History

Fletcher Jones Foundation Chair in the Social Sciences, Professor R. Pointer
Professors M. Robins, C. Mallampalli
Associate Professor A. Chapman (chair)
Assistant Professor H. Keaney

Description of the Major. History is the study of human activity in the world and its meaning from the earliest times to the present. It explores different dimensions of human interactions in their environments, including politics, economics, religion, culture, and ecology, and thereby enables students to interpret their own society better.

The study of history sharpens analytical and critical skills essential to intelligent citizenship in today’s world. It fosters the ability to ask good questions, to understand situations from several vantage points, to cultivate humility, and to understand and appreciate other times, people, and cultures. Students learn to conduct research and communicate their findings clearly. All these skills are readily transferable to a wide range of careers.

The history department provides courses in a variety of time periods and geographic areas. Students gain familiarity with the methodology and philosophy of historical study. All courses nurture research and writing skills.

Distinctive Features. The history major begins with Foundations of History, a course that teaches students the skills of the historian’s trade, namely reading primary and secondary sources, historical research, and writing with a clear argument and good evidence. Upper-division classes require students to use these skills as they learn about a particular area and time period. Courses emphasize careful reading, discussion, integrity in the handling of sources, writing, and analysis of differing interpretations. Students complete their major in a senior seminar that requires them to produce a substantial piece of historical research on a topic of their choosing.

Many students spend a semester abroad during the course of their studies. Some do so as part of the major’s International Studies track. There is also a track for those who wish to pursue a career in secondary education. Students considering graduate work in history are encouraged to do the Graduate Studies track, which requires significant work in a foreign language.

Career Choices. History graduates pursue a wide range of careers. Most make their way into fields such as law, business, non-profit work, management, government service, and Christian ministry. The major’s emphasis on research and writing produces clear thinkers and able communicators who flourish in a variety of occupations. Other graduates pursue a teaching career in elementary or secondary schools. Some proceed to graduate school and become professional historians, archivists, or other types of public historian.
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Requirements for a Major: 40-52 units

A. Standard Track: 40 units

Required Courses: 12 units
HIS 001 Foundations of History (4)
HIS 009 World Civilizations to 1750 (4)
HIS 198 Senior Research Seminar (4)

Required Upper-Division Courses: 20 units
One of the following: (4) Modern Europe
HIS 140 European Politics and Diplomacy Since 1789 (4)
HIS 141 European Society and Culture Since 1789 (4)
HIS 142 European Intellectual History, 1650-Present (4)

One of the following: (4) United States
HIS 171 Colonial and Revolutionary America (4)
HIS 173 Civil War and Reconstruction America (4)
HIS 175 Recent America (4)

One of the following: (4) Early Modern Europe
HIS 121 Medieval Mediterranean (4)
HIS 133 European States and Peoples, 1350-1750 (4)
HIS 134 European Intellectual and Cultural History, 1350-1650 (4)

Two of the following: (8) Non-Western/Non-U.S.
HIS 161 Latin America to Independence (4)
HIS 162 Modern and Contemporary Latin America (4)
HIS 180 The Age of Islamic Empires, 600-1800 (4)
HIS 181 The Modern Middle East, 1800-Present (4)
HIS 182 History of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict (4)
HIS 184 History of Christianity in Asia (4)
HIS 185 Imperialism and Independence (4)
HIS 186 Modern South Asia (4)
HIS 187 Women in Asian History (4)
HIS 188 Women in the Middle East (4)

Additional HIS Electives: 8 units

B. Graduate School Track: 48 units

Completion of the Standard Track (40).
Completion of 8 units of Intermediate Modern Foreign Language (8)
Recommended: completion of a major honors project supervised by the History Department.

C. International Studies Track: 52 units

Students will choose a region of emphasis (Latin America, Asia, Middle East, Europe).

Requirements in history (36)
HIS 001 Foundations of History (4)
HIS 009 World Civilizations to 1750 (4)
HIS 198 Senior Research Seminar (4)
24 additional units of history, of which 20 units must be upper division. Students
must complete at least 8 units of upper-division history in their region of
emphasis, and at least 8 outside their region of emphasis.

Foreign language (8)
8 units of foreign language appropriate to the region of emphasis. If the language
chosen is offered on campus, 4 of the 8 units must be upper-division.

Requirements in related fields (8)
8 units of upper-division related coursework in the region of emphasis (e.g. SP/FR
150 Cross-Cultural Studies) as approved by their major advisor. These units may
be in history.

Off Campus requirement
Students will complete one semester in an overseas program in the region of
emphasis as approved by their major advisor and in consultation with the off-
campus program office.

