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For a listing of current History Department faculty and staff, including advising, please see:  http://clas.uiowa.edu/history/people

Commitment to Diversity
The History Department recognizes the benefits of a diverse environment and a workplace and classroom experience free of discrimination, harassment, and inadvertent exclusionary practices. The Department is committed to the maintenance of an atmosphere that is welcoming and accepting of faculty, staff, and graduate as well as undergraduate students of all backgrounds, including but not limited to race, national origin, color, creed, religion, sex, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or associational preference. By recognizing that confronting harassment, discrimination, and inadvertent exclusionary practices cannot be left to the members of underrepresented groups alone, it commits itself to taking proactive measures to discover and alleviate these practices. It provides a positive environment for members to report their experiences and to seek positive actions.
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Message from the Chair

Welcome to the History Department! We hope that you share our enthusiasm for the study of past societies and cultures. What are the origins of the world in which we live: its economy, its social and political organization, and its many diverse cultures? The challenges we face today – where did they come from? What lessons can we learn from past societies’ efforts to resolve their own challenges? History unlocks important insights into the world we inhabit. But we also find intellectual satisfaction, and wisdom, in understanding the past on its own terms.

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. Because of the geographical breadth of our courses, history students develop a global consciousness that helps them to navigate the streets (and the news) from Iowa City to Berlin to Nairobi. Employers value history students’ ability to analyze human and social behavior, to research pressing problems, and to express themselves clearly. Graduates of the UI History department occupy prominent positions in government, private industry, journalism, law, entertainment, education, the non-profit sector, and more. In fact, a recent study showed that History BA’s earn more than graduates in any other humanities field.

In addition to teaching, faculty members do cutting-edge research in their fields of specialization. That research finds its way into teaching materials, professional journals, books for scholarly and popular audiences, digital collections, news reporting, legal briefs, policy-making, museum exhibits, film and TV documentaries, and more. We’re often called upon to advise journalists or policy makers who want to make sure they’re getting their facts right – and who also want to make sure they’re analyzing and contextualizing those facts correctly. We see our mission as serving students, the State of Iowa, and the public sphere more broadly.

We look forward to helping to plan your course of study, to advise on specific courses or sequences of courses, or to consult on career objectives. Our office hours are posted on our office doors; you can also find them by phoning or visiting the History Department office at SH 280 (335-2299).

Get acquainted with the office staff, including Pat Goodwin, Heather Roth, and Sheri Sojka. When you visit the office, you can also browse through recent faculty and alumni publications and read announcements of upcoming events. I have an open-door policy, so if I’m in my office (SH 276), please feel free to drop in. And don’t forget to “friend” us on Facebook (History at University of Iowa, Hawkeye History Corps), for announcements of upcoming events and opportunities.

Whatever your interest in history, we are happy to get to know you. We’re sure that you’ll find your association with the department both challenging and rewarding.

Elizabeth Heineman, Professor and Chair, Department of History
Requirements for the Undergraduate History Major (B.A.)

Coursework

- Minimum GPA of 2.0 in courses counted toward the major
- 36 semester hours of History Courses

These 36 semester hours may include a maximum of two of the following courses:
- Western Civilization I (HIST:2401)
- Western Civilization II (HIST:2402)
- Western Civilization III (HIST:2403)
- Civilizations of Asia: China (HIST:2602)
- Civilizations of Asia: Japan (HIST:2604)
- Civilizations of Asia: South Asia (HIST:2606)
- Civilizations of Africa (HIST:2608)
- India Now! A Survey from Bollywood Films to Global Terror (HIST:2609)

Notes:
- The above courses may be counted both toward the history major and toward fulfillment of General Education requirements.
- At least 30 semester hours must be in courses numbered above HIST:1040. The 36 semester hours in history courses must include Introduction to the History Majors (HIST:2151) - 3 semester hours
- A minimum of 18 semester hours taken at The University of Iowa
- Distribution requirement: A minimum of two courses each in European, non-Western, and U.S. History (see below)
  - At least one of the two courses in each of these areas must be numbered 3000 or above
- A minimum of 3 semester hours in pre-1700 history. See the list of courses (below) that fulfill this requirement. A course taken in fulfillment of this requirement may also be counted towards the requirement in American, European or non-western world history.
- A maximum of 18 semester hours of American History may be counted toward the major

