History, BA

Career Advancement

A major in history provides broad training in evaluating and interpreting data, thinking critically, and understanding issues in a global context that prepares history graduates to succeed in careers in nearly any field.

Employers value history students' ability to analyze human and social behavior, research pressing problems, and express themselves clearly. Graduates of the department occupy positions in government, business, journalism, law, entertainment, education, the nonprofit sector, library science, social work, and philanthropy, among others. Iowa's history graduates who choose to continue their education frequently earn admission to top graduate and professional schools.

Career outcomes show that graduates with a history BA fare comparatively well in the workforce. History graduates enter a wide range of professions, and mid-career salaries tend to be strong, particularly in the categories of education, business, and law. Salaries for history graduates are generally higher than those of graduates in other humanities disciplines across all job fields.

The Pomerantz Career Center offers multiple resources to help students find internships and jobs. History students are also encouraged to meet with the departmental advisor and their faculty mentors to discuss their career plans as they prepare for the future.