History (BA/BS)

From the controversies over monuments to the “Lost Cause” of the American south to the impact of pandemics on indigenous communities to the roots of authoritarianism, understanding the past and its resonance in the present and future is more important than ever. Studying the past trains majors to think rigorously, to write clearly, and to interpret events and problem-solve with creativity and confidence.

The bachelor of arts and bachelor of science in history are amazingly versatile degrees. The history major cultivates learning and skills that are crucial for careful and systematic thinking and, more broadly, are integral to a liberal arts education.

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Recognize the complexity of historical experiences in diverse parts of the world.
- Understand other chronological eras in context, including substantial historical knowledge of premodern histories.
- Analyze historical arguments and evaluate conflicts of interpretation, examine the evidence, and learn how historians construct explanations in writing.
- Identify a historical problem for study, locate evidence relevant to that problem, analyze that evidence critically, and develop a research strategy to address the historical questions.
- Synthesize information from a variety of sources to construct cogent arguments, and express those arguments in clear, convincing prose.

All history majors, regardless of whether they are earning a BA or BS, must fulfill the second-language requirement associated with the university’s bachelor of arts core-education requirement. They must demonstrate proficiency in a second language either by completing, with a C– or better or P, at least the third term, second year of a second language. History courses that satisfy major requirements must be taken for a letter grade and that grade must be a C- or better. Specific requirements follow:

Bachelor's Degree in History (BA/BS)

Code	Title	Credits
Upper-Division History Courses		**33**
21 credits at the 400 level, including a 5-credit Seminar (HIST 407) [1]		
8 credits in history before 1800		
4 credits in each of four concentration areas selected from a list of six historical fields [2]		
Additional History Courses [3]		**12**
HIST 290	Historian's Craft	4
Total Credits		**49**

1. No more than 8 credits of Reading and Conference (HIST 405) may be used to fulfill major requirements.
2. Historical fields: 1) Europe, 2) United States, 3) Africa and the Middle East, 4) Asia, 5) Latin America, 6) World
3. Upper or lower division

Historical Fields Courses

Code	Title	Credits
Europe		
HIST 301	Modern Europe	
HIST 302	Modern Europe	
HIST 303	Modern Europe	
HIST 320	High Middle Ages in Europe	
HIST 321	Late Middle Ages in Europe	
HIST 337	France	
HIST 342	German History: [Topic]	
HIST 346	Imperial Russia	
HIST 347	Soviet Union and Contemporary Russia	
HIST 361	Early Modern Science	
HIST 412	Ancient Greece: [Topic]	
HIST 414	Ancient Rome: [Topic]	
HIST 427	Intellectual History of Modern Europe: [Topic]	
HIST 428	Europe in the 20th Century: [Topic]	
HIST 436	Medieval Central Europe: [Topic]	
HIST 441	16th-Century European Reformations	
HIST 443	Modern Germany: [Topic]	
HIST 444	The Holocaust	
HIST 446	Modern Russia: [Topic]	
United States		
HIST 308	History of Women in the United States I	
HIST 309	History of Women in the United States II	
HIST 340	US Military History	
HIST 351	American Radicalism	
HIST 352	The United States in the 1960s	
HIST 362	History of US Cities	
HIST 363	American Business History	
HIST 368	American West in Popular Culture	
HIST 378	American Environmental History to 1890	
HIST 379	American Environmental History, 1890-Present	
HIST 388	Vietnam War and the United States	
HIST 449	Race and Ethnicity in the American West	
HIST 455	Colonial American History	
HIST 456	Revolutionary America	
HIST 457	19th-Century United States: [Topic]	
HIST 463	American Economic History: [Topic]	
HIST 466	The American West	
HIST 467	The American West	
HIST 468	The Pacific Northwest	
HIST 469	American Indian History: [Topic]	
HIST 470	African American History to 1877: [Topic]	
HIST 471	African American History since 1877: [Topic]	
HIST 473	American Environmental History: [Topic]	
Africa and Middle East		
HIST 325	Precolonial Africa	
HIST 326	Colonial and Postcolonial Africa	

HIST 417	Society and Culture in Modern Africa: [Topic]
HIST 419	African Regional Histories: [Topic]
HIST 450	The Iraq War
Asia	
HIST 386	India
HIST 387	Early China
HIST 396	Samurai in Film
HIST 487	China: [Topic]
HIST 490	Japan: [Topic]
HIST 491	Medicine and Society in Premodern Japan
HIST 497	Culture, Modernity, and Revolution in China: [Topic]
HIST 498	Early Japanese Culture and Society: [Topic]
Latin America	
HIST 380	Latin America
HIST 381	Latin America
HIST 382	Latin America, 1910 to the Present
HIST 483	Latin America: [Topic]
World	
HIST 415	Advanced World History: [Topic]
HIST 416	Advanced Women's History: [Topic]

History Before 1800 Courses

Code	Title	Credits
HIST 301	Modern Europe	
HIST 320	High Middle Ages in Europe	
HIST 321	Late Middle Ages in Europe	
HIST 325	Precolonial Africa	
HIST 337	France	
HIST 346	Imperial Russia	
HIST 361	Early Modern Science	
HIST 380	Latin America	
HIST 387	Early China	
HIST 412	Ancient Greece: [Topic]	
HIST 411	Advanced Reacting to the Past: [Topic] (For some topics)	
HIST 414	Ancient Rome: [Topic]	
HIST 436	Medieval Central Europe: [Topic]	
HIST 441	16th-Century European Reformations	
HIST 455	Colonial American History	
HIST 456	Revolutionary America	
HIST 470	African American History to 1877: [Topic] (For some topics)	
HIST 483	Latin America: [Topic] (For some topics)	
HIST 487	China: [Topic] (For some topics)	
HIST 490	Japan: [Topic] (For some topics)	
HIST 491	Medicine and Society in Premodern Japan	
HIST 498	Early Japanese Culture and Society: [Topic]	

