A minimum of two courses must be taken from each of the following areas: U.S. history, European history, and world history. Since new courses may be approved from time to time, any upper-division course having a HIST prefix is acceptable. To become licensed to teach history, students must be admitted to the Secondary Teacher Education Program (STEP). A 2.75 GPA is required for admission, as well as a writing test, a speech and hearing test, and a background check. Application should be made as soon as practical after the history teaching emphasis has begun. Applications for admission are available in the History Department Office. The STEP requires 35 credits of coursework, in addition to the 39 credits of history courses. For additional information about the STEP, contact Shelly Wiegand, secondary education undergraduate advisor, (435) 797-0383.

All teaching majors must also have a teaching minor in an area for which teaching licensure can be granted.

No more than 3 credits of HIST 4930 (Directed Readings) may be applied toward the emphasis.

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Minor in History

Twenty-one credits are required. A grade of C must be earned in all history courses used for the minor. Every student must complete *one* of the following three courses in the area of premodern civilizations:

HIST 1060 (BHU) Introduction to Islamic Civilization	3
HIST 1100 (BHU) Foundations of Western Civilization: Ancient and Medieval (F,Sp,Su)	3
HIST 1500 (BHU) Cultural and Economic Exchange in the Pre-Nineteenth Century World (F,Sp).....	3

Every student must complete *one* of the following two courses in modern civilization:

HIST 1110 (BHU) Foundations of Western Civilization: Modern (F,Sp,Su)	3
HIST 1510 (BHU) The Modern World (F,Sp,Su)	3

Every student must complete *one* of the following courses in the area of American history:

HIST 2700 (BAI) United States to 1877 (F,Sp,Su)	3
HIST 2710 (BAI) United States 1877-Present (F,Sp,Su).....	3

(Note: HIST 1700 does *not* count toward this requirement.)

No student, including transfer students, may count more than 12 credits of lower-division coursework toward the history minor. Students should complete their remaining 9-12 credits by taking 3000- and 4000-level history courses.

No more than 3 credits of HIST 4930 (Directed Readings) may be applied toward the minor.

History Teaching Minor

Thirty credits are required. A grade of C or better must be earned in all history courses used for the minor. Every student must complete *two* of the following three courses in premodern civilization:

HIST 1060 (BHU) Introduction to Islamic Civilization	3
HIST 1100 (BHU) Foundations of Western Civilization: Ancient and Medieval (F,Sp,Su)	3
HIST 1500 (BHU) Cultural and Economic Exchange in the Pre-Nineteenth Century World (F,Sp).....	3

Every student must complete *both* of the following two courses in modern civilization:

HIST 1110 (BHU) Foundations of Western Civilization: Modern (F,Sp,Su)	3
HIST 1510 (BHU) The Modern World (F,Sp,Su)	3

Every student must complete *both* of the following courses in the area of American history:

HIST 2700 (BAI) United States to 1877 (F,Sp,Su)	3
HIST 2710 (BAI) United States 1877-Present (F,Sp,Su).....	3

(Note: HIST 1700 does *not* count toward this requirement.)

No student, including transfer students, may count more than 12 credits of lower-division coursework toward the history minor. All teaching minors in history must take one of the following:

HIST 4850 Interpreting the Past for Teachers (F,Sp).....	3
HIST 4860 Teaching History (F)	3
HIST 4870 Teaching World History: Themes, Approaches, and Materials (Sp)	3

Students should complete their remaining 9 credits by taking 3000- and 4000-level history courses.

No more than 3 credits of HIST 4930 (Directed Readings) can be applied toward the minor.

Classics Minor

For information about the Classics Minor, which is administered through the Department of History, see page 211 of this catalog.

Sample Four-year Plans

Sample semester-by-semester four-year plans for students working toward a bachelor's degree within the History Department can be found at: <http://www.usu.edu/degreplans/>

Students should consult with their advisors to develop a plan of study tailored to their individual needs and interests.

