

# History, B.A.

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## Degree Offered

- Bachelor of Arts

## Nature of the Program

The Department of History offers courses focusing on a variety of world regions and time periods. Degree requirements insure that majors obtain an acquaintance with the history of several such regions and periods and develop skills in research and writing. Majors and non-majors may qualify for membership in Phi Alpha Theta, the national history honorary.

Students who earn a degree in the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences must complete the University requirements, the College requirements for their specific degree program, and their major requirements.

## Minors

All students have the possibility of earning one or more minors; follow the link for a list of all available minors and their requirements (<http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/minors/>). Please note that students may not earn a minor in their major field.

## Career Prospects

The bachelor of arts with a major in history is designed to prepare students for careers in teaching, business, and government, and for graduate work in history, law, and related social sciences and humanities.

## 3+3 Program

The Department of History participates in the 3+3 Program with WVU's College of Law, which is an opportunity for qualified undergraduate students to earn their bachelor's degree and law degree in six years instead of seven years. Students accepted into the 3+3 program begin taking classes at WVU Law in what would be their fourth year of college. Students participating in this program must meet certain eligibility criteria and progress benchmarks. For questions regarding your eligibility, please contact your department advisor.

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## FACULTY

### CHAIR

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

### ASSOCIATE CHAIR

- Matthew Vester - Ph.D. (University of California)  
Early Modern Europe, Italy

### PROFESSORS

- Robert E. Blobaum - Ph.D. (University of Nebraska)  
Eberly Family Distinguished Professor, modern Central and Eastern Europe
- William I. Brustein - Ph.D. (University of Washington)  
European fascism, European political and religious extremism, comparative anti-Semitism
- Brian Luskey - Ph.D. (Emory University)  
19th-century U.S., social and cultural
- Jason Phillips - Ph.D. (Rice University)  
Eberly Professor of Civil War Studies, Civil war and reconstruction, southern history, 19th-century U.S.
- Matthew A. Vester - Ph.D. (University of California)  
Early modern Europe, Italy

### ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

- Melissa Bingmann - Ph.D. (Arizona State University)  
Public history, 20th-century U.S.
- William Gorby - Ph.D. (West Virginia University)  
West Virginia, Appalachia, Immigration
- Sheena Harris - Ph.D. (The University of Memphis)

Race, Class, Gender, Education, Black Women's Organizations, Hip-Hop Feminism

- Joseph Hodge - Ph.D. (Queen's University at Kingston)  
Modern Britain, British Empire, decolonization, international development, Africa
- Tamba E. M'bayo - Ph.D. (Michigan State University)  
West Africa, colonial and postcolonial, African diaspora and Pan-Africanism
- James Siekmeier - Ph.D. (Cornell University)  
U.S. diplomatic, modern Latin America
- Kate Staples - Ph.D. (University of Minnesota)  
Medieval, gender, England, material culture
- Michele Stephens - Ph.D. (University of Oklahoma)  
Latin American, indigenous peoples, race and gender
- Mark Tauger - Ph.D. (UCLA)  
20th-century Russia/USSR, historiography, world/comparative
- Jessica Wilkerson - Ph.D. (University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill)  
Joyce and Stuart Robbins Chair, Appalachia and the South, Women, Gender, and Sexuality, 20th-c U.S., Labor and Working Class History

## **ASSISTANT PROFESSORS**

- Brooke Durham - Ph.D. (Stanford University)  
Modern Europe, French Empire, North Africa, decolonization
- Max Flomen - Ph.D. (UCLA)  
Early American History, Native American History
- Sean Lawrence - Ph.D. (University of California, Santa Cruz)  
Germany, colonialism, Middle East, environment, political economy
- Austin McCoy - Ph.D. (University of Michigan)  
20th-Century U.S., African-American, labor, social movements
- Devin Smart - Ph.D. (University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign)  
Africa, World/Global, environmental
- Jennifer Thornton - Ph.D. (University of California, Riverside)  
Public History

## **EMERITUS FACULTY**

- Katherine Aaslestad  
Professor
- William S. Arnett  
Associate Professor
- Elizabeth Fones-Wolf  
Professor
- Kenneth Fones-Wolf  
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
- Mary Lou Lustig  
Professor
- Robert M. Maxon  
Professor
- Stephen C. McCluskey  
Professor
- A. Michal McMahon  
Associate Professor

- John C. Super  
Professor

## Admissions

- First-Time Freshmen are admitted directly into the major.
- Students transferring from another major at WVU must have a minimum GPA of a 2.0 to be directly admitted to the major.
- Students transferring from another institution must have a minimum GPA of a 2.0 to be directly admitted to the major.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS 2024-2025

The Admission Requirements above will be the same for the 2024-2025 Academic Year.

