MA in History

Admission Requirements

Applicants are considered on an individual basis. In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, applicants must meet the following program requirements:

- **Baccalaureate Field** Applicants must have either an undergraduate major in history or a minimum of 16 semester hours in history.
- **Grade Point Average** At least 3.00/4.00 for the final 60 semester hours (90 quarter hours) of undergraduate study. A GPA of 3.50/4.00 is recommended.
- **Minimum English Competency Test Score**
  - TOEFL 80, with subscores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Speaking 20, and Writing 21 (iBT Test); 60, with subscores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Writing 21 (revised Paper-Delivered Test), OR,
  - IELTS 6.5, with subscores of 6.0 for all four subscores, OR,
  - PTE-Academic 54, with subscores of Reading 51, Listening 47, Speaking 53, and Writing 56.
- **Letters of Recommendation** Three required, from former professors for the MA, MAT, and PhD.
- **Personal Statement** Required.
- **Writing Sample** Required.
- **Other Requirements for Applicants to the MA (Doctoral Track) and the PhD in History** If they wish to enroll in a departmental concentration (WRG UW or Encounters), which is recommended, applicants should indicate in their required personal statement which concentration (WRG UW or Encounters) they wish to study. Application instructions are available on the Department of History website.

Degree Requirements

In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, students must meet the following program requirements:

- **Minimum Semester Hours Required** 32.
- **Course Work** Two tracks exist, one for students for whom this degree is intended to be final (the MA-only track), and one for whom this degree is intended to lead toward the Doctor of Philosophy in History (the doctoral track). At least 20 semester hours must be at the 500-level, and at least 16 semester hours must be in 500-level courses taught by the Department of History. Courses taken in a field other than history that are to count toward the degree need the approval of the advisor and the director of graduate studies. Credit toward the degree is not given for any course in which the student received a grade of less than B.
- **Required Courses**: 4 hours of the 500-level seminar in the student’s major area. Students majoring in United States history must complete 8 hours of HIST 551 designated as the historiographical/bibliographical colloquium. All entering graduate students are required to take HIST 501.
- **Comprehensive Examination** Required for students on MA-only track. Students on the doctoral track do not take master’s comprehensive exams.
- **Thesis, Project, or Course-Work-Only Options** Course work only. No other options are available.

- **Other Requirements** Students must complete a seminar paper. Students must demonstrate reading knowledge in one (non-English) foreign language relevant to their course of study. Any additional foreign language requirement will be determined by the student’s advisor. After the student has completed 24 hours of course work, a faculty committee representing the student’s major and minor fields will review the record of each doctoral-track MA student in the final semester of her/his MA studies to decide whether it justifies the pursuit of doctoral studies. If the decision is negative, the student will be put on MA-only track, and will be required to take comprehensive examinations and fulfill all other requirements of the MA degree.

Interdepartmental Concentrations

Students earning a graduate degree in this department may complement their courses by enrolling in select concentrations after consulting with their graduate advisor. Interdepartmental concentrations available for this degree include:

- Black Studies
- Central and Eastern European Studies
- Gender and Women’s Studies
- Latin American and Latino Studies
- Museum and Exhibition Studies