Notes:
- Transfer work and study abroad courses in history that meet University of Iowa expectations can be counted toward the major. A maximum of 18 semester hours of transfer or study abroad credit may be counted towards the major.
- CLEP (College Level Equivalency Program) credits and Advanced Placement Program credits cannot be counted towards fulfillment of the major.
- Issues and Perspectives courses may not count towards the major.
- The pass-fail option cannot be exercised in history courses counting towards the history major.
To see the full list of history courses scheduled for the current semester, check the Iowa Student Information System (ISIS) https://isis.uiowa.edu. The History Department is department "HIST." Entering "HIST" for the department code will bring up all our courses, including all graduate courses. Courses will be listed in numerical order. You may also search for courses by the name of the instructor.

The University's General Catalog lists all History courses, whether or not the course is being offered during the current semester. http://catalog.registrar.uiowa.edu/registrar/catalog/liberalartsandsciences/history/

**Distribution Requirement**
To identify the regional focus undergraduate courses are listed in the General Catalog and in ISIS in four categories: United States history (3200-3299), European history (3400 - 3499), non-Western or world history (3500-3899), and topical courses that have no area designation (HIST).

- The United States distribution requirement can be met by courses numbered in 3200 to 3299 or 4200 to 4299
- The European distribution requirement can be met by courses numbered in 3400 to 3499 or 4400 to 4499
- The World requirement can be met by courses numbered in 3500 to 3899 or 4500 to 4899
- Depending on their content, courses numbered 3100 to 3199 or 4100 to 4199 may be designated (in consultation with your advisor) for any of the preceding distribution requirements.

**Pre-1700 Requirement**
The requirement that majors take at least three semester hours in history before 1700 must be fulfilled by completing one of the following courses:

**General**
- HIST:2401 Western Civilization I
- HIST:2402 Western Civilization II
- HIST:2602 Civilizations of Asia: China
- HIST:2604 Civilizations of Asia: Japan
- HIST:2606 Civilizations of Asia: South Asia
- HIST:2461 Middle East and Mediterranean: Alexander to Suleiman

**American**
- HIST:3211 Native North America I: Precontact-1789
- HIST:4220 The Frontier in American History to 1840
- HIST:4270 The Colonial Period in America

**European**
- HIST:4400 The Roman Empire
- HIST:4401 Ancient Egypt and the Ancient Near East
HIST:4404 The World of Ancient Greece
HIST:3405 Engineering in Ancient Mediterranean
HIST:4406 Warfare in Ancient Mediterranean Society
HIST:4407 The Hellenistic World and Rome
HIST:3409 Medieval Civilization I
HIST:3410 Medieval Civilization II
HIST:4417 Medieval Intellectual History 300-1150
HIST:4418 Medieval Intellectual History 1150-1500
HIST:4411 Economic and Social History of Medieval Europe
HIST:4423 Ireland in the Early Middle Ages
HIST:4412 History of the Medieval Church
HIST:4426 The Transition from Manuscript to Print
HIST:4426 Women, Power, and Society in Medieval Europe
HIST:4910 The Book in the Middle Ages
HIST:4427 Society and Gender in Europe 1200-1789
HIST:4431 Early Modern England
HIST:4419 Ancient and Medieval Science

World and non-Western
HIST:4510 Colonial Latin America
HIST:4710 Pre-Colonial African History
HIST:4724 Crossing the Indian Ocean
HIST:4289 The Atlantic World, ca. 1450-1850
HIST:4610 Japan-Age of the Samurai

Introduction to the History Major - HIST:2151

Once you declare yourself a history major -- this generally happens in the sophomore year although you can declare at any time after admission -- you enroll in one of the sections of Introduction to the History Major (HIST:2151). This is a key introductory course: sections have small enrollments (15 or fewer students, all history majors), and they emphasize essential skills such as locating and interpreting primary documents, weighing competing scholarly interpretations, and making a logical argument supported by evidence in compelling prose. HIST:2151 also introduces you to work in the Main Library and local archives. Every semester, three to six sections of Hist:2151 are offered. The subjects of the sections change from semester to semester, and nearly every faculty member in the department teaches one from time to time. As a result, when they begin their work in history, majors have the immediate opportunity to work closely with professors.

