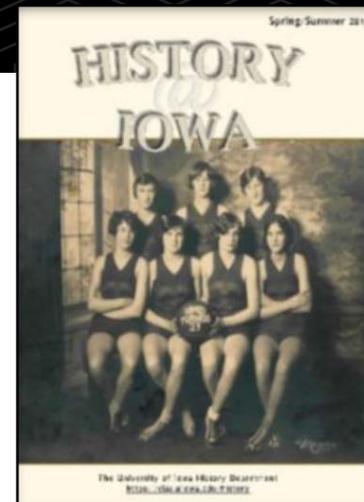


WHY STUDY HISTORY?



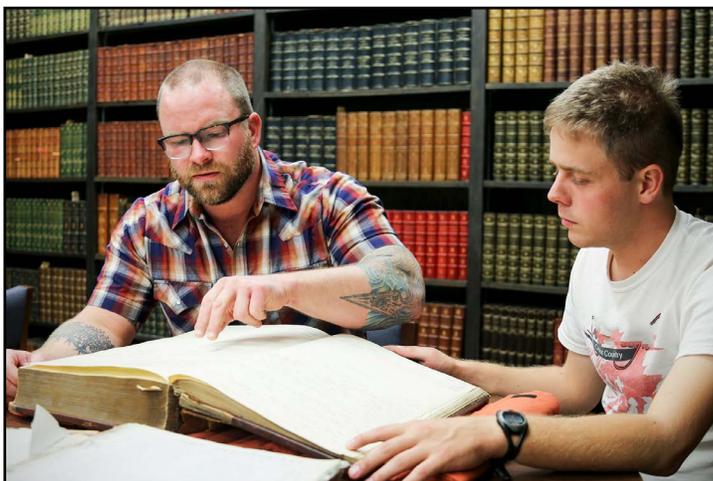
Thinking about majoring in History? Did you know that...

- ✓ History is increasingly one of the top majors at several colleges
- ✓ History majors' mid-career salaries are on par with those of business majors
- ✓ Employers in tech, business, law, communications, health care, and public policy want people with humanities backgrounds
- ✓ Double majoring makes you even more versatile (History BA requires 36 hours; many combine with PoliSci, JMC, IS, ANTH...)
- ✓ Political experts consider historical education to be key to a successful democracy

MORE REASONS TO STUDY HISTORY

"Students of history develop an understanding of change – how it happens and why it happens the way it does – that enables them to engage the world they inhabit. Employers value history students' ability to analyze human and social behavior, to research pressing problems, and to express themselves clearly." [Lisa Heineman, Professor and former Chair, UI Department of History](#)

As History returns to being Yale's most popular major, the department believes "the present historical moment is enticing young people to join the discipline...economic and political models failed to predict several defining events of the post-9/11 era, most notably the 2008 financial crisis and the 2016 presidential election. Some are beginning to recognize that historians, due to the nature of their understanding of the past, could be better equipped to analyze and address global crises and trends." [American Historical Association blog](#)



On the dangers of not understanding history: "From Turkey to China, strongmen rewrite the past to suit their ends. But democracies are not immune to this revisionism...Learning about history, and being able to question some of the narratives advanced in the name of politics is as important as knowing where to get reliable news." [The Guardian](#)

In times of political crisis, citizens need "not just access to new narratives about the past, but also a broader ability to weigh evidence, balance competing arguments, and consider emotionally charged topics...Effective teaching can prepare and empower students for their role as citizens in ways that weaken the power of demagogic appeals." [American Historical Association](#)

IOWA

History

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A HISTORY DEGREE?



JUST ABOUT ANYTHING!

- ➔ Explore a [LIST OF SKILLS](#) or “competencies,” that history undergraduates learn in the course of their studies. *American Historical Association*
- ➔ [FIGHTING MYTHS WITH DATA](#): History majors are NOT underprepared for gainful employment or doomed to a life of low earnings. *American Historical Association*
- ➔ [HISTORY MAJORS' MID-CAREER SALARIES](#) are on par with those holding business bachelor's degrees. Notably these salary findings exclude those who went on to attain a law or other graduate degree. *James Grossman Op-Ed, Los Angeles Times*
- ➔ [HISTORY MAJORS DO THE BEST IN THE HUMANITIES](#), and better than students in a majority of the other fields – with regard to earnings. *AHA blog*
- ➔ [ON LIBERAL ARTS MAJORS IN THE DATA AGE](#): “From Silicon Valley to the Pentagon, people are beginning to realize that to effectively tackle today's biggest social and technological challenges, we need to think critically about their human context—something humanities graduates happen to be well trained to do. Call it the revenge of the film, history, and philosophy nerds.” *Harvard Business Review*
- ➔ [TECH LEADERS: SEND US YOUR LIBERAL ARTS GRADS](#). *Association of American Colleges & Universities*
- ➔ [THAT 'USELESS' LIBERAL ARTS DEGREE HAS BECOME TECH'S HOTTEST TICKET](#). *Forbes*
- ➔ [TO UNDERSTAND SCIENCE, STUDY HISTORY](#). *Chronicle of Higher Education*
- ➔ [WHY HISTORY MATTERS FOR BUSINESS EXECUTIVES](#): “If the quality of executives' judgment is to improve and if executives are to be able to draw with confidence and intelligence on the experience of others, they must first know how to read the lessons embedded in that experience. Here...lies the value of history in management...The heart of [Harvard Business School's] curriculum has always been the case study, and the case study is precisely what a historian is trained to do.” *Harvard Business Review*
- ➔ [PROFILES OF HISTORIANS](#) in the Classroom, Publishing, Museums, Archives, Historic Preservation, Consulting and More. *American Historical Association*



IOWA

History