Major Code: 1449

[Click here to view the Suggested Plan of Study \(p. 7\)](#)

## General Education Foundations

Please use this link to view a list of courses that meet each GEF requirement. (<http://registrar.wvu.edu/gef/>)

NOTE: Some major requirements will fulfill specific GEF requirements. Please see the curriculum requirements listed below for details on which GEFs you will need to select.

Code	Title	Hours
<b>General Education Foundations</b>		
F1 - Composition & Rhetoric		3-6
ENGL 101 & ENGL 102 or ENGL 103	Introduction to Composition and Rhetoric and Composition, Rhetoric, and Research Accelerated Academic Writing	
F2A/F2B - Science & Technology		4-6
F3 - Math & Quantitative Reasoning		3-4
F4 - Society & Connections		3
F5 - Human Inquiry & the Past		3
F6 - The Arts & Creativity		3
F7 - Global Studies & Diversity		3
F8 - Focus (may be satisfied by completion of a minor, double major, or dual degree)		9
Total Hours		31-37

Please note that not all of the GEF courses are offered at all campuses. Students should consult with their advisor or academic department regarding the GEF course offerings available at their campus.

## Degree Requirements

Students must complete WVU General Education Foundations requirements, College B.A. requirements, major requirements, and electives to total a minimum of 120 hours. For complete details on these requirements, visit the B.A. Degrees tab on the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences (<http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/eberlycollegeofartsandsciences/#bachelorofartstext>) page.

## Departmental Requirements for the B.A. in History

- **Capstone Requirement:** The university requires the successful completion of a Capstone course. Students majoring in History will complete HIST 484 to satisfy this requirement.
- **Writing and Communication Requirement:** The History Bachelor of Arts is a **SpeakWrite Certified Program™**. SpeakWrite Certified programs incorporate and develop students' written, verbal, visual, and mediated communication skills across the curriculum.
- **Calculation of the GPA in the Major:** A minimum grade of C- is required in all courses applied to major requirements. If a course is repeated, all attempts will be included in the calculation of the GPA, unless the course is eligible for a D/F repeat.
- **Secondary Concentration:** Students must complete a minor outside of History or a second major.
- **Residence Requirement:** Students must complete a minimum of 18 credits at WVU; a minimum of 6 of those 18 credits must be at the upper-division level (courses numbered 300 or above).

## Curriculum Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
University Requirements		57
ECAS B.A. Requirements		12
History Major Requirements		51
Total Hours		120

## University Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
General Education Foundations (GEF) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 (31-37 Credits)		
Outstanding GEF Requirements 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7		25
HIST 191	First-Year Seminar	1
General Electives		31
Total Hours		57

## ECAS Bachelor of Arts Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Fine Arts Requirement		
Foreign Language Requirement		12
Global Studies and Diversity Requirement		
Total Hours		12

## History Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Introductory History Courses</b>		<b>12</b>
HIST 302	Practicing History	
Select three courses:		
HIST 101	European History: Antiquity to 1600	
HIST 102	European History since 1600	
HIST 104	Latin America: Past and Present	
HIST 105	The Middle East	
HIST 106	East Asia: An Introduction	
HIST 152	Growth of the American Nation to 1865	
HIST 153	Making of Modern America: 1865 to the Present	
HIST 179	World History to 1500	
HIST 180	World History Since 1500	
<b>History Concentration</b>		<b>18</b>
Select two of the following regions and then select nine hours from each of the chosen categories (18 hours), with at least twelve total hours at the 300 or 400 level.		
United States		
HIST 210	Modern Military History	
HIST 250	West Virginia	
HIST 256	History of the American Revolution: 1763-1790	
HIST 257	Antebellum America: 1781-1861	
HIST 259	The United States: 1865-1918	
HIST 261	Recent America: The United States since 1918	
HIST 264	American Indian History	
HIST 276	Twentieth Century American Foreign Relations	
HIST 301	The Great Depression	
HIST 353	1920s America	
HIST 358	United States Cultural History: 1819-1893	

