History

Degrees Offered

• Master of Arts
• Transatlantic Master of Arts in International History and Security Studies
• Doctor of Philosophy

Nature of the Program

The Department of History offers graduate work in the history of Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, public history, the United States including Appalachia/regional, and world history. In addition to our core areas of strength, the department encourages research that is comparative and transnational in perspective and scope. Faculty research and teaching interests are clustered thematically around four areas: Gender and Kinship, Imperial and Postcolonial Societies, Labor and Political Economy, and War and Society. Our program is designed to give students flexibility to create a plan of study that matches their interests, while at the same time provide a breadth of training in different fields that will prepare students in historiography, research methods, and teaching approaches. Students can select concentrations leading to preparation for careers in teaching and scholarship and as specialists for various branches of government, business, and public service. Students in the program are normally expected to pursue the degrees of master of arts or doctor of philosophy.

Transatlantic Master of Arts in International History and Security Studies

The Department of History has launched a new transatlantic Master of Arts in international history and security studies in partnership with Collegium Civitas, located in Warsaw, Poland, beginning fall 2018. The program is designed as a dual-degree, two-year program consisting of 60 U.S. credit hours, or 120 European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System credits. Students completing the program earn half of these credits at WVU and the other half at Collegium Civitas. Following a successful completion of all requirements, including the thesis defense, two master’s degrees will be conferred—one in history from WVU, and the other in international relations from Collegium Civitas.

WVU students will normally spend their first year of studies at WVU and their second year at CC. Students from Collegium Civitas will spend their first year in Warsaw and their second year in Morgantown. Defense of the joint MA thesis will be held on the premises of both institutions, physically and virtually, with participation by both WVU and CC faculty.

All requirements of the dual-degree program must be met and credits transferred between the institutions before either the U.S. degree from WVU, or the European degree from Collegium Civitas can be issued. As a result, the two degrees, though coming from separate institutions, are awarded simultaneously.

FACULTY

CHAIR

• Joseph Hodge - Ph.D. (Queen's University at Kingston)
  Modern Britain, British Empire, decolonization, international development, Africa

ASSOCIATE CHAIR

• Kathryn Staples - Ph.D. (University of Minnesota)
  Medieval, gender, England, material culture

PROFESSORS

• Katherine Aaslestad - Ph.D. (University of Illinois)
  Modern Europe, Germany
• Robert E. Blobaum - Ph.D. (University of Nebraska)
  Eberly Family Professor of History, modern Central and Eastern Europe
• William I. Brustein - Ph.D. (University of Washington)
  European fascism, European political and religious extremism, comparative anti-Semitism
• Elizabeth Fones-Wolf - Ph.D. (University of Massachusetts)
  20th-century U.S., social and economic
• Kenneth Fones-Wolf - Ph.D. (Temple University) Stuart and Joyce Robbins Distinguished Chair in History
  U.S. labor, Appalachia, immigration, religion
• Robert M. Maxon - Ph.D. (Syracuse University)
  Africa, East Africa, colonial Kenya
• Matthew A. Vester - Ph.D. - (University of California)
  Early modern Europe, Italy

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
• Joshua Arthurs - Ph.D. (University of Chicago)
  Modern Europe, Italy, cultural
• Melissa Bingmann - Ph.D. (Arizona State University)
  Public history, 20th-century U.S.
• Tyler Boulware - Ph.D. (University of South Carolina)
  Early U.S., frontier, Native American
• Joseph Hodge - Ph.D. (Queen's University at Kingston)
  Modern Britain, British Empire, decolonization, international development, Africa
• Brian Luskey - Ph.D. (Emory University)
  19th-century U.S., social and cultural
• Tamba E. M'bayo - Ph.D. (Michigan State University)
  West Africa, colonial and postcolonial, African diaspora and Pan-Africanism
• Jason Phillips - Ph.D. (Rice University)
  Eberly Professor of Civil War Studies, civil war, reconstruction, southern history, 19th-century U.S.
• James Siekmeyer - Ph.D. (Cornell University)
  U.S. diplomatic, Latin America
• Kathryn Staples - Ph.D. (University of Minnesota)
  Medieval, gender, England, material culture
• Mark B. Tauger - Ph.D. (UCLA)
  20th-century Russia/USSR, world/comparative, historiography

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
• Krystal Frazier - Ph.D. (Rutgers University)
  African American, oral history
• Macabe Keliher - Ph.D. - (Harvard University)
  East Asia, China
• William Gorby - Ph.D. - (West Virginia University)
  West Virginia, Appalachia
• Michele Stephens - Ph.D. (University of Oklahoma)
  Latin America, indigenous peoples race and gender

LECTURERS
• Jenny Boulware - M.A. (University of South Carolina)
  Public history
• Carletta Bush - Ph.D. (West Virginia University)
  West Virginia regional

EMERITI FACULTY
• William S. Arnett
  Associate Professor
• Jack Hammersmith
  Professor
• Barbara J. Howe
  Associate Professor
• Elizabeth K. Hudson
  Associate Professor
• Emory L. Kemp
  Professor
• Ronald L. Lewis
  Eberly Chair and Professor
• Stephen C. McCluskey
  Professor
• A. Michal McMahon


REGULAR M.A. ADMISSION

Students seeking admission to the regular master of arts program should have the equivalent of a bachelor’s degree in history. Applicants lacking this degree may be required to make up deficiencies. Application requirements include transcripts (a minimum of a 3.0 average in history courses is expected), three letters of recommendation, a statement of purpose, writing sample, résumé, and a combined score of 300 on the verbal and quantitative sections and 4.0 on the written section of the Graduate Record Examination General Aptitude Test (GRE).

