

History, MA

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 UI cumulative grade-point average of at least 3.33.

The MA is offered with two options: one that stresses breadth of learning through coursework; and with the 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 take a written exam in their major division of history and defend to a committee of three faculty members.

Students who choose a research option instead of a written exam must complete and defend a research essay to a committee of three faculty members. The essay must be based on original research and completed under the guidance of a faculty advisor. The finished essay should emulate the character of articles in learned journals, just as the PhD dissertation takes the form of a full-length scholarly monograph.