History, BA

Requirements

The Bachelor of Arts with a major in history requires a minimum of 120 s.h., including 36 s.h. of work for the major. Of the 36 s.h., at least 24 s.h. must be numbered 2000 or above. A maximum of 3 s.h. in history courses (prefix HIST) numbered 1002–1099 may count toward the major. Courses that count toward the major may not be taken on a pass/nonpass basis. Students must maintain a grade-point average of at least 2.00 in all courses for the major and in all UI courses for the major. They must also complete the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences GE CLAS Core.

College Level Equivalency Program (CLEP) and Advanced Placement Program (APP) credit do not count toward the history major. Transfer work that is equivalent to University of Iowa coursework may be accepted toward the major, but at least 18 s.h. of work for the major, including HIST:2151 Introduction to the History Major, must be taken at the University of Iowa.

Students may count up to 56 s.h. of coursework from the Department of History toward credit required for the Bachelor of Arts degree. History majors are encouraged to take courses in other fields that illuminate and expand the meaning of history courses and that introduce information and a variety of approaches to understanding how societies and cultures work.

Students majoring in history are encouraged to complete the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences GE CLAS Core World Languages requirement by choosing a language that fits their interests in history. The department also encourages study abroad programs that complement students' language area interests.

The BA with a major in history requires the following coursework.

Requirements	Hours
Introductory Course	3
Required History Courses	24
History Electives	9
Portfolio	

Introductory Course

Students enroll in HIST:2151 Introduction to the History Major as soon as possible after declaring the major in history. Topics vary, but all sections of HIST:2151 instruct students in the skills they need to succeed in upper-level history courses. Students explore the diverse kinds of sources historians use, including both primary (original) sources and secondary (scholarly) sources. They learn how to frame a historical question, find and interpret relevant sources (in libraries, online, and in archives), and then integrate them into a historical argument, expressed clearly and in accordance with appropriate scholarly conventions. By the end of the semester, students have produced a substantial research paper or project and have a clearer understanding of the historian's craft. Students must include at least one paper or project from HIST:2151 in their history portfolio (visit the "Portfolio" section that follows). Introduction to the History Major (HIST:2151) does not count toward the area (American, European, non-Western, thematic) or pre-1700 era requirements.

Required History Courses

Undergraduate courses in history are divided into four categories: American, European, non-Western, and thematic history. The first three categories are defined geographically. Courses in the fourth category focus on themes, methods, and/or connections and comparisons between histories in the designated geographical areas. Students must earn at least 6 s.h. in each of the designated geographical areas (American, European, non-Western), with at least 3 s.h. in each of those areas taken in courses numbered 3000 or above. Students must earn at least 3 s.h. in thematic history. Students must also take one pre-1700 course from the list that follows.

Students may count a maximum of 18 s.h. earned in American history courses (numbered 1200–1299, 2200–2299, 3200–3299, and 4200–4299) toward the major.

Course #	Title	Hours
American History Courses		
Two American history courses (numbered 1200-1299, 2200-2299, 3200-3299, or 4200-4299), including at least one numbered 3000 or above		6
European History Courses		
Two European history courses (numbered 1400-1499, 2400-2499, 3400-3499, or 4400-4499), including at least one numbered 3000 or above		6
Non-Western History Courses		
Two non-Western history courses (numbered 1500-1999, 2500-2899, 3500-3899, 4500-4999), including at least one numbered 3000 or above		6
Thematic History Course		
One thematic history course (numbered 1100-1199, 2100-2199, 3100-3199, 4100-4199), excluding 2151, 3101, 3191, and 3193		3
Pre-1700 History Course		
One pre-1700 history course (select from the list that follows)		3
History Electives		
Additional history courses selected by the student		9

Pre-1700 History Course

A course taken to fulfill the pre-1700 history course requirement may also be counted toward the requirement in American, European, or non-Western history. These courses fulfill the pre-1700 history requirement.

Course #	Title	Hours
HIST:1401	The West and the World: Ancient	3
HIST:1402	The West and the World: Medieval	3
HIST:1601	Civilizations of Asia: China From Origins to the 17th Century	3
HIST:1602	Civilizations of Asia: China from the 17th Century to the Present	3
HIST:1604	Civilizations of Asia: Japan	3
HIST:1606	Civilizations of Asia: South Asia	3

HIST:2444	Engineering and Technology in the Ancient World	3
HIST:2461	Middle East and Mediterranean: Alexander to Suleiman	3
HIST:3270	Colonial North America, ca. 1600-1775	3
HIST:3289	The Atlantic World c. 1450-1850	3
HIST:3401	The Mediterranean World after Alexander the Great	3
HIST:3404	The World of Ancient Greece	3
HIST:3409	Medieval Civilization I	3
HIST:3410	Medieval Civilization II	3
HIST:3413	Early Modern Britain: The Tudor and Stuart Era	3
HIST:3427	Family, Gender, and Society in Early Modern Europe	3
HIST:3443	Rome at War	3
HIST:3448	Barbarians and the Fall of Rome	3
HIST:3758	The Ancient African Past	3
HIST:4400	The Roman Empire: 31 B.C.E. to 565 C.E.	3
HIST:4406	Warfare in Ancient Mediterranean Society	3
HIST:4407	The Roman Republic: 509 B.C.E. to 31 B.C.E.	3

Portfolio

All history majors must complete a portfolio, enrolling in the portfolio course HIST:3193 Undergraduate History Portfolio during the semester in which they plan to graduate. The portfolio includes three papers or projects completed in history courses and submitted electronically. One paper/project should be from HIST:2151 Introduction to the History Major. A history honors thesis may replace the other two papers/projects. The portfolio does not affect a student's grade-point average; timely submission fulfills the requirement with a grade of S (satisfactory).

Students should submit their portfolios on the University of Iowa ICON website for HIST:3193 early during the semester in which they plan to graduate.

Teacher Licensure

Students interested in teaching in elementary and/or secondary schools should seek admission to the Teacher Education Program (TEP) in the College of Education.

To qualify for licensure in secondary teaching, students in the TEP complete a degree in education as well as a related College of Liberal Arts and Sciences degree. Visit Apply on the College of Education website for details on requirements and deadlines for applying to the College of Education and about TEP choices of majors leading to licensure.