

HISTORY

(HSTBA)

A history major prepares students for a broad array of careers in fields that value research experience, analytical skill, and the ability to write well. History is the oldest liberal arts discipline and retains its value today in forming versatile, well-rounded individuals with the core skills needed to adapt to a rapidly changing world.

History majors at Penn State Behrend build a solid foundation in the broad sweep of American, European, and non-Western history through introductory survey courses in their first years of study. After mastering the basics, they proceed to more specialized advanced courses in which they study a specific topic or period in depth and conduct their own historical research. Our program's current strengths are in the histories of America, East Asia, Europe, and the Ancient Middle East. We are conducting a search in the 2008–2009 academic year to hire a historian of modern Africa and/or the Middle East.

The History program stresses both traditional and innovative methods of research, including the analysis of written records, material artifacts, and visual culture. Majors are encouraged to think critically, explore the fundamental determinants of human behavior, and develop effective research and writing skills. Study of the past requires the most modern tools: research and coursework are enhanced by the latest computer technologies.

In addition to basic coursework, the history program offers opportunities for students to embark on independent study to complete original research projects or gain hands-on public history experience by interning with a history-related institution. As an encouragement to student research, the best research paper is rewarded every academic year with the endowed Dr. John Rossi Excellence in Undergraduate Research Award.

For those who are drawn to history but choose to major in another field, an eighteen-credit history minor is provided. Since several of the courses for the minor also fulfill General Education Requirements, it is relatively easy to design a course of study in history that will be a useful and enriching complement to a degree in another discipline.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A major in history provides students with excellent preparation for admission to professional schools and the pursuit of careers in any field where research experience, analytical skills, and good writing are important. Penn State Behrend history graduates have found employment in business, education, law, industry, pastoral ministry, state and local government, law enforcement, library and museum management, the military, and information technology.

Program Chair, Dr. Michael Christofferson, 814-898-6073, msc8@psu.edu
pennstatebehrend.psu.edu/history

HISTORY

(B.A., 124 credits)

Students should review their degree audits via eLion at <http://eLion.psu.edu>

General Education (45 credits)

WRITING/SPEAKING (9 cr)

ENGL 015 or 030H (GWS) _____ (3)
ENGL 202A, B, C, or D (GWS) _____ (3)
CAS 100A, B, C, or H (GWS) _____ (3)

QUANTIFICATION (6 cr)

any GQ course _____ (3)
any GQ course _____ (3)

NATURAL SCIENCES (9 cr)

Students may complete any 9 credits of GN sciences as long as one course contains a lab.

_____ (3)
_____ (3)
_____ (3)

Lab course _____

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY (3 cr)

Students may complete any 3 credits of GHA as long as the total equals 3 or more credits.

ARTS (6 cr)

GA courses*

_____ (3)
_____ (3)

HUMANITIES (6 cr)

GH courses*

_____ (3)
_____ (3)

SOCIAL/BEHAVIORAL (6 cr)

GS courses*

_____ (3)
_____ (3)

*Courses may not be taken in the area of the student's primary major.

Note: A student may request an exception in order to establish a focus in one area. For example, a student may opt to take *one* course in the Social & Behavioral Sciences, *two* in the Arts, and *three* in the Humanities—referred to as the 3-6-9 sequence.

Additional Graduation Requirements

First-Year Seminar (Included in electives) _____ (1)
Writing Across the Curriculum in the major (W)** _____ (3)
International Cultures (IL)**+ _____ (3)
United States Cultures (US)**+ _____ (3)

**Can also be counted toward General Education or major requirements.

+ Effective for students enrolling in or after summer session 2005.

Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements (12–24 credits)

FOREIGN LANGUAGE (0–12 credits): students must attain 12th credit level proficiency.

_____ (4) _____ (4) _____ (4)

This requirement is governed by a placement policy dictated by the number of levels of foreign language completed prior to admission to college.

B.A. KNOWLEDGE DOMAINS (9 credits)

Formerly, students were required to complete 3 credits in each of three domains (Arts, Humanities, Social & Behavioral Sciences). Effective Summer 2005, students are permitted to complete all 9 credits in any one of six domains or a combination thereof, but *courses may not be taken in the area of the*

student's primary major. The six domains are Arts (GA), Humanities (GH), Social & Behavioral Sciences (GS), Natural Sciences (GN), Quantification (GQ), and Foreign Language *if* the coursework is in a second foreign language or beyond the 12th credit proficiency of the first foreign language.