HIST 360	America in the 1960's
HIST 365	The Vietnam War
HIST 375	Hollywood and History
HIST 409	Field Methods in Historic Preservation
HIST 412	Introduction to Public History
HIST 441	Seventeenth Century Colonial America
HIST 442	Eighteenth Century America
HIST 445	History of American Women
HIST 451	African-American History-1900
HIST 452	African-American Since 1900
HIST 453	Civil War and Reconstruction
HIST 454	The Coming of the United States Civil War
HIST 456	The Gilded Age in US History
HIST 457	The United States from McKinley to the New Deal, 1896 to 1933
HIST 459	United States History: New Deal to Great Society
HIST 460	World War II in America
HIST 463	American Foreign Relations to 1941
HIST 464	American Foreign Relations 1941 to Present
HIST 468	The Old South
HIST 469	The New South
HIST 470	United States Civil Rights Movement
HIST 473	Appalachian Regional History
HIST 477	Working Class America
HIST 478	American Immigration History
HIST 489	Introduction to Historic Preservation
Europe	
HIST 201	History of Ancient Times: Stone Age to the Fall of Rome
HIST 203	Introduction to Medieval Europe
HIST 204	Renaissance and Reformation
HIST 205	Absolutism & Enlightenment
HIST 207	Revolutionary Europe
HIST 209	Twentieth Century Europe
HIST 210	Modern Military History
HIST 211	The Mediterranean 1200-1800
HIST 217	History of Russia to 1917
HIST 218	History of Russia: 1900-Present
HIST 221	History of Modern Germany
HIST 220	The Holocaust (The Holocaust)
HIST 277	Revolutions in Science and Technology
HIST 300	Greece and Rome
HIST 304	History of Sacred Places
HIST 313	France from 1450 to 1750
HIST 314	France Since 1815
HIST 317	German Central Europe, 1648-1900
HIST 318	Twentieth Century German Central Europe
HIST 330	History of Italy, 1200-1800
HIST 331	History of Italy since 1800
HIST 346	Women, Gender, and Kinship in Premodern Europe
HIST 402	Greece: From Troy to Alexander
HIST 403	Rome: From Romulus to Zenobia
HIST 414	The Great War, 1914-1918
HIST 415	Early Modern Law & Society

HIST 416	The French Wars of Religion
HIST 417	World War II in Europe
HIST 418	Eastern Europe Since 1945
HIST 419	Revolutionary Russia: 1900-1953
HIST 420	USSR and After: 1953 to Present
HIST 421	Hitler and the Third Reich
HIST 422	Twentieth-Century Germany from Weimar to Bonn
HIST 423	History of Fascism
HIST 424	Britain 1455-1603
HIST 430	Living and Dying in Medieval Europe
HIST 432	Eighteenth Century Britain: 1715-1832
Africa, Asia, and Latin America	
HIST 201	History of Ancient Times: Stone Age to the Fall of Rome
HIST 225	Gandhi and Beyond: Modern History of South Asia
HIST 241	Latin America: Culture, Conquest, Colonization
HIST 242	Latin America: Reform and Revolution
HIST 281	Peasants to Agribusiness: History and Problems of Modern Agriculture
HIST 300	Greece and Rome
HIST 304	History of Sacred Places
HIST 319	Myth and Culture in Pre-colonial Africa
HIST 320	Pre-Colonial Africa
HIST 321	Colonial Africa and Independence
HIST 325	Modern China
HIST 326	Modern Japan
HIST 350	The Aztec, Maya, and Inca
HIST 365	The Vietnam War
HIST 370	Latin America and the World
HIST 402	Greece: From Troy to Alexander
HIST 403	Rome: From Romulus to Zenobia
HIST 427	East Africa to 1895
HIST 428	East Africa Since 1895
HIST 433	West Africa to 1885
HIST 434	West Africa from 1885
HIST 435	History of Chinese Thought
HIST 437	Africa in World History
HIST 439	History of Modern Mexico
HIST 440	Mexican Law from Montezuma to El Chapo
<b>Non-Western History Requirement</b>	
Select one of the following, may overlap with another course taken	
At least one course in the African/ Asian/ Latin American list above	
or:	
HIST 179	World History to 1500
or:	
HIST 180	World History Since 1500
<b>Capstone Experience</b>	
HIST 484	Historical Research-Capstone
<b>Secondary Concentration/ Minor (fulfills the F8 requirement)</b>	
Students must complete a minor, double major, or dual degree	
<b>Total Hours</b>	

## Suggested Plan of Study

The plan below illustrates a plan of study with a minor.

