

History

Division of Social Sciences

- **BA Major in History: 37 credit hours**
- **BS Major in History Education: 28 credit hours**
- **Minor: 18 credit hours**
- **Major/Minor GPA required for graduation: 2.5 cumulative GPA and all major courses completed with a C- or better. For students pursuing an initial licensure in secondary education, all coursework taken towards licensure must be completed with a C or better.**

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

- **Capstone in History: Senior Thesis in History (HIS 410)**
- **Capstone in History Education: Student Teaching**
- **Research: Historical Methods (HIS 110) and Seminar in Historical Research (HIS 310)**

Description of Major: The study of history is a solid preparation for life in an increasingly unpredictable modern world. Its study sharpens abilities to analyze and evaluate information critically, to interpret relationships, to translate ideas into different forms, to apply concepts to varying situations, to synthesize new concepts from given information, and to evaluate alternative courses of action or interpretations of historical data. A history major will develop strong writing and research capabilities, culminating in a major original research paper based on primary source materials.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Students will:

- Build historical knowledge.
- Interpret primary and secondary sources to make historical arguments.
- Apply historical methods and the research process using discipline-specific standards, i.e., the Chicago Manual of Style.
- Create historical arguments and narratives to answer research questions.

Preparation: History has proven to be an outstanding preparation for successful careers in law, teaching, business, writing, and other fields. Social science secondary education students who are interested in procuring a history concentration may pursue a Bachelor of Science in history education.

HISTORY MAJOR REQUIREMENTS		37 crs.
HIS 110	HISTORICAL METHODS	1
HIS 161	WORLD CIVILIZATIONS I	3
HIS 162	WORLD CIVILIZATIONS II	3
HIS 265	INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC HISTORY	3
HIS 310	SEMINAR IN HISTORICAL RESEARCH	3
HIS 371	UNITED STATES WOMEN'S HISTORY	3
HIS 372	AMERICAN ECONOMIC HISTORY	3
HIS 376	MINORITIES IN THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE	3
HIS 377	AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY	3
HIS 410	SENIOR THESIS IN HISTORY (W)	3
ADDITIONAL HISTORY ELECTIVES		9

HISTORY EDUCATION MAJOR REQUIREMENTS
REQUIRED HISTORY COURSES 28 crs.

HIS 110	HISTORICAL METHODS	1
HIS 161	WORLD CIVILIZATIONS I	3
HIS 162	WORLD CIVILIZATIONS II	3
HIS 265	INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC HISTORY	3
HIS 331	ILLINOIS HISTORY	3
HIS 371	UNITED STATES WOMEN'S HISTORY	3
HIS 372	AMERICAN ECONOMIC HISTORY	3
HIS 376	MINORITIES IN THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE	3
HIS 377	AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY	3
ADDITIONAL HISTORY ELECTIVES		3

RECOMMENDED ELECTIVES FOR HISTORY AND HISTORY EDUCATION

HIS 316	GLOBAL LGBTQ IDENTITY AND MOVEMENTS	3
HIS 323	DIVISION AND REUNION	3
HIS 345	AMERICAN BY EAR	3
HIS 375	UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY	3

For a list of professional education program requirements, see the secondary education section under "School of Education."

HISTORY MINOR REQUIREMENTS 18 crs.

Select two from the following:

HIS 161	WORLD CIVILIZATIONS I	3
HIS 162	WORLD CIVILIZATIONS II	3
HIS 261	UNITED STATES HISTORY TO 1877	3
HIS 262	UNITED STATES HISTORY SINCE 1877	3

PLUS:

ADDITIONAL HISTORY ELECTIVES 12 crs.

(9 credits must be at the 300 level or above.)

History (HIS)