The Introduction to the History Major course is intended to be the foundation of your learning as a history major. This is where you will acquire the historian’s basic skills. One of the essays you write while in the course will be included in the portfolio of papers that you submit before graduation (HIST:3193).
• Normally one section each semester focuses on World (or non-Western) history, one on European history, and one on American history.
• Sometimes a section will have a topical rather than a geographical focus—for example, medical or gender history.
• These sections fill quickly, so register at your first opportunity, and if your first choice is full, register for a different section rather than waiting for another semester. It is more important to take HIST:2151 early in your training than it is to take it in a certain field of history.
• Introduction to the History Major sections may not be counted towards the distribution requirement in U.S., European or World history.

The Portfolio: HIST:3193

Every department needs a yardstick to measure how well its instructional program is working, and the History Department has settled on a close scrutiny of students' essays as its method of evaluating performance. The portfolio is the History Department's measure of educational “outcome.” While other departments employ standardized tests, or rising and falling grade point averages or exit interviews as measures of “outcome,” our department considers essay writing to be the prime indicator of students' analytic and expressive attainment. We expect that your written work will improve over time as you receive more instruction in history.

The History portfolio consists of three graded papers from history courses that show the development of your skills. One of these papers is to be from HIST:2151: Intro to the History Major. During your last semester before graduation, you must enroll in HIST:3193. This is a Pass/Fail course. Submit your graded papers via the course ICON site. If needed, you can come to the History Department Office (280 SH) to have office staff scan your papers so you can then upload them into ICON. We can either load them onto a flash drive or email them to each student. The preferred document type to upload is a Portable Document Format, or PDF. The History Department sends an email reminder that students who plan to graduate that semester should submit their portfolio of three papers early enough for the Director of Undergraduate Studies to review them.

Things to remember about the portfolio:
• Graded originals with comments are required. If your paper was returned with handwritten comments, scan it and save as a pdf file that you can upload to HIST:3193 in the semester you graduate.
• One of your three papers should be from HIST:2151 Intro to the History Major.
• For students doing an honors thesis in history, the honors thesis along with the paper from “Intro to the History Major” is enough for the portfolio; you do not need a third paper.
• Each paper should have the course, instructor, and semester identified on the first page.
• Please upload your papers no later than the last week of classes in order for your portfolio to be reviewed in time for your graduation.
Once you have uploaded your papers to the HIST: 3193 dropbox in ICON, **complete the short exit survey, and then notify the Director of Undergraduate Studies (DUS) that the portfolio has been submitted.**

Again, HIST 3193 is a Pass/Fail course; it will not affect your grade point average. The DUS does not regrade your papers; rather, the DUS reads through your graded essays and makes a brief assessment for the benefit of the Department’s self-reflection. Once the DUS has completed this assessment, your portfolio requirement is met.

**Capstone Course Opportunities**

Juniors and seniors who are nearing completion of their history major requirements may register for an additional credit hour in conjunction with one of the department’s designated 3000-4999 level courses. For this additional credit, history majors meet on a weekly basis in a separate discussion section of the course. The section meetings provide an opportunity for students to explore in greater depth some of the issues raised in the readings and lectures for the course. History majors who earn the 4th (capstone) credit may also work on more substantial papers and have the opportunity to present their work to others in the section. The section may be facilitated by an experienced teaching assistant under the guidance of the course instructor.

**Apply to Graduate**

Finally, although this is not a History requirement per se, students must apply for their degree by filling out the proper forms at the Office of the Registrar, 1 Jessup Hall, before the appropriate date.

**Keep Us Informed**

If you’re applying for graduate school or professional school, or applying for jobs after graduation, it is useful for us to know that. You never know what knowledge of opportunities we may be able to pass on to you.
Requirements for the Minor in History

Any student who completes at least 15 semester hours in history with a grade-point average of 2.00 may earn a minor in History. Twelve of the 15 semester hours must be in advanced courses taken at the University of Iowa. For the minor, all courses numbered above HIST:3000 are regarded as advanced.

Honors in History

Through the Honors Program the History Department provides outstanding students with opportunities to enhance their History major. Honors majors who complete all requirements will graduate "with Honors"; this designation appears on their transcript. The basic requirement for admission to the departmental Honors program is the same as the requirement for the University Honors program: maintain a 3.33 GPA or higher while at the University of Iowa. (Occasionally, when a student's work in history courses is superb, the overall GPA standard can be waived by petitioning the departmental Honors Advisor.) Students who want to join the history Honors program should contact the department's Director of Honors.

