HISTORY MAJOR

The Department of History seeks to broaden the student’s cultural background through the study of history and to provide preparation for those interested in publishing, teaching, museum work, law, journalism, civil service, military, archival and library work, diplomacy, business school, and graduate study.

Undergraduate advisors assist each major in planning a curriculum to meet his or her personal interests. We expect students to meet with a history undergraduate advisor once every semester.

Courses offered by the Department of History may be found under the acronym HIST.

Program Learning Outcomes

1. Students will be able to distinguish among a variety of genres of primary and secondary historical texts (e.g. documents, monographs, letters, novels, film, political cartoons, essays) and use them appropriately and effectively in academic work.
2. Students will demonstrate the ability to conduct research using primary and secondary sources including archival, print and non-print, and web-based texts.
3. Students will demonstrate the ability to define and defend a historical thesis.

Requirements

Requirements for the History major are 39 hours of history course work distributed as follows: 12 hours in 1xx or 2xx-level introductory courses selected from at least two general geographical fields of history and including HIST208; 15 hours in one major field of specialization (see below); nine hours of history in at least two major areas other than the field of specialization; HIST408. All courses for the major must be completed with a minimum grade of "C-", and 21 hours of the 39 total hours must be at the junior-senior (3xx or 4xx) level. An overall GPA of 2.0 in the major is required for graduation.

At least one course (three credits), must be taken from an approved list of courses on regions outside both Europe and the U.S. The list may be obtained from the History Undergraduate Advisor's Office.

AP and IB credits are accepted.

Course Title Credits
College Requirements (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/arts-humanities/#collegerequirements#text)

Introductory Courses
HIST208 Historical Research and Methods Seminar 3
Select at least one course in two geographical fields at the 1xx or 2xx-level 9

Major Field of Specialization
Select a field of specialization from the following: 15

- Geographic
- Thematic

Select nine hours of History in at least two fields outside the Field of Specialization 2

Capstone
HIST408 Senior Seminar 3

Supporting Courses Outside History
Select 9 credits at the 3xx or 4xx-level in appropriate supporting courses 9

Total Credits 48

1 In considering courses that will fulfill this requirement, students are encouraged to:
   - select at least two courses in a sequence
   - select at least one course before 1500 and one course after 1500
   - sample both regional and topical course offerings. Students will normally take one or more introductory courses within their major field of specialization

2 1. Students are encouraged to select mainly 3xx or 4xx-level courses.
   2. Students are encouraged to consider regional diversity.

3 Will be taken in the senior year and may be inside or outside the field of specialization.

4 To be taken at the 3xx or 4xx-level in appropriate supporting courses; the courses do not all have to be in the same department. Supporting courses should study some aspect of culture and society as taught by other disciplines. A minimum grade of "C-" is required.

Major field of Specialization

Students may choose a field of specialization that is either geographic or thematic:

- Geographic: Africa and the African Diaspora; Europe, Britain, and Russia; Global Interaction and Exchange; Latin America and the Caribbean; North Africa, Middle East, and Central Asia; South and East Asia; United States
- Thematic: Cultural and Intellectual History; Economies, Labor, and Capitalism; Empires and Colonialism; Social Change and Social Movements; Politics, Law, and Government; Race and Ethnicity; Religion and Society; Science, Technology, Medicine, and the Environment; War, Peace, and Society; Women, Gender, and Sexuality; Individualized Pathway

Other Requirements for the Major

HIST208 is a prerequisite for HIST408.

Four Year Plan

Click here (https://www.arhu.umd.edu/academics/advising/academic-plans/) for roadmaps for four-year plans in the College of Arts and Humanities.

Additional information on developing a four-year academic plan can be found on the following pages:

- 4yearplans.umd.edu (http://4yearplans.umd.edu/)
- the Student Academic Success-Degree Completion Policy (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/registration-academic-requirements-regulations/academic-advising/) section of this catalog