

History

College of Social & Behavioral Sciences

Department of History

110 Armstrong Hall • 507-389-1618

Web site: www.mnsu.edu/dept/history/

Chair: Margaretta S. Handke

Melodie J. Andrews, Derek Catsam, Kathleen Gorman,
Erwin P. Grieshaber, Richard C. Hall, Charles K. Piehl,
Larry L. Witherell

The study of history is the attempt to understand and interpret past human societies. It provides both the joy and anguish of contemplating collective experiences, and presents insights that could produce a better future for the human race. History also opens a panorama of enormous variety in human experiences, values, and customs, which provide enjoyment and from which society can also learn wisdom, mutual respect, and tolerance.

Admission to Major. Admission to major is granted by the department. Minimum university admission requirements are:

- a minimum of 32 earned semester credit hours.

- a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00 (C).

Contact the department for application procedures.

HISTORY BA, BS

Required for Major (Core, 17 credits):

Choose one survey sequence:

HIST 170 or 170W Ancient World Civilization to 1500 (4)

HIST 171 or 171W World Civilization 1500 to Present (4)

OR

HIST 190 or 190W United States to 1877 (4)

HIST 191 or 191W United States Since 1877 (4)

Plus two methodology courses and one Capstone senior paper:

HIST 260 Nature of History (4)

HIST 399 Historical Research and Writing (3)

HIST 495 Senior Paper (2)

Required Electives for Major (Restricted, 9-12 credits)

Choose 9-12 credits of history electives at the 3/400 level as follows:

One U.S. course

One European course

One course from either Africa, Asia, Middle East or Latin America

Required Electives for Major (7-10 credits)

Choose 7-10 credits at the 3/400 level.

HIST xxx HIST xxx

Required for Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree ONLY:

Language (8)

Required Minor: Yes. Any.

HISTORY MINOR

Required for Minor (Core, 18 credits):

HIST 260 Nature of History (4)

Choose a minimum of 14 credits, at least 9 credits at the 3/400 level:

HIST xxx

HIST xxx

HIST 3/400

HIST 3/400

HIST 3/400

POLICIES/INFORMATION

GPA Policy. A minimum cumulative grade-point average of 2.0 is required in the major.

Pass/No Credit Policy. Undergraduate history courses may be taken either for P/N or letter grading except HIST 490 (workshops), HIST 497(1-6 credits), HIST 498(1-6 credits) and HIST 499(1-3 credits), which are available only on P/N grading. However, majors and minors in history and majors in social studies (history core) must take all history courses, other than those enumerated, for a letter grade. No more than one-fourth of the credits in a history major or minor may be taken as P/N.

Transfer Policy. Transfer students should come to the Department of History to have their transfer credits reviewed prior to registration for classes. All transfer students are required to take at least 9 semester credits at the Minnesota State University, Mankato Department of History.

In order to provide broad preparation for graduate study, history majors of superior ability may read for honors in three different areas [see HIST 390(1)-392(1)]. To be eligible, a student must have completed at least 14 credits of history courses and have earned a grade-point average of 3.5 in history. The student may enroll for one honors course a semester. Honors credit may be counted for the history major and social studies (history core). Students who successfully complete these three courses with a grade-point average of 3.5 for all history courses (and who have met the other degree requirements) will be eligible for graduation "with distinction in history."

Students interested in teaching history should see the Social Studies section for information on the major in Social Studies with a History Concentration BS, Teaching.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

HIST 150 (1-3) Historical Perspectives

Selected topics in United States or World History depending on interests of the instructor.

V

HIST 151 (3) African-American History

A survey of African-American history from African origins to the present.

V

GE-5, 7 CD-Core

HIST 153 (3) War & Peace in the 20th Century

Europe during the 17th and 18th centuries when science and reason replaced religion as the intellectual authority.

V

HIST 412 (4) Modern Germany since 1500

Review of German history from the Reformation and Thirty Years War to the present, including such topics as Rise of Prussia, Revolution of 1848, Bismarck and the formation of a German Empire, World War I, Weimar Republic and the rise of Hitler, World War II and Germany since 1945.

V

HIST 414 (4) Early England to 1603

England from ancient times to the death of Elizabeth I.

V

HIST 415 (4) England since 1603

Political, social and economic development of England and Great Britain since the death of Elizabeth I.

V

HIST 419 (4) France Since the Revolution in 1789

Review of French history from the Revolution of 1789 to the present, including such topics as origins and course of the Revolution, Napoleon, Louis XVIII to Third Republic, World War I, World War II and France since 1945.

V

HIST 421 (4) Modern Russia

A history of Russia and surrounding areas from the fall of Tsarism in 1917 to the modern era.

V

HIST 424 (4) Scandinavian History

Political, economic, social, cultural, and emigration immigration history of the Scandinavian countries, including major themes in the mass migration and history of Scandinavians in America. Emphasis on the period, 1500-present.

