

John Carroll University

Guide to the History Department

Welcome to the History Department!

Studying history deepens and broadens your understanding of the world around you in the context of time and place and it prepares you to think and act as global citizens who contribute meaningfully to society.

In addition to history's value as a discipline, we think that no major does a better job in helping to develop strengths in research, writing, analysis, and synthesis--skills necessary to any future career, and especially pertinent to pre-professional training. Our graduates go into careers in education, law, public policy, government, social service, business, publishing, museum studies, and library science, as well as any number of other fields.

The Department aims to help students:

- Develop academic skills, including analytical reasoning, research techniques, and oral and written communication
- Integrate historical knowledge with knowledge acquired through other disciplines and experiential learning
- Gain knowledge of human experience in varied regions and times, and as shaped by social characteristics
- Engage in serious reflection about ethical issues and questions of social justice
- Cultivate competence in a particular historical theme, region or time period

The History Department designed the major to be flexible so that in addition to gaining broad historical perspective, students would be able to create a program of courses that suits their personal interests. To that end, in addition to the extensive variety of upper-level courses, there are over twenty different 100-level topical introductory courses that we offer on a rotating schedule. It is often possible to count history courses from study abroad programs toward the major as well.

Majoring in History

When you declare history as your major (normally in your sophomore year) the History Department Chair will assign you to a major advisor. You should meet with your advisor as soon as possible to plan your program of study and to develop a thematic, regional, or chronological focus. You might focus, for instance, on twentieth-century America, or comparative women's history, or global human rights—it just depends on your interests and on planning your coursework to address those interests.

Requirements for the major are:

Credits:

- A total of 39 credit hours, at least 18 of which must be at the 300 and 400 level.

Courses:

- **One 100-level course:** These introduce the study of historical topics through the use and interpretation of primary source materials.
- **HS 261 History as Art and Science:** This is the department's methodology course, ordinarily taken in the sophomore year. It deals with issues of historical interpretation and how to write a research paper in history. Recent course themes have included the history of medicine, and democracy in nineteenth-century Britain.
- **HS 490 Senior Seminar:** This is the capstone course for majors. Students bring to the discussion of a chosen theme the experience of their previous courses and they refine skills in historical interpretation through writing and presenting a research paper.
- **OR HS 491 Senior Thesis:** This alternative to Senior Seminar is intended for students planning to go to graduate school in history. It provides an opportunity for a student with excellent grades, strong motivation, and a well-formed interest in a particular area of history to pursue that interest in depth by developing a research plan in consultation with an advising professor, and by writing an article-length research paper.

Distribution Requirements:

- At least two courses in each of the following areas: American; European; and Asian, African, or Latin American
- Two courses that concentrate on a period before 1800 and two after 1800

Courses may count for two distributions simultaneously. For instance, HS 273 (Colonial Latin America) counts both as a Latin American course and as a course concentrating on a period before 1800.

Double Majors, Minors, and Concentrations

History as a major pairs especially well with Religious Studies, English, Political Science, Philosophy, Sociology or Classical/Modern Languages. It is also possible to double major in History and Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, or Psychology, or to minor in Business, though it requires close consultation with advisors to coordinate those programs of study.

A minor in History is also a good way to enrich the study of practically any other field, especially as it helps in understanding the context of concepts in other disciplines. Course requirements for a minor in History are quite flexible, comprising:

- A total of 18 credit hours, at least nine of which are at the 300 or 400 level and at least six of which are at the 100 or 200 level.
- At least one course in two of the following areas: American; European; and Asian, African, or Latin American.

A History major combines well with a number of interdisciplinary concentrations, including:

Africana Studies (Coordinators: M. Peden, PO; T. Llandu, PL)

Aging Studies (Coordinator: P. Harris, SC)

Catholic Studies (Coordinator: P. Murphy, HS)

East Asian Studies (Coordinator: R. Purdy, HS)

Latin American Studies (Coordinators: D. Anderson, CML; E. Luengo, CML)

Modern European Studies (Coordinators: J. Karolle-Berg, CML; P. Mason, PO)

Perspectives on Sex and Gender (Coordinator: B. Wirkus, PL)

Concentration descriptions are available in the Undergraduate Bulletin, on JCU's website, and in brochures at the end of the History Department hallway. For further information, please contact the Concentration Coordinator(s).

Social Studies Teaching Certification

Majoring in History is also a fundamental component of the Education Department's program of study for certification to teach high school social studies. History majors who are also completing the Integrated Social Studies Program must complete 12 rather than 18 credit hours of history courses at the 300 and 400 level as part of the following requirements:

Required Courses:

HS 211 (U.S. History to 1877)
HS 212 (U.S. History from 1877)
HS 201 (Western Civilization to 1600)
HS 202 (Western Civilization from 1600)
HS 261 (History as Art and Science)
HS 271 (World Geography)
HS 490 (Senior Seminar)

Area Studies:

Global History (Choose one)

HS 119 (The World and the West)
HS 120 (20th Century Global History)
HS 151 (Atlantic World)
HS 230 (World War II)
HS 464 (Genocide and Human Rights)

Non-Western Studies (Choose two)

HS 170 (Introduction to Latin America & Culture)
HS 180 (Introduction to East Asian History & Culture)
HS 274 (Modern Latin America History)
HS 280 (Modern East Asia History)
HS 300 (History of the Ancient Near East)
HS 381 (Japanese History)
HS 382 (Chinese History)
HS 456 (Relations of the Pacific Rim)

Plus three upper-level history electives that support a regional or thematic focus

Additional Required courses:

SC 101	EC 101	PS 101
PO 101	PL 314	PS 262

Early and frequent consultation with advisors in Education and History is essential to timely completion of the program.