Additional Requirements

In exceptional circumstances, a term paper written in Seminar: [Topic] (HIST 407) or in a 400-level course may be expanded into a research paper. Students who have secured approval from the director of undergraduate studies for this option enroll in Reading and Conference: [Topic] (HIST 405 (http://catalog.uoregon.edu/archive/2023-2024/search/?P=HIST%20405))for 2 graded credits. The arrangement for writing a research paper based on the term paper is one that requires not only the approval of the director of undergraduate studies but also the agreement of the instructor in the relevant 400-level course to teach the reading and conference course and to supervise the writing of the research paper. This procedure for writing a research paper does not duplicate the seminar experience. It should not be used to compensate for a student's lack of planning or preparation. It is permitted only when there are strong pedagogical reasons for pursuing it.

A grade point average (GPA) of 2.50 or higher is required in history courses taken at the University of Oregon. A mid-C or better is required in courses taken to fulfill the research paper requirement. Majors who maintain a GPA of 3.50 or better qualify for the history honors track. More information on this option may be found on the department website.

A total of 21 upper-division credits, including three courses numbered 408, 410–499, and all courses taken to fulfill the research paper requirement must be taken at the University of Oregon.

History Honors Program

The honors program provides an opportunity for capable and highly motivated history majors to develop their interests in historical research by writing a thesis during the senior year. To be eligible for admission to the program, students must have completed at least 28 credits in history, of which at least 16 upper-division credits must have been taken at the University of Oregon. The grade point average in all history courses must be 3.50 or better. Students who satisfactorily complete the thesis and related work and fulfill the requirements of the history major are eligible for a bachelor’s degree with honors in history. Information about procedures for admission to the honors program, the course of study, the nature of the thesis, and the oral examination on the thesis may be obtained from the history department staff.

Four-Year Degree Plan

The degree plan shown is only a sample of how students may complete their degrees in four years. There are alternative ways. Students should consult their advisor to determine the best path for them.

Bachelor of Arts in History: Environmental History Emphasis

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
First Year			
Fall			
ITAL 101	First-Year Italian	5	
WR 121Z	Composition I	4	
ANTH 150	World Archaeology	4	
HIST 215	Food in World History	4	
	Credits	**17**	
Winter			
ITAL 102	First-Year Italian	5	
WR 123	College Composition III	4	

ARH 205	History of Western Art II	4
History course to be chosen in consultation with advisor		4
	Credits	**17**
Spring		
ITAL 103	First-Year Italian	5
HIST 106	World History	4
ANTH 173	Evolution of Human Sexuality	4
	Credits	**13**
	Total Credits	**47**

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Second Year			
Fall			
ITAL 201	Second-Year Italian	4	
MUS 265	US Popular Music 1965 to 2000	4	
HIST 290	Historian's Craft	4	
HIST 380	Latin America	4	
	Credits	**16**	
Winter			
ITAL 202	Second-Year Italian	4	
PS 205	Introduction to International Relations	4	
ARH 211	Survey of Latin American Arts	4	
HIST 325	Precolonial Africa	4	
	Credits	**16**	
Spring			
GEOG 141	The Natural Environment	4	
ITAL 203	Second-Year Italian	4	
ANTH 361	Human Evolution	4	
HIST 382	Latin America, 1910 to the Present	4	Latin America field credits (completed
	Credits	**16**	
	Total Credits	**48**	

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Third Year			
Fall			
FLR 320	Car Cultures	4	
CINE 350	Queer European Cinema	4	
ENG 362 or similar		4	
	Credits	**12**	
Winter			
ARH 315	History of World Architecture II	4	
PS 326	United States Foreign Policy I	4	
ENVS 345	Environmental Ethics	4	
HIST 415	Advanced World History: [Topic] (Environmental History of the Pacific)	4	
	Credits	**16**	
Spring			
ARH 352	Art of the Enlightenment	4	
ENVS 411	Environmental Issues: [Topic] (H2O: Life and Death)	4	
HIST 415	Advanced World History: [Topic] (Energy and World Politics)	4	
PS 440	Causes and Prevention of War	4	
	Credits	**16**	
	Total Credits	**44**	

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Fourth Year			
Fall			
ARH 457	Contemporary Art: [Topic] (Global Asia)	4	
HIST 473	American Environmental History: [Topic] (United States Environmental History)	4	
PS 477	International Environmental Politics	4	
	Credits	**12**	
Winter			
ARH 407	Seminar: [Topic] (Chinese Cinema)	4	
REL 357	War, Terrorism, and Religion	4	
ENVS 435	Environmental Justice	4	
HIST 473	American Environmental History: [Topic] (Colonial Environmental History)	4	
	Credits	**16**	
Spring			
HIST 407	Seminar: [Topic] (Environment and Colonialism)	5	
Upper-division environmental studies course		4	
PS 460 or similar		4	
Upper-division art history course		4	
	Credits	**17**	
	Total Credits	**45**	