V

HIST 427 (4) Eastern Europe

A history of Eastern Europe from the middle ages to the present.

V

HIST 430 (1-4) United States: Selected Topics

This seminar course will deal with a specific aspect of United States history as announced by the departmental course description.

V

HIST 431 (1-4) European History: Selected Topics

This seminar course will deal with a specific aspect of European history as announced by the departmental course description.

V

HIST 432 (1-4) World History: Selected Topics

This seminar course will deal with a specific aspect of World History as announced by the departmental course description.

V

HIST 434 (4) Modern East Asian History

A comparative history of the rise of the Chinese and

Japanese nations from the 1840's to the present.

V

*CD-Related***HIST 437 (4) African History**

Review of African history from the earliest civilization of Africa to the present, including such topics as Empires of West Africa and East Africa, spread of Islam in Africa, Bantu migrations, European contact and slave trade, European Colonization and independent Africa.

V

*CD-Related***HIST 442 (4) History of Latin America**

Review of Latin American history from Ancient American Civilizations to the present.

F

*CD-Related***HIST 450 (3) Minnesota to 1880**

Survey of Minnesota's frontier history with emphasis on Indian-white contacts, exploration and settlement.

V

HIST 451 (3) Minnesota since 1880

Modern political, economic and social history of the state, emphasizing both its uniqueness and its relationship tonational and regional developments.

V

HIST 454 (4) Early America to 1763

This course will examine America's political, social, economic, and cultural development from the earliest settlement of the continent by indigenous peoples to 1763, when provincial Americans began to demand more than token equality in the British Empire.

V

HIST 455 (4) Revolutionary & Early National America 1763-1820

This course will examine the social, economic, ideological, political, diplomatic, and military experiences of theUnited States between 1763 and 1820, in order to understand the creation of the American political nation and the culture which developed within it.

V

HIST 458 (4) U.S. History 1820-1861

This course will discuss the social, economic, and political issues from the rise of Jackson through the beginning of the civil War. Major issues to be covered include: Jacksonian Democracy, Industrialization, Reform, Westward Expansion, Slavery, and the 1850s.

F

*CD-Related***HIST 459 (4) U.S. History 1861-1900**

This course will explore the immediate causes and consequences of the Civil War as well as the rise of an industrial/urban United States. Major issues to be covered include: causes of the civil War, the war itself, Reconstruction, the Gilded Age, and Populism.

*CD-Related***HIST 462 (4) U.S. History, 1900-1945**

Reform/domestic themes and U.S. foreign policies during the Progressive Era, the "Roaring 20's," the Great

Depression and the New Deal, and the two world wars.
V

HIST 463 (4) U.S. History 1945-Present

Social, political and foreign affairs since World War II.
F *CD-Core*

HIST 470 (4) American Frontier

Occupation of the area between the Mississippi and the Pacific from Spanish exploration to the late 19th century.
V

HIST 475 (3) The American South

A course which attempts to identify the major themes in southern history and tackles the question whether the South has been un-American or ultra-American.
V *CD-Related*

HIST 477 (3) Advanced African-American History

A course which deals with the main themes in African-American history and their interpretations.
V *CD-Core*

HIST 481 (4) U.S. Civil Rights Since 1945

This course will examine the Civil Rights Movement, broadly defined, from 1945 to the present, but focusing on the period from 1945 to 1970. We will also explore the way in which African Americans and their white supporters mobilized for equality in the face of massive white resistance and seeming federal indifference.
F

HIST 483 (4) American Social and Cultural History

Topics in intellectual history or popular and traditional culture.
V

HIST 484 (4) American Labor History

An examination of the history of labor and the emergence of social welfare within the context of the modernization of western society and the diversity of the United States.
V *CD-Related*

HIST 485 (4) History of American Immigration and Ethnicity

A historical study of the immigration and ethnic experience in America. Includes an examination of political, social, and economic changes that resulted in population movements to the U.S. and of the development of immigration laws in response to the arrival of "outsiders." Attention is given to the rise of anti-immigrant movements at various times in American history.
S *CD-Related*

HIST 487 (4) United States Women's History

This course is designed to provide a survey and analysis of the historical experiences of women in the United States from earliest settlement by indigenous peoples to the present in order to aid students in understanding the contemporary situation of women in American society.
V *CD-Core*

HIST 490 (1-4) Workshops

Specific titles to be announced in departmental course descriptions.
P/N only.
F, S

HIST 495 (4) Senior Seminar

This seminar course will include a discussion of the history of the discipline of history, an introduction to research methodologies, and the nature of historical writing. Each student will write a research paper as part of the course. Required for history majors.
F, S

HIST 497 (1-6) Internship

Practical work experience in an historical agency.
P/N only. F, S

HIST 498 (1-6) Internship

Practical work experience in an historical agency.
P/N only. F, S

HIST 499 (1-3) Individual Study

Advanced independent study and research. P/N only.
F, S