Academic Opportunities

Departmental Honors in History

Students who would like to experience greater academic depth within their major are encouraged to enroll in departmental honors. Through original, independent work, Honors students enjoy the benefits of close supervision and mentoring, as they work one-on-one with faculty in select upper-division departmental courses. Honors students also complete a senior project, which provides another opportunity to collaborate with faculty on a problem that is significant, both personally and in the student's discipline. Participating in departmental honors enhances students' chances for obtaining fellowships and admission to graduate school. Students in the department with a minimum GPA of 3.5 may apply to pursue an honors degree in history. Students may enter the Honors Program at almost any stage in their academic career, including at the junior (and sometimes senior) level. Those interested should consult the department honors coordinator. Additional information can be found online at: <http://www.usu.edu/honors/>

Phi Alpha Theta

History students with a minimum GPA of 3.1 in history classes and an overall minimum GPA of 3.0 are eligible for membership in the national history honor society, Phi Alpha Theta. Those interested should consult the faculty advisor for Phi Alpha Theta.

Undergraduate Teaching Fellows

The UTF program is designed to provide students, particularly potential teachers, with the opportunity to assist professors and, thereby, learn first-hand about the nature of the profession. UTFs must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 and be sponsored by a professor. Application forms are available in the History Department office and on the History Department website: <http://www.usu.edu/history>

Additional Information

For updated information concerning programs and courses offered by the Department of History, visit the departmental web page at: <http://www.usu.edu/history>

Major requirement sheets, which provide detailed information about requirements for the History major, can be obtained from the department, or can be accessed online at: <http://www.usu.edu/majorsheets/>

Financial Support

Scholarships, grants-in-aid, and work-study programs are available through the University. The History Department offers scholarships to outstanding students. In addition, undergraduates may be employed as research assistants and clerical assistants within the department. For current information on scholarships and employment opportunities, consult the department head.

Graduate Programs

Admission Requirements

Graduate applicants may be admitted to the program for either the master of arts or master of science in history if they meet the following qualifications: (1) hold a baccalaureate degree; (2) have at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA over the last 60 credits of undergraduate work, with a 3.5 GPA in history courses recommended; (3) submit Graduate Record Examination (GRE) general test scores, with a **required** minimum score at the 40th percentile on the verbal section, and a **recommended** minimum score at the 40th percentile on *both* the quantitative and written portions of the exam; (4) submit three letters of recommendation from persons acquainted with the applicant's academic performance and potential; and (5) submit a brief statement of proposed fields of interest and career goals.

The Department of History also strongly recommends that applicants have either an undergraduate major or minor in history or a closely related field. Familiarity with one or more foreign languages is highly desirable and is required for the master of arts degree and for master's level research in many fields of history. Applications will be strengthened by the submission of an example of the student's historical writing, such as a paper (about 15 pages in length) written for a seminar or upper-division course.

The final recommendation for admission will be made upon consideration of all the above factors by the department to the School of Graduate Studies.

Degree Programs and Additional Requirements

Master's Degree, Plan A (Thesis)

The thesis option should be taken by anyone intending to do research or enter another program for the doctoral degree. A master of arts or master of science degree can be completed with this option.

The program consists of 30 semester credits beyond the bachelor's degree, 6 credits of which must be in thesis research. Students must take HIST 6000, as well as either HIST 6010 or 6020, or another theory-intensive course approved by the director of graduate studies. Students may apply a maximum of 4 internship credits earned while working in an archive, for a museum, on the staff of a scholarly journal, or as a teaching intern in an upper-division undergraduate course.

The remainder of the 30 credits may be taken as electives in history or related courses relevant to the student's program.

Upon arrival at USU, students are urged to meet with the departmental graduate advisor, who will direct them to one or more faculty members with similar interests. Through consultations with the graduate and faculty advisor, the first-year student will form a thesis committee and formulate a course of study. By the end of the first year, most students

will have submitted to their committees a proposal for the thesis, which they will write under the close supervision of the committee members. The oral defense usually takes place in the spring semester of the second year.

Master's Degree, Plan B (Nonthesis)

A nonthesis master's program can help a student attain employment in many areas, but is not recommended for students planning to secure a doctorate. A master of arts, master of science, or master of social sciences degree can be completed with this option.

The Plan B program consists of 30 credits beyond the bachelor's degree. The course requirements are identical to those of the Plan A program, except that only 3 thesis credits are permitted.