Secondary Education Teacher Track: 52 units

Required Lower-Division Courses: 28 units
HIS 001 Foundations of History (4)
HIS 007 United States to 1877 (4)
HIS 008 United States 1877-Present (4)
HIS 009 World Civilizations to 1750 (4)
POL 010 American Government (4)
EB 011 Principles of Macroeconomics (4)
EB 012 Principles of Microeconomics (4)

Required Upper-Division Courses: 24 units
One of the following: (4)
  HIS 178 California Experience (4)
  HIS 179 California History and Literature (4)
One of the following: (4)
  HIS 171 Colonial and Revolutionary America (4)
  HIS 173 Civil War and Reconstruction America (4)
  HIS 175 Recent America (4)
HIS 198 Senior Research Seminar (4)
One upper-division course in European history (4)
One upper-division course in Non-Western history (4)
One upper-division elective in history (4)

Recommended Courses:
ENG 106 Language Acquisition (4)
ED 105 Perspectives on Cultural Diversity and Education (4)
ED 130 Special Education for the Classroom Teacher (2)
ED 161 Computers for the Classroom Teacher: Secondary (2)
KNS 156 Health Education for the Classroom Teacher (2)
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Additional course work in American politics, international politics, the American economy, and the global economy.

Requirements for a Minor: 20 units

Required Lower-Division Course: 4 units
HIS 001 Foundations of History (4)

Required Upper-Division Courses: 16 units
Students must complete 8 units of Western (United States, Europe) history and 8 units of non-Western (Latin America, Middle East, Asia) history.

Lower-Division Course Descriptions

HIS 001 Foundations of History (4) An introduction to the discipline of history. Includes development of research, analytical, and synthetic skills. Requires evaluation, organization, and writing.

HIS 007 United States to 1877 (4) A survey of America’s political, economic, social, and cultural development from the first encounters of Europeans and Native Americans through the Civil War and Reconstruction.

HIS 008 United States 1877-Present (4) A survey of America’s political, economic, social, and cultural development from the aftermath of Reconstruction through the present.

HIS 009 World Civilizations to 1750 (4) A survey of world civilizations from earliest times to 1750. Exposes students to the historical development of a range of Western and non-Western cultures and emphasizes global contacts in all historical eras. Given the number of elementary teaching candidates enrolled in this class, careful attention is given to the content required by the State of California, as delineated in Appendix A of the Standards of Program Quality and Effectiveness for the Subject Matter Requirement for the Multiple Subject Teaching Credential and the History-Social Science Content Standards for California Public Schools, K-12.

HIS 010 Perspectives on World History (4) An exploration of world history during the early modern and modern eras. Students will consider key themes and texts across a range of world cultures and will be encouraged to develop a thoughtful and historical approach to cultural diversity while gaining a narrative understanding of the sweep of world history. The course will expose students to various Christian perspectives within and upon world history, as well as multiple other perspectives on the past.

HIS 012 Greece (4) The Mycenaean period to the Roman conquest. Emphasizes political and cultural influence on the Western world.

HIS 046 Russia, 1700 to Present (4) Development of Russian society and culture since Peter the Great. Exploration of continuity and change from Czarist period to the fall of the Soviet Union.

HIS 083 Modern China and Japan (4) Political, economic, and cultural development of China and Japan from 1850 to the present.
HIS 091 Topics in Women’s History (4) An introductory class focusing on a consideration of recent theoretical and methodological trends in women’s studies, as well as the history of women in a particular geographical area. Geographical area will be rotated.

Upper-Division Course Descriptions

HIS 121 Medieval Mediterranean (4) A cross-cultural study of Byzantine, Islamic and Western civilizations between the first crusade and the capture of Constantinople (1085-1204). Explores themes related to the individual history of each region (political, religious, and social structures) as well as the interactions between the three civilizations (holy war, commerce, cultural and artistic exchanges).

HIS 133 Renaissance Europe (4) A cultural, social and political history of the European Renaissance, from the Italian Communes to Machiavelli (1200-1550).

HIS 134 Spirituality and Ritual in Medieval and Early Modern Europe (4) A study of the religious sentiment, daily life and political culture in Europe between 1400 and 1700.

HIS 140 European Politics and Diplomacy Since 1789 (4) A study of the major nation states of Europe and their interaction from the French Revolution through the fall of the Soviet Union.

HIS 141 European Society and Culture Since 1789 (4) A study of continuity and change at the level of daily life during the modern period. Explores such themes as the development of new types of political discourse, the impact of the industrial revolution, the secularization thesis, the impact of total war, and the reinvention of tradition.

HIS 142 European Intellectual History, 1650-Present (4) A survey of classic works of the history of ideas since 1650.

HIS 147 Reacting to the Past (4) An exploration of two defining historical crises through role-playing games. Students take on particular roles and act out particular debates from the past. Reacting to the Past is an opportunity to put yourself in the past and see things from the perspective of people who lived there.

HIS 151/RS 151 History of World Christianity (4) Surveys the history of Christianity from the New Testament to the present in Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Middle East, and from the colonial period to the present in North America and Latin America. Particular attention will be paid to intellectual, cultural, political, theological, and institutional developments in Roman Catholicism, Eastern Orthodoxy, and Protestantism.

HIS 156 France, 1500 to Present (4) A survey of the many forces and events, such as religious reformation, revolutions, intellectual strife and strikes that have shaped French history. Special emphasis will be placed in the various constructions of French identity as seen through cultural sources (literature, music, art, and film).

HIS 161 Latin America to Independence (4) Latin America from pre-Columbian times through the wars of independence.

HIS 162 Modern and Contemporary Latin America (4) Nineteenth and twentieth centuries; inter-American relations; the role of Latin America in world affairs.

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HIS 171 Colonial and Revolutionary America (4) A study of early American politics, society, and culture from the era of first contacts through the gaining of independence and the writing of the constitution.

HIS 173 Civil War and Reconstruction America (4) An intensive study of the United States amid sectional conflict, civil war, and Reconstruction in the mid-nineteenth century.

HIS 175 Recent America (4) A study of the United States since 1945 emphasizing key domestic and foreign developments (e.g., Civil Rights Movement, Vietnam War) that have shaped the character of contemporary America.

HIS/POL 178 California Experience (4) A multidisciplinary study of the idea and experience that is California; its Spanish/Mexican roots, its colorful past, diverse present and multicultural future. Students may not earn credit for this course if they have taken HIS/ENG 179.

HIS 179 California History and Literature (4) A multidisciplinary study of California history and literature from Native American beginnings through contemporary California. Students may not earn credit for this course if they have taken HIS/POL 178.

HIS 180 The Age of Islamic Empires, 600-1800 (4) An examination of the social organizations, cultural expressions, political institutions, and religious commitments that evolved in the so-called "Islamic World" from the rise of Islam in Mecca to its Imperial capitals in Baghdad, Isfahan, Delhi, and Istanbul.

HIS 181 The Modern Middle East, 1800-Present (4) An introduction to the political, intellectual, religious, and cultural encounters that have shaped the Middle East, from the reform and break-up of the Ottoman Empire to European imperialism and the rise of nation states. The course provides regional and historical context for such topics as women's rights in Islam, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Islamism, the Iranian Revolution, and the Arab Spring.

HIS 182 History of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict (4) An intensive study of the historical roots and contemporary realities of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

HIS 184 History of Christianity in Asia (4) An overview of the history of Christian movements in India, China, Korea and Japan. This includes a discussion of ancient Christian presence in Asia, along with the role of Catholic and Protestant missionaries and indigenous agents in the emergence of an Asian Church.

HIS 185 Imperialism and Independence (4) An exploration of the ideology and politics of British imperialism during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, along with "anti-imperial" movements in Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Special attention is given to cultural, religious and intellectual responses to colonial modernity by non-Western peoples.

HIS 186 Modern South Asia (4) An exploration of Mughal, East India Company, and British rule in South Asia, and the evolution of Islamic, Hindu and secular nationalism. The course features the career and philosophy of Mohandas K. Gandhi as a reconciler of difference and a voice of anti-colonial resistance.

HIS 187 Women in Asian History (4) This course explores how notions of gender have evolved in India, China and parts of southeast Asia since the 19th century. It
examines cultural values have defined the roles of men and women and how those values came to be re-evaluated through Asia’s encounter with the West.

**HIS 188 Women in the Middle East** (4) This course compares the portrayal of women in Islamic texts with the lived experience of women in the Middle East and explores the rise of feminist movements as a part of modern anti-imperialist and nation building projects. The course engages with debates about the potential for “Islamic” and “western” feminisms to empower and oppress women and challenges the assumption that culture and religion, rather than politics and economics, are more determinative for women in the Middle East.

**HIS 190 Internship** (4-8) Supervised field work in historical societies, government, business, and related areas in Santa Barbara or San Francisco.

**HIS 195 Topics in History** (4) A seminar class that focuses on a selected subject. Sample topics include the American West, Church/State relations in Latin America, the Black Death, the Enlightenment, and the Jewish question in European history. The course may be repeated if the topic of concentration changes.

**HIS 195SS History of the Body in Medieval and Early Modern Europe** (4) This course examines a selection of themes concerning the history of the body in Western Europe from the Middle Ages to the end of the 19th century. We will focus particularly on the body and social identity (e.g., dress, cleanliness, and eating), the religious significance of the body (e.g., saints’ bodies, religious violence, and “holy anorexia”) and the changing definitions and perceptions of bodily impairment (e.g., the treatment of the elderly and blindness).

**HIS 195TH History of the Body in Medieval and Early Modern Europe** (4) This course examines a selection of themes concerning the history of the body in Western Europe from the Middle Ages to the end of the 19th century. We will focus particularly on the body and social identity (e.g., dress, cleanliness, and eating), the religious significance of the body (e.g., saints’ bodies, religious violence, and “holy anorexia”) and the changing definitions and perceptions of bodily impairment (e.g., the treatment of the elderly and blindness).

**HIS 198 Senior Research Seminar** (4) Prerequisite: Junior standing and HIS 1. Guided research on a problem of historical interest. Culminates in a major paper.