HIS 110 HISTORICAL METHODS An exploration of historical thinking, writing, and research intended to develop skills needed for success in upper-level courses. The evolution of historical writing from earliest times to the present is also examined.	1	HIS 277/377 AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY An introduction to the study of African American History, including the history and culture of Western Africa, the Atlantic slave trade, slavery and its effects, as well as the roles, lifestyles, problems, and accomplishments of African Americans from the Colonial period until the present. The course will focus on the African American community analyzing major political, social, economic, religious, cultural, and intellectual trends, patterns, and leaders. Those students taking the course as HIS 377 will be required to write a major research paper, in addition to other required writings. Students may elect to take this course at one level, but not both.	3
HIS 161 WORLD CIVILIZATIONS I A comparative survey of early civilizations in Asia, Africa, and Europe from prehistory to the dawn of Modernity.	3	HIS 280-284 TOPICS IN AMERICAN HISTORY Studies in specialized areas of American History. This course will cover topics or areas not included in the regular curriculum.	1-3
HIS 162 WORLD CIVILIZATIONS II A comparative survey of world civilization from the dawn of Modernity to the Contemporary Age.	3	HIS 285-289 TOPICS IN WORLD HISTORY This course will be of a topical nature or cover regions or nations not included in the regular curriculum.	1-3
HIS 261 UNITED STATES HISTORY TO 1877 A survey of American history from prehistory through the Civil War.	3	HIS 310 SEMINAR IN HISTORICAL RESEARCH Students will define individual topics for their senior research paper after completing a historiographical survey on the proposed topic and identifying major research sources available. This course will lead to the writing of a research proposal to be carried-out in HIS 410. Required of all history majors.	3
HIS 262 UNITED STATES HISTORY SINCE 1877 A survey of American history from the Civil War to the present.	3	HIS 311 ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS (W) A study of the ancient civilizations of the Near East, Greece, and Rome from prehistory to the fall of the Roman Empire.	3
HIS 265 INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC HISTORY This course introduces students to the diverse field of public history, including archives management, museums, and oral history. The course includes theoretical discussion as well as practical experiences.	3	HIS 312 MEDIEVAL HISTORY (W) A study of the period between the fall of the Roman Empire and the Renaissance with a major emphasis on the analysis of primary source materials.	3
HIS 271/371 UNITED STATES WOMEN'S HISTORY The course examines the way in which women have shaped the American past and the ways in which large historical forces have influenced women's lives. Those students taking the course as HIS 371 will be required to write a major research paper, in addition to other required writings. Students may elect to take this course at one level, but not both.	3	HIS 313 EARLY MODERN EUROPE: 1450-1815 (W) A study of the development of European civilization from the Renaissance through the Napoleonic Era.	3
HIS 275/375 UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY A survey of environmental history in the United States, this course provides an overview of the changing relationship between human societies and the natural world. Students taking this course as HIS 375 will be required to complete a major research project in addition to other required writings. Students may elect to take this course at one level, but not both.	3	HIS 314 MODERN EUROPE: 1815-1945 (W) A study of European civilization from the Congress of Vienna to 1945.	3
HIS 276/376 MINORITIES IN THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE A survey of minorities in American history, this course will compare and contrast the histories of the various ethnic groups that make up the American population. Students taking this course as HIS 376 will be required to write a major research paper in addition to other required writings. Students may elect to take this course at one level, but not both.	3		

History (HIS)

HIS 316 GLOBAL LGBTQ IDENTITY AND MOVEMENTS An examination and study of international LGBTQ identity and movements. This course surveys the geopolitical complexities, triumphs, and challenges for transnational LGBTQ advocacy efforts from the mid-nineteenth century to the present.	3	HIS 385-89 TOPICS IN WORLD HISTORY This course will be of a topical nature or cover regions or nations not included in the regular curriculum.	1-4
HIS 321 COLONIAL AMERICA AND THE REVOLUTIONARY ERA (W) A study of Colonial America from its origins in North American pre-history and European expansion through the English Colonies to about 1821. Prerequisite: HIS 261 or instructor consent.	3	HIS 410 SENIOR THESIS IN HISTORY (W) This course focuses on the writing of a professional quality research paper based on primary source materials. Students will also be involved in a seminar situation requiring scholarly criticism of each other's papers on a chapter by chapter basis. Completed papers will be presented orally before the campus community. Prerequisites: HIS 110, 310. Required of all history majors.	3
HIS 323 DIVISION AND REUNION: 1820-1877 A study of Manifest Destiny, rising sectional tensions, the Civil War, and the Reconstruction Era.	3	HIS 470 INTERNSHIP IN HISTORY	3-8
HIS 324 THE EMERGENCE OF MODERN AMERICA: 1890-1945 A study of the emergence of modern America as a major industrial and world power from the end of Reconstruction to the outbreak of World War I.	3	HIS 480 INDEPENDENT STUDY IN HISTORY Individual research in specialized topic areas. Offered only to advanced students on a contractual basis, with consent of history faculty.	1-4
HIS 326 AMERICA SINCE 1945 A study of the history of the United States from the end of World War II to the present.	3		
HIS 331 ILLINOIS HISTORY A survey of the history of Illinois from the earliest times to the present.	3		
HIS 345 AMERICA BY EAR: MODERN AMERICA THROUGH SONG This course utilizes the medium of music as a lens to explore aspects of modern American history, culture, and society. Prior completion of HIS 262 is recommended.	3		
HIS 372 AMERICAN ECONOMIC HISTORY This course surveys the economic history of the United States from the colonial era to the present. Among the topics to be considered are the mercantile economy of British North America, the economics of slavery, the Industrial Revolution, the cycles of boom and bust, the rise of the service economy in the information age, and the globalization of American economic influence.	3		
HIS 380-84 TOPICS IN AMERICAN HISTORY Studies in specialized areas of American History. This course will cover topics or areas not included in the regular curriculum.	1-4		