_____ (3) _____ (3) _____ (3)

See complete list of courses at: <http://www.psu.edu/bulletins/bluebook/gened/bad.html>

OTHER CULTURES (3 cr)†

†Cannot be used to satisfy the U.S. & International Cultures requirement. See: <http://www.psu.edu/bulletins/bluebook/gened/bad.html#OCUL>

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR (36 credits)

PRESCRIBED COURSES (12 credits)

HIST 001 _____ (3)
HIST 002 _____ (3)
HIST 020 _____ (3)
HIST 021 _____ (3)

ELECTIVES (19 credits)

_____ ()
_____ ()
_____ ()
_____ ()
_____ ()
_____ ()
_____ ()
_____ (1) First-Year Seminar

ADDITIONAL COURSES (15 credits)

Select 12 credits of 400 level HIST/HSTRY (HSTRY/HIST 495 internships do not count to fulfill this requirement.)
Select 3 credits of 400 level PL SC/POLSC

HIST/HSTRY _____ ()
HIST/HSTRY _____ ()
HIST/HSTRY _____ ()
HIST/HSTRY _____ ()
PL SC/POLSC _____ ()

SUPPORTING COURSES (9 credits)

Select 9 credits in history or related courses (HIST 301 is strongly recommended.)

_____ ()
_____ ()
_____ ()

History Minor

Total of 18 credits in History courses including 6 credits at 400 level

HIST/HSTRY _____ (3)
HIST/HSTRY _____ (3)
HIST/HSTRY _____ (3)
HIST/HSTRY _____ (3)
HIST/HSTRY _____ (3)
HIST/HSTRY _____ (3)

REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

IMPORTANT POLICIES: Minimum Graduation Requirements for Penn State Behrend College Majors

Baccalaureate history majors graduating from Penn State Behrend must achieve an overall grade-point average of at least 2.0 and a C grade or better in all 300/400-level courses within the Prescribed, Additional, and Supporting categories of the major. Students who receive grades below C in 300/400-level courses must repeat courses or take school-approved alternatives, earning grades of C or better.

A SAMPLE SCHEDULE

(This schedule is an example of the courses a history major might take.)

FIRST-YEAR EUROPEAN CONCENTRATION

First Semester HIST 001 First-Year Seminar ENGL 015 or 030 Quantification Foreign Language Arts	Second Semester HIST 002 Quantification Foreign Language HIST 010 or HIST 011 Natural Science GHA, GPA, GPE
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FIRST-YEAR AMERICAN CONCENTRATION

First Semester HIST 020 First-Year Seminar ENGL 015 or 030 Quantification Foreign Language Arts	Second Semester HIST 021 Quantification Foreign Language HIST 010 or HIST 011 Natural Science GHA, GPA, GPE
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Sophomore*

First Semester HIST 020 or HIST 001 ENGL 202B Natural Science CAS 100 Foreign Language	Second Semester HIST 021 or HIST 002 HIST 301 Arts Social Science Humanities GHA, GPE, GPE
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Junior*#

First Semester 400W-level HIST HIST Natural Science Humanities Arts GHA, GPA, GPE	Second Semester 400W-level HIST 400-level HIST Humanities Other Cultures HIST
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Senior#

First Semester 400-level HIST 400-level PL SC Elective Elective Social Science	Second Semester 400-level HIST Social Science Elective Elective HIST
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* Students should consider taking an internship in the summer of their second or third year. If for course credit, sign up for HIST 495 (see Dr. Christofferson for a list of History internships).

Students concentrating on European history should take more 400 levels in European; students concentrating on American history should take more 400 levels in American.

FULL-TIME HISTORY FACULTY

Dr. Richard Aquila, (*Ph.D., Ohio State University*) Director, School of Humanities & Social Sciences;
 U.S. Social and Cultural History, American Studies

Dr. Catherine Bae, (*Ph.D., Stanford University*): Modern East Asia, 20th Century Japan

Dr. Mike O'Connor, (*Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin*): U.S. Intellectual History, U.S. Cultural History, American Studies

Dr. Michael Christofferson (*Ph.D., Columbia University*): Modern European and World History

Dr. Ralph L. Eckert (*Ph.D., Louisiana State University*): America to 1877 and Military History

Dr. A. Daniel Frankforter (*Ph.D., Penn State University*): Ancient and Medieval Europe and Gender Studies

Dr. Carolyn Halladay (*Ph.D., University of California at Santa Cruz*): Modern European and World History

Dr. John P. Rossi (*Ph.D., Rutgers University*): America from 1877, Diplomatic and Business History

This publication is available in alternative media upon request. Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce.