

HISTORY HONORS PROGRAM (HHP)

History Honors Program Option (11 courses)

- 1 HIST 33000: History Workshop (“the gateway course” for the standard major), to be taken the semester following the major declaration [must be taken before the senior year]
- 4 One course from four of the following six 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)
 - Latin American history
 - United States history
 - Special (global, comparative, topical, or outside of the geographic regions above)
- 2 Two electives that form a Concentration Area*
- 2 Two Honors Seminars (HIST 53001, HIST 53002)
- 2 Two semesters of Honors Thesis Credits (HIST 58003)

11 total courses

*A Concentration Area should be chosen by the spring of the junior year, with the guidance and approval of the major’s individual advisor. *Concentration Areas include – but are certainly not limited to – the following fields:*

Geographical

African History
Asian History
Medieval European History
Middle-Eastern History
Modern European History
United States History
Latin American History

Thematic

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

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT COUNTING LOWER-LEVEL COURSES

- Students pursuing the HHP major option may count up to two lower-level courses toward the major program (courses beginning with a 1 or a 2). All others must be “major-level” courses that begin with a 3, 4, or 5.
- Lower-level courses may be counted toward breadth requirements, electives, or concentration area courses.
- AP credit (or its equivalent through a similar program) cannot be counted toward the major program.
- A course cannot count toward both the major and another requirement (such as the university requirement for history), unless approved by a student’s college dean.

HISTORY HONORS PROGRAM (HHP)

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 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 Historiography Colloquium (HIST 53002), intended to introduce the student to 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:

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