

Bachelor of Arts History

INFORMATION

History is essential to our identity as individuals and as members of larger communities. Whether we realize it consciously or not, we constantly engage the past in our everyday lives, whether we read a historical novel or biography, attend a family reunion, exercise our civil rights, or take a history class. History is all around us!

The study of history can enrich our understanding of the past and enhance our awareness of the world in which we currently live. History gives us the opportunity to probe all facets of the human experience: politics, society, art, religion, economics and culture. History is a constant process of exploration and discovery that allows us to understand the lives and experiences of people both different from and similar to us.

The History program at Cleveland State University offers you the opportunity to work closely with a faculty that has areas of expertise in U.S., European, Asian, African, Middle Eastern and Latin American history. We are dedicated to providing students with hands-on opportunities to further their interest in history.

Through projects like research papers and internships, studying history at CSU will give you the opportunity to make history come alive. From the local to the global, the history program connects you to the world. Imagine the chance to take courses like the following: African American History through Sacred Music, The Social History of the Black Death, WWI: The Western Front, Black Resistance in the Age of Jim Crow, European Fascism, American Sexual Politics and Communities, Comparative Slavery and History of Islamic Civilizations.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Students in history go on to pursue a variety of careers. Some choose to continue their interest in history and attend graduate school. Some pursue work in public history, including work in museums, archives and historical sites. Others apply the skills acquired as History majors—problem-solving, critical thinking, analysis, research and writing—to careers in law, library science, business, communications and international studies. Many of our graduates are employed locally in public history at places

like the Western Reserve Historical Society and Cleveland Public Library.

PROGRAM

The major is comprised of 40 semester credits at least 32 of which must be upper level (300 and 400 level courses). Students must receive a C or higher in their history courses to count towards the history major. Coursework is distributed to maximize geographical and chronological breadth. Transfer students must complete at least 24 hours of their requirements for the major at CSU. The requirements for the major can be completed in approximately two years and the department regularly offers evening and weekend courses, making it possible for part-time and evening students to complete the degree.

For more information:
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www.csuohio.edu/history

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A total number of 128 hours are required for the Bachelor of Arts in History. All degree seeking students are required to complete a specific number of General Education (Gen Ed) courses. Students are responsible for ensuring the appropriate selection of courses to satisfy GenEd requirements and are encouraged to consult with their academic advisor regarding the applicability of selected courses. A comprehensive description of Cleveland State University's General Education Requirements for undergraduate students is available online at <http://www.csuohio.edu/academic/gened/>.

The major is comprised of 40 semester credits at least 32 of which must be upper level (300 and 400 level courses), and eight at the lower-level as part of a sequence. Coursework is distributed to maximize geographical and chronological breadth. Transfer students must complete at least 24 hours of their requirements for the major on the CSU campus.

Given these requirements, it is possible to fulfill them by taking one history course every semester over four years. Since an eight hour introductory sequence is required, a good way to start would be to take two (100 or 200 level) courses during your freshman year. Students may also take two courses from a range of four geographically diverse introductory survey courses on North America, Latin America, Africa, and the Middle East. Typically those also fulfill other University requirements such as "Arts and Humanities," "Human Diversity," or "African-American Experience" so that these courses would count toward your History major as well as General Education requirements. Students must also complete a capstone requirement, which may be either HIS 400: Local History Seminar or HIS 401: Research Seminar (topics to vary by instructor).

Another advantage of starting with two introductory courses is that they begin to prepare you for higher level ones: you will gain experience by writing one or more short papers and taking essay exams. At the upper-level, you have much flexibility in selecting your courses. You have to complete at least eight 300 or 400-level courses that cover different geographical areas and periods. Students must divide their 32 upper-level credits among at least four of six geographical areas including North America, Latin America/Caribbean, Africa, Europe, Asia/Pacific World and the Middle East. At least two of these courses must focus on a period before the 19th century. At the upper-level you can also fulfill many of the University General Education requirements mentioned above, as well as "Writing Across the Curriculum."

Sample Course of Study:

First Semester	Credits	Second Semester	Credits
HIS 111 U.S. to 1877 or HIS 215 African-American to 1877 (Gen. Ed.: Arts and Humanities or African-American Experience)	4	HIS 112 U.S. from 1877 or HIS 216 African-American from 1877 (Gen. Ed.: Arts and Humanities or African-American Experience)	4
Third Semester HIS 3XX U.S.	4	Fourth Semester HIS 3XX Europe	4
Fifth Semester HIS 3XX U.S.	4	Sixth Semester HIS 3XX Africa/Asia/Latin America	4
Seventh Semester HIS 3XX Europe HIS 3XX U.S.	4 4	Eighth Semester HIS 400 or HIS 401 Research capstone HIS 3XX Middle East / Asia / Africa	4 4

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