Students completing the Plan B program do not write a full-length thesis. Instead, Plan B students write a research paper of approximately 30 pages in length and submit a portfolio of their graduate writing, which includes two additional and distinct pieces of writing. Students defend their Plan B research papers and writing portfolios before their major professor and the members of the supervisory committee. Final approval of the Plan B rests with the department, rather than with the School of Graduate Studies.

Master of Arts

To receive a master of arts (MA) degree, students must successfully complete two years of foreign language at the undergraduate level. If two years of undergraduate language study already appear on the student's transcript, he or she must demonstrate current competence through successful completion of a language exam or by taking a 3000- or 4000-level language course for which a grade of *B* or higher proves competency. In all cases, an individual assessment must be made of a student's language status. For further information, see page 117.

Students planning to continue on for a doctorate should be aware that many doctoral programs in history require that students pass written proficiency exams in two or more languages.

Master of Science

To receive a master of science (MS) degree in history, students may be required to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of their supervisory committee, the ability to incorporate scientific methodologies in their research as appropriate.

Master of Social Sciences (MSS)

Like the MA and MS in history, the MSS degree requires a minimum of 30 credits, including 15 credits in the major discipline of history, plus a minimum of 15 credits from two approved minor areas, with at least two courses in each minor area. Accepted minor disciplines include instructional technology, environment and society, political science, psychology, and sociology/anthropology. This degree is designed for secondary school teachers who need more training to obtain licensure in additional teaching fields or who simply wish to deepen their understanding of a related field.

Students in the MSS program are required to take HIST 6000 and 3 credits of HIST 6970 for their Plan B. A supervisory committee consists of a major professor in history and two committee members, each representing one of the student's minor fields. MSS students, like other Plan B students in history, must write a research paper of approximately 30 pages and submit a portfolio of their graduate writing that consists of two separate and distinct pieces of work, one from each of their two minor fields. An oral defense of the student's Plan B paper and portfolio is held before the student's supervisory committee.

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Additionally, the master of social sciences (MSS) in history requires students to demonstrate an understanding of statistical applications in the social sciences.

Financial Assistance

The primary financial assistance offered by the Department of History is through graduate assistantships. Each year, the History Department offers to qualified students, on a competitive basis, a total of seven graduate assistantships. These assistantships entail approximately 20 hours of work per week, assisting faculty members with departmental introductory survey courses. The award carries a stipend and an out-of-state tuition waiver. To keep their assistantships, graduate assistants must maintain a GPA of 3.0 (or a *B* average) and be a full-time student (see page 111). While enrolled in the MA or MS program, graduate assistants may hold graduate assistantships for a maximum of two years. Applications for graduate assistantships should be postmarked *no later than February 1*, for the upcoming academic year.

Graduate students may be eligible for Carr Scholarships to supplement their graduate assistantships. Competitive grants to support travel and research are also available to history graduate students.

In addition, financial assistance is available through the *Western Historical Quarterly*, a journal published at USU. The editors of the journal offer, during alternate years, the S. George Ellsworth Editorial Fellowship and the Robert M. Uteley Editorial Fellowship. These fellowships are awarded to highly qualified students working as editorial assistants in that office. These fellowships are nationally competitive and allow graduate students to learn all aspects of journal production. They carry a stipend (with additional funding possible during the summer) and a waiver of the out-of-state portion of the tuition. Materials should be postmarked no later than February 1, for the upcoming academic year. Applicants will be notified in early April.

Funding for the S. George Ellsworth Fellowship is provided by the *Western Historical Quarterly*; the School of Graduate Studies; and the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences. The S. George Ellsworth Fellowship is being offered for the 2009-2010 academic year.

Funding for the Robert M. Uteley Fellowship is provided by the *Western Historical Quarterly* and the School of Graduate Studies. The Robert M. Uteley Fellowship is being offered for the 2010-2011 academic year. For further information about *Western Historical Quarterly* fellowships, write to: *Western Historical Quarterly*, Utah State University, 0740 Old Main Hill, Logan UT 84322-0740; or send e-mail to: carolyn.doyle@usu.edu.

The application deadline for both fellowships is February 1, for the upcoming academic year.