M.A. IN PUBLIC HISTORY ADMISSION

Students apply for admission to the public history area of emphasis as they would for the regular M.A. in history. The statement of purpose should highlight relevant background and reasons for interest in public history. Students in public history should have an undergraduate degree in history. Applicants lacking this degree may be required to make up deficiencies.

TRANSATLANTIC MASTER OF ARTS IN INTERNATIONAL HISTORY AND SECURITY STUDIES ADMISSION

Students apply for admission to the transatlantic master of arts in international history and security studies program as they would for the regular M.A. in history. The statement of purpose should highlight relevant background and reasons for interest in the international history and security studies program. Otherwise, they must meet the same criteria for admission as applicants to the regular M.A. program.

PH.D. ADMISSION

Students seeking admission to the doctor of philosophy program should have the equivalent of a M.A. in history. Application requirements include a transcript (a minimum of a 3.0 average in graduate history courses is required), three letters of recommendation, and a combined score of 300 on the verbal and quantitative sections and a 4.0 on the written section of the Graduate Record Examination General Aptitude Test (GRE). Students should also include a statement of purpose, an example of their written work, and a résumé as a part of the application.

DIRECT ADMISSION TRACK TO PH.D. PROGRAM

Students who have compiled an outstanding record in an undergraduate history major may apply for direct admission to the doctor of philosophy program. They are not required to obtain a master’s degree. Admission directly to the Ph.D. program is highly selective and limited to exceptionally qualified students with superior standing in their bachelor’s degree. Students of this caliber are generally expected to have a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.9 or higher, and are generally expected to have a minimum combined score of 304 (1200 in the old scoring) on the verbal and quantitative sections (with a minimum of 158 on the verbal) and 5.0 on the written section of the Graduate Record Examination General Aptitude Test (GRE). In addition, students must provide evidence that they have experience conducting a substantial piece of original historical research, such as a senior honors thesis or major capstone paper.

Ph.D. in History

Doctor of Philosophy

Individual faculty advisers may require their students to master one or more languages, to demonstrate proficiency in particular research methods (quantitative analysis, paleography, GIS, etc.), or to develop other skills as necessary for their fields of study and dissertation projects.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Minimum GPA of 3.0 is required.

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST 700</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading/Research Seminars</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 799</td>
<td>4-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coursework in four fields of study (major field and three minor fields)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Examination</td>
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<td>Dissertation Proposal</td>
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<td>Dissertation</td>
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<td>Dissertation Defense</td>
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Total Hours 19-21
FIELDS OF STUDY

A candidate must offer a program of study in four fields (a major field and three minor fields). At least three fields must be in history while the other may be in a related field with the approval of the director of graduate studies. Doctoral students must maintain a 3.0 grade point average to remain in good standing. Fields available in the department include, but are not limited to Africa, Appalachia/regional, Europe, Latin America, and the United States. Students may also take a minor field in East Asia, public history, or world history. At least one field must be in a geographic area outside the student’s main area of concentration for dissertation work. For each field of study, students take a comprehensive examination (written and oral) based on knowledge derived from course work and readings from a book list prepared in consultation with the faculty field adviser.

Dissertation work should normally be in the history of the United States, Europe, Appalachia/regional, or modern Africa. Students working in these areas, either at the M.A. or Ph.D. level, have the opportunity to study with adjunct professors and faculty from other departments and universities.

Cultural Resource Management Certificate

The Eberly College of Arts and Sciences also offers an interdisciplinary graduate-level fifteen-hour certificate in cultural resource management (CRM) that is coordinated by the Department of History. Most CRM students earn the graduate certificate in conjunction with an M.A. in history, public administration, recreation parks and tourism, geography, design, art history, or one of several other related graduate degree programs. The requirements for the CRM certificate consist of twelve credit hours of coursework and a three-hour internship or an individual research project (HIST 620). All CRM students must successfully complete HIST 600. Students who are currently admitted to or enrolled in a graduate degree program must register their intent to earn the CRM certificate with the CRM coordinator during the semester prior to their internship. Students who wish to pursue the graduate certificate independent of a graduate degree program must be admitted as non-degree graduate students prior to registering their intent to earn the CRM certificate. Each student is expected to maintain an average GPA of 3.0.

Minimum GPA of 3.0 is required.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST 600</td>
<td>Cultural Resource Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 620</td>
<td>Practicum in Cultural Resource Management</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Graduate coursework</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Total Hours</td>
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Major Learning Outcomes

HISTORY

Students earning a M.A. or Ph.D. in History will be able to:

- Demonstrate general knowledge of the facts, concepts, and approaches of history.
- Demonstrate the ability to understand and critically evaluate the existing literature published within their specific field of research.
- Critically analyze and assess both primary and secondary sources.
- Conduct original historical research and construct manuscripts that are coherently argued, grammatically correct, and use proper historical documentation.
- Clearly and effectively communicate the results of their research in oral and written formats.
- Abide by the ethical and professional principles of the discipline of history.