HISTORY

History Department

Faculty
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Statement of philosophy
The history department believes that one of the most important ways in which people establish who they are is through an accounting of what they have done over time. Since all human activities provide resources for this understanding, the history department includes in the study of history all social and cultural activities in which people have engaged. History is more than past politics. To insure that its students have the opportunity to know the variety that characterizes the human experience, the history department offers courses in all periods from ancient to modern and in most regions, including the Middle East, Africa, Asia, Europe and America.

Since history involves more than the simple setting forth of facts, the department exposes its students to the variety of interpretations and arguments that have characterized historians’ study. It also seeks to make them aware of the difficulties in coming to agreement in these matters. The department intends that engagement in such investigation assists students in developing their reasoning skills, as well as advanced reading and writing skills, which provides excellent preparation for graduate and professional study.

In addition to the standard major, the history department offers two options that lead either to certification in secondary education or an emphasis in public history. Course work in cultural anthropology, archaeology, art history, cultural and historical geography, and environmental studies is encouraged depending on individual student interests.

Study abroad opportunities
All history courses taken abroad can be used for the major. Study abroad is strongly encouraged for history majors.

Major Communication Skills
Evaluation in all skills is based on student’s performance in HIST 385 and 386. This two-course sequence requires extensive writing and reading in addition to development of research skills, and the student must successfully complete each course to obtain departmental recommendation for graduation with a history major. Preliminary evaluations of all skills are made when evaluating the student’s performance in the western civilization sequence. The student’s skills will be continually monitored through subsequent course work in the major.

History Major Requirements (38 credits)

1. Complete all of the following:
   - HIST 110 Early Western Civilization (3)
   - HIST 111 Modern Western Civilization (3)
   - HIST 130 United States to 1877 (3)
   - HIST 131 United States Since 1877 (3)
   - HIST 385 History Seminar (4)
   - HIST 386 Public History Seminar (4)

2. Complete one of the following:
   - HIST 150 Latin American Civilization (3)
   - HIST 170 Early East Asian Civilization (3)
   - HIST 171 Modern East Asian Civilization (3)
   - HIST 180 African Civilization (3)
   - HIST 220 Middle Eastern Civilization (3)
   - HIST 271 History of Modern China (3)
   - HIST 275 History of Modern Japan (3)
   - POLS 222 African Politics Since 1935 (3)
   - POLS 225 Modern Latin America (4)

3. Complete two of the following:
   - HIST 310 Studies in World History (3)
   - HIST 330 Studies in American History (3)
   - Note: Each of these courses may be repeated for credit with different topics.

4. Complete 9 additional credits of approved electives at the 200- or 300-levels.
   - Note: Approved electives include POLS 211 American Political Parties, POLS 222 African Politics Since 1935, POLS 223 Contemporary Europe, POLS 225 Modern Latin America, POLS 231 The Middle East in World Affairs, POLS 235 The U.S. in World Affairs, REL 250 American Religious Thought, REL 252 The Reformation, REL 253 Medieval Christendom, and REL 254 The Early Church, in addition to all 200 and 300-level HIST courses.
History Minor Requirements (24 credits)

1. Complete 24 credits of HIST credit, including the following:
   - three courses in American history
   - three courses in world history

Note: The history minor will not meet the State of Iowa requirements for teaching certification in history as a minor field.

Secondary education teaching licensure
Students seeking secondary education teaching licensure must, depending on the endorsement they are seeking, complete the following:
   - HIST 110, HIST 111, HIST 130, HIST 131
   - one history elective from group 2
   - four world history electives
   - five American history electives
   - HIST 385 and HIST 386

Students should consult their History and Education advisors for courses needed.

In addition, students seeking teaching licensure must earn a GPA of 3.0 in the history major and complete all education (EDUC) courses required for licensure.