

HISTORY HONORS PROGRAM

Standard Major – History Honors Program (11 courses)

- 1 HIST 33000: History Workshop (“the gateway course” for the standard major), to be taken the semester following the major declaration

- 4 One course from four of the following five areas, with the proviso that one course of the four must contain substantial material on the period before 1500.
 - African/Asian/Middle Eastern history
 - Ancient/Medieval European history (to 1500)
 - Modern European history (after 1500)
 - United States history
 - Latin American history

- 2 Two Concentration Area* courses

- 2 Two Honors Seminars (HIST 53001; HIST 53002)

- 2 Two Semesters of Honors Thesis Credits (HIST 58003)

11 total courses

*An area of concentration must be chosen by the beginning of the senior year, with the guidance and approval of the major’s departmental advisor. Concentration Areas include – but are certainly not limited to – the following fields:

Geographical

African History
Asian History
Medieval Europe
Middle-Eastern History
Modern Europe
United States
Latin America
Trans-Atlantic history
Borderlands history

Thematic

Political history
Women’s history
Religious history
Intellectual history
Social history
History of Science and Technology

Note: The History Honors Program will ordinarily not be open to supplementary majors.

HISTORY HONORS PROGRAM

The History Department offers a special program of study, the History Honors Program, for the most talented and motivated History majors. Students are invited to apply in the fall semester of the junior year; the program begins in the spring of the junior year.

A student in the History Honors Program will take eleven three-credit upper-division History courses to satisfy both the Honors Program and Standard History Major requirements. In addition to taking the introductory gateway course (HIST 33000 – History Workshop) and a variety of courses emphasizing geographical and chronological breadth, the student will also take two special Honors seminars. Instead of completing a departmental seminar, the student will research and write a year-long senior thesis, receiving three credits in each semester of the senior year. Each History Honors student will select an area of concentration tailored to his/her thesis topic and will take two additional courses in this field to complete the program.

In the spring of the junior year, the student will enroll in an Honors Program Methodology Seminar (HIST 53001), designed to introduce the student to the various methods historians utilize to analyze and write about the past. [Students admitted to the Honors Program, but studying abroad during the spring semester junior year, will be exempt from HIST 53001. They must, however, register a thesis topic and advisor with the Director of Undergraduate Studies by the end of that semester.]

In the fall of the senior year, the student will enroll in the Honors Program Colloquium (HIST 53002), intended to introduce the student to basic issues of critical interpretation and historiography through a specific field.

In the fall and spring of the senior year, the student will work on a thesis (40 to 80 pages) under the supervision of a specific faculty member. The student will register for HIST 58003 (three senior thesis credits) each semester of the senior year.

BENEFITS OF THE HONORS PROGRAM

The History Honors Program, particularly the writing of a senior thesis, offers a special opportunity for select history majors to pursue their intellectual interests in a sustained and independent fashion, and working closely with an individual faculty member of one's choice in researching, organizing, and producing that thesis should be a uniquely enriching academic experience.

The Honors thesis itself will be a major piece of historical research and writing, an accomplishment in its own right as well as excellent preparation for future graduate school papers or other research projects. Completion of the Honors Program will also send a strong signal of achievement to committees granting fellowships and scholarships at the graduate level, and the thesis might mark the beginning of a later research project on the same topic in graduate school or law school.

For more information, please contact:

Daniel A. Graff, Ph.D.

Director of Undergraduate Studies

Department of History

219 O'Shaughnessy Hall

Phone: 574-631-5733; Fax: 574-631-4717; Email: dgraff@nd.edu