### First Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
HIST 191		1 ENGL 101 (GEF 1)	3
GEF 2		4 GEF 3	3
HIST 302		3 GEF 4	3
HIST Intro Course 1		3 HIST Intro Course 2	3
Foreign Language 101		3 Foreign Language 102	3
General Elective		1	
		15	15

### Second Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
ENGL 102 (GEF 1)		3 ECAS Fine Arts Requirement (GEF 6)	3
GEF 5		3 Foreign Language 204	3
Foreign Language 203		3 HIST Concentration Area 1	3
ECAS Global Studies & Diversity Requirement (GEF 7)		3 Minor Course 1	3
HIST Intro Course 3		3 General Elective	3
		15	15

### Third Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
HIST Concentration Area 1		3 HIST Concentration Area 2	3
HIST Concentration Area 1		3 HIST Concentration Area 2	3
Minor Course 2		3 Minor Course 3	3
General Elective		3 General Elective	3
General Elective		3 General Elective	3
		15	15

### Fourth Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
HIST Concentration Area 2		3 HIST 484 (Capstone and Writing)	3
HIST Non-Western		3 Minor Course 5	3
Minor Course 4		3 General Elective	3
General Elective		3 General Elective	3
General Elective		3 General Elective	3
		15	15

Total credit hours: 120

## Suggested 3+3 Program Plan of Study

### First Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
HIST 191		1 ENGL 101 (GEF 1)	3
HIST 302		3 Foreign Language 102	3
Foreign Language 101		3 HIST Intro Course 1 (GEF 5)	3
General Elective		2 HIST Intro Course 2	3
GEF 2		3 GEF 3	3
GEF 4		3	
		15	15

### Second Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
ENGL 102 (GEF 1)		3 ECAS Fine Arts Requirement (GEF 6)	3
Foreign Language 203		3 Foreign Language 204	3

HIST Intro Course 3 (GEF 7) (Non-western and ECAS Gl. St. and Div. Req.)		3 HIST Concentration Area 1	3
Minor Course 1		3 HIST Concentration Course Area 1	3
GEF 2		3 Minor Course	3
		15	15
<b>Third Year</b>			
<b>Fall</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Hours</b>
HIST Concentration Area 1		3 HIST 484 (Capstone)	3
HIST Concentration Area 2		3 HIST Concentration Area 2	3
Minor Course 3		3 HIST Concentration Area 3	3
Minor Course 4		3 Minor Course 5	3
General Elective		3 General Elective	3
		15	15
<b>Fourth Year</b>			
<b>Fall</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Hours</b>
LAW 641		1 LAW 638	3
LAW 700		2 LAW 706	2
LAW 703		4 LAW 707	4
LAW 705		3 LAW 711	2
LAW 709		4 LAW 725	4
LAW 722		3	
		17	15

Total credit hours: 122

## Degree Progress

- Students must maintain a 2.0 GPA overall and a minimum of a 2.00 GPA in History every semester (with a 2.2 in HIST required for graduation).
- All majors must meet with their History adviser every semester.

Students who do not meet these benchmarks may be removed from their major.

## Major Learning Outcomes

### HISTORY

Upon successful completion of their undergraduate degree in **History**, students will demonstrate competence in the following ways and areas:

1. Students will be able to explain and analyze the histories of a variety of geographical and chronological contexts.
2. Students will be able to identify and analyze primary sources, based on familiarity with the historiography and methodologies covered in their courses.
3. Students will be able to evaluate and analyze secondary sources, based on familiarity with the historiography and methodologies covered in their courses.
4. Students will be able to produce analytically-driven written and oral work based on the critical evaluation of evidence.
5. Students will be able to research and write scholarly papers that develop an argument on a defined historical topic, based on primary and secondary sources and that relates their work to the historical literature.