Honors students in history write an Honors thesis--an extended research paper (30-40 pages) ordinarily completed during the spring of junior year and fall of senior year. The research for the thesis is done under the supervision of a faculty advisor whom the student has chosen and who specializes in the desired field of research. Your faculty advisor will aid you in the conceptualization and development of the research and will point you toward relevant primary and secondary sources. He or she will also read drafts of your essay as it is being written. The responsibility for meeting the deadlines for participation in the Honors program, however, falls on the student. This is made easier by the Honors Seminar.

While working on Honors theses, students attend the Honors Seminar, which they join by registering for Honors Research and the Honors Thesis (HIST:3995 and HIST:3996), for three credit hours each semester over two semesters. The departmental Director of Honors teaches the seminar. There is no Honors Seminar in the summer, but students’ faculty advisors will supervise research towards honors in the summer.

When the Honors thesis is complete, it is presented to an examining committee of three faculty members, one of whom is the student's faculty advisor. The committee asks the student questions about the thesis. The thesis is then graded and that grade becomes the course grade. Each year the Department awards a monetary prize for the most distinguished Honors thesis. Apart from the pleasure and challenge of researching and writing a substantial independent paper, the Honors thesis can be used as a writing sample to strengthen applications to graduate and professional. Honors theses are bound and kept permanently in the library of the Shambaugh House Honors Center; copies also are available for review in the History department (280 SH).
The six hours of credit in the Honors Seminar count toward the 36 hours required for majors. For some majors, honors thesis will be done in addition to these hours of course work.

Requirements to Graduate with Honors in History

History majors must meet the following requirements:

- Maintain a University of Iowa GPA of 3.33 or higher
- Enroll in History HIST:3995, Honors Seminar (Spring Semester, 3 credit hours)
- Enroll in History HIST:3996, Honors Thesis (Fall Semester, 3 credit hours)
- Complete the Honors Thesis

For students with scheduling conflicts, particularly those enrolled in Study Abroad, alternative arrangements are possible.

Please see the Undergraduate Program section of the departmental website for a list of recent honors theses and a list of History majors recently elected to Phi Beta Kappa.
Advising at the University of Iowa and in History

Advising for first-year students: First-year students and those with less than 24 s.h. earned are advised at the Academic Advising Center. The Center’s team of advisors specializes in transitioning students to academic and student life at Iowa. Working with an assigned caseload, the advisors help each student plan for a successful academic start at Iowa.

Advising during sophomore through senior years: Andy Tinkham serves as the academic advisor for history students who have earned at least 24 s.h.

How to contact your advisor:
For quick questions, email Andy at: andrew-tinkham@uiowa.edu.

For adding and dropping courses and other immediate issues, stop by Andy’s office in 158 Schaeffer Hall. Andy’s office hours are Monday through Friday 10:30 – 12:00 and 1:30 to 3:00.

We recommend scheduling an individual appointment if you would like to review your degree audit, map out a plan to graduation, or have other questions for which you would like to have an extended conversation. To schedule an appointment with Andy, please use the online scheduler (see department website; under People, select Andy’s page). Please bring a copy of your most current degree audit to your appointment.

The departmental adviser is available to assist students with the following:

• Advisor signatures on add/drop and other university forms
• Questions about course registration
• Questions or problems with your degree audit
• Academic probation
• Review of study abroad courses for major credit
• Opportunities for Honors students
• Discussions regarding adding second majors, minors, and certificate programs
• Information regarding campus resources for students
• Other questions or concerns you may have

When you achieve junior standing and above you will be assigned a faculty advisor. While you will continue to see Andy Tinkham for routine advising functions, your faculty advisor is available to:

• Provide disciplinary guidance for research projects
• Serve as a mentor for honors theses and projects
• Discuss your graduate and professional school aspirations
Resources for Undergraduate Students in History at UI: please see [http://clas.uiowa.edu/history/undergraduate/resources](http://clas.uiowa.edu/history/undergraduate/resources) for links to the following resources:

- Hawkeye History Corps (undergraduate history club)
- Iowa Historical Review (undergraduate history journal)
- History Teaching and Writing Center
- Internships
- Nearby Archives
- Study Abroad
- Secondary-Education Licensure Training
- Area-Studies & Certificate Programs
- UI Career Center