Additional Funding

In addition to graduate assistantships and the *Western Historical Quarterly* editorial assistantships, the School of Graduate Studies awards a limited number of scholarships. To be eligible for these awards, all students should complete the application for admission and send it, along with GRE scores and letters of recommendation, to the School of Graduate Studies by February 1. A financial aid application form (which may be obtained from the History Department) should be returned to the History Department by February 1.

Students interested in establishing eligibility for federal loans and work-study will need to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and submit it to: Financial Aid Office, Utah State

University, 1800 Old Main Hill, Logan UT 84322-1800. Questions about eligibility should be directed to the Financial Aid Office, tel. (435) 797-0173.

Career Opportunities

Some graduates of USU's master's program continue their formal education in PhD programs or law schools. Others find employment in the two-year college or secondary school systems, as teachers or administrators. Still others work for historical societies, museums, publishing firms, and a variety of enterprises in the private sector.

Additional Information

Current announcements and other information are posted to the History Department website: <http://www.usu.edu/history>

History Faculty

Professors

Jay Anderson, folklore, folklife, film studies
Philip L. Barlow, Leonard J. Arrington Chair of Mormon History and Culture, religious studies, American religion, Mormon history
C. Robert Cole, England, modern European history
Mark L. Damen, ancient world, theatre history, Latin, Greek
Norman L. Jones, medieval, early modern Europe, Britain, Christianity
David R. Lewis, American Indian, environmental, Utah, editor of *Western Historical Quarterly*
Daniel J. McInerney, American intellectual history, Nineteenth Century, reform
Charles S. Prebish, Charles Redd Endowed Chair in Religious Studies, Buddhist studies and religion
Leonard N. Rosenband, France, European economic and labor history
Stephen C. Siporin, folklore, oral narrative folklore, folk art
Frances B. Titchener, ancient Greece and Rome, Latin, Greek, editor of *Ploutarchos*

Associate Professors

Christopher A. Conte, Africa, world, and environmental history
R. Edward Glatfelter, Russia and East Asia, associate dean of College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences
Colleen O'Neill, West, Native American, labor, associate editor of *Western Historical Quarterly*
Jennifer Ritterhouse, U.S. history, African-American history, U.S. South, women's history
James Sanders, Latin America, Atlantic world
Susan O. Shapiro, Greek intellectual history, ancient Greek and Latin language

Assistant Professors

M. Lawrence Culver, U.S. Southwest Borderlands; U.S. West, cultural, environmental, and urban history
Victoria M. Grieve, modern American cultural and intellectual history, art and culture of the West
Steven Heath Mitton, nineteenth century American history, Atlantic world, slavery, foreign relations; Brigham City Regional Campus
Bruce Nye, modern Europe, French Revolution and Napoleon, nineteenth century France, merchants and trade; Tooele Regional Campus
Timothy S. Wolters, science and technology, American history

Adjunct Professors

Doran J. Baker, Electrical and Computer Engineering Department,
history of science

Richard W. Clement, Dean of Libraries

Barry M. Franklin, Secondary Education Program, history of
education

Christopher B. R. Pelling, Regius Professor of Greek, Oxford
University: Classics

Senior Lecturers

John Barton, U.S. history, Utah history; Uintah Basin Regional Campus

Denise O. Conover, American diplomatic history, U.S. military,
American civilization

Lecturer

Eric Kimball, early American history, slavery and abolition,
Atlantic history

Adjunct Assistant Professors

Daniel M. Davis, photograph curator, U.S. West

H. Bert Jenson, associate librarian

Stephen C. Sturgeon, manuscript curator, Twentieth Century U.S.
West, political, environmental history

Adjunct Instructor

Robert E. Parson, University Archivist, Special Collections and
Archives

Trustee Professor Emeritus

Anne M. Butler, U.S. West, U.S. Women

Professors Emeritus

William F. Lye, Africa, India, Canada

Michael L. Nicholls, early American history

F. Ross Peterson, U.S. modern political history, Black history

Course Descriptions

History (HIST), [click here](#)

Latin (LATN), [click here](#)

Greek (GRK), [click here](#)

Classics (CLAS), [click here](#)