

History, M.A.

The Department of History offers a master's degree program in history. Individuals may pursue the degree for a variety of reasons, from professional enhancement to personal enrichment. Students interested in graduate work may obtain a copy of the current Guide to Graduate Study in history from the Department of History website. The guide is revised annually to include the latest faculty listings, research interests of faculty members, detailed regulations on study toward advanced degrees, and other information for students.

Requirements

The Master of Arts program in history requires a minimum of 30 s.h. of graduate credit, including at least 24 s.h. in history coursework numbered 3000 or above. Students must maintain a cumulative UI g.p.a. of at least 3.33. The M.A. is offered with two options: one that stresses breadth of learning through coursework; and with approval of a faculty advisor, one that emphasizes the development of research capabilities culminating in a research essay designed to prepare students for doctoral studies.

Students are required to take HIST:6002 Introduction to Graduate Studies in History: Historiography and Methods during their first semester in the program. They must take 12 s.h. of coursework (one course numbered 6000 or above) in one major division of history; and 6 s.h. each in two other divisions (with at least one course numbered 6000 or above in one of the two divisions), either in history or a related field. Students work with their primary faculty advisor to determine appropriate coursework.

Students must take a written and oral examination based on the coursework in the major field after they complete these requirements (or in the semester in which completion is expected). The exam is administered by the advisor and two other faculty members.

Combined Programs

M.A./J.D.

The Department of History and the College of Law offer a combined Master of Arts/Juris Doctor. The combined degree program allows students to count a limited amount of credit toward both degrees.

Separate application to each degree program is required. Applicants must be admitted to both programs before they may be admitted to the combined degree program. For information about the J.D., see Juris Doctor, J.D. (College of Law) in the Catalog.

Admission

Applicants must meet the admission requirements of the Graduate College; see the Manual of Rules and Regulations on the Graduate College website.

Applicants must submit academic transcripts and Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test scores. They also must submit examples of original writing to the Department of History, such as a term paper, a seminar paper, or an honors thesis; letters of recommendation from three persons familiar with the student's past academic work; and a one- or two-page personal statement of the applicant's purpose for doing

graduate work. Applicants submit their application online; see History (M.A. or Ph.D.) on the University of Iowa Graduate Admissions website.

All application materials are due by January 15 for entry the following August.

Career Advancement

Graduate study in history prepares students for occupations such as high school or college teaching, publishing, commercial research, foundations and nongovernmental organizations, and government or other public service. With additional specialized training, students may become qualified for careers in historical site preparation and display, and archival, library, or museum work.

Some students choose to pursue the combined Master of Arts/Juris Doctor program which leads to degrees in both law and history; see Combined Programs [p. 1] in this section of the Catalog.

The University of Iowa's history graduates who earn an M.A. experience remarkable job placement rates, depending on their area of study. Graduate and postdoctoral career services offers multiple resources to assist students in locating opportunities and preparing for jobs upon completion of the program.

Academic Plans

Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional sample plans, see MyUI.

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Course	Title	Hours
Academic Career		
Any Semester		
30 s.h. must be graduate level coursework; graduate transfer credits allowed upon approval. More information is included in the General Catalog and on department website. ^a		
Hours		0
First Year		
Fall		
HIST:6002	Introduction to Graduate Studies in History: Historiography and Methods ^b	3
Major Division course ^{c, d}		3
Major Division course ^{c, d}		3
Hours		9
Spring		
Major Division course ^{c, d}		3
Second Division course ^{c, d}		3
HIST:6003	History Theory and Interpretation ^{c, d}	3
Hours		9
Second Year		
Fall		
Major Division course ^{c, d}		3
Second Division course ^{c, d}		3

Third Division course ^{c, d}	3
Hours	9
Spring	
Elective course ^{c, d}	3
Final Exam ^e	3
Hours	3
Total Hours	30

- a Students must complete specific requirements in the University of Iowa Graduate College after program admission. Refer to the Graduate College website and the Manual of Rules and Regulations for more information.
- b Required during first semester in the program.
- c Students must take 12 s.h. of coursework (one course numbered 6000 or above) in one major division of history, and 6 s.h. each in two other divisions (with at least one course numbered 6000 or above in one of the two divisions) either in history or a related field.
- d Work with faculty advisor to determine appropriate coursework; refer to the General Catalog and department website for courses and specifics.
- e Written and oral examination in the student's major division of history.