Opportunities and Course Planning

As part of your program of study, you might want to consider taking courses for the major that go beyond the ‘normal’ boundaries of the classroom, for instance:

- AR 291 “Justice and Democracy in a Global Context,” considers its theme from an interdisciplinary perspective, as it team-taught by two faculty members, most commonly in History and Political Science.
- HS 498 “Internship” offers credit for developing and carrying out historical projects, most often at local historical organizations such as the Western Reserve Historical Society and the Cuyahoga County Archives.
- HS 297 (“Popular Culture in Japan”), HS 336 (“Berlin from Reich to Republic”) and HS 405 (“Rome: City of Emperors, Popes and Saints”) all involve a class component at John Carroll and then study tours to the relevant countries.

Descriptions of all the courses that will be offered in the following semester can be found in *The Historical Inquirer*, which is published every semester just before registration begins. In addition, there is a chart on bulletin board at the entrance to the History Department that lists tentative course offerings for the next few semesters.

Useful Writing Guides

History as a discipline requires that you develop specific skills in primary and secondary source analysis as well as research and writing. Two good guides are:

Richard Marius and Melvin Page, *A Short Guide to Writing about History* 5th ed (New York: Pearson Education, 2005)

Jules Benjamin, *A Student’s Guide to History* 9th ed (Boston: Bedford/St. Martin’s, 2004). There is a short version of the previous edition at <http://www.bedfordstmartins.com/history/benjamin/>

For helpful advice and some professors’ pet peeves about mistakes in papers, see: <http://www.swarthmore.edu/Humanities/wa/writingInTheDisciplines/SpecificDisciplines/history.htm>

Careers and Resources

“But what do you *do* with a history major??” The answer is: whatever you wish! History majors are very well-placed for any career that requires critical thinking, problem-solving, and good research and communication skills. While many history majors go on to careers in education or the law, there are also a substantial number who find rewarding professions in the non-profit sector, public policy, library science, publishing, and business.

The JCU Career Center has resources for helping you think about professional opportunities you might wish to pursue. The Liberal Arts Counselor in the Career Center is Bob Windle.

The History Department also keeps career guides, graduate school catalogs, and copies of the American Historical Association and Ohio Historical Society newsletters at the end of the hallway—you are welcome to browse!

Useful bibliography (some on the Department bookshelf) includes:

Directory of History Departments, Historical Organizations, and Historians (American Historical Association, 2006)

Careers for Students of History (American Historical Association, 2002)

Top Careers for History Graduates (Facts on File, 2004)

History Internships (Career Education Institutes, 2006)

Internships (Peterson's/Thomson Learning, 2005)

The Student's Federal Career Guide (The Resume Place, 2004)

You may also find information about possible careers and further training for history majors at the following websites:

GRADUATE SCHOOL

American Historical Association: www.historians.org

Organization of American Historians: www.oah.org

H-Net: Humanities and Social Sciences online: www.h-net.org

PUBLIC HISTORY AND LIBRARIES

American Association for State and Local History: www.aaslh.org

National Council on Public History: ncph.org

National Trust for Historic Preservation: www.nationaltrust.org

American Association of Museums museumcareers.aam-us.org

American Library Association www.ala.org

GOVERNMENT

Federal Government Job Listings: usajobs.opm.gov

National Conference of State Legislatures www.ncsl.org

Senate.gov, house.gov, state.gov, National Association of Counties www.naco.org

MEDIA:

Association of American Publishers bookjobs.com

Magazine publishers of America www.magazine.org

History channel www.history.com and Public Broadcasting Service www.pbs.org

Awards

If you fit the following requirements, you are eligible to apply for one of two Howard J. Kerner, S.J. Scholarships of \$2,000 each, which is applied to the following year's tuition: a) You are a declared History major who applies as a second semester junior with at least a 3.5 GPA; and b) you plan to enroll full-time at JCU in the year of the award and to take an upper-division history course each semester. Applications are available from the History Department Secretary and are due April 15.

The History Department also presents the Outstanding Graduating Senior Award to the major with the highest GPA, and the Women Historians of Greater Cleveland award to the woman senior major with the highest GPA that year.

Activities

The History Department Film Series runs Wednesday evenings in AD 226, often with double features! For the list of films for the semester, see the History Department website or bulletin board.

The History Society, a student-run organization for John Carroll history majors, minors, or students simply interested in history, holds events periodically during the semester.

And last but certainly not least, there is a party for graduating seniors every year at the end of classes in the Spring. We hope to see you there!

Faculty

Full-Time:

Matthew Berg: Germany and Austria, 20th-century Europe, European labor, human rights

Daniel Kilbride: 19th-century United States, U.S. South, African-American

Robert Kolesar: United States labor, ethnic, political

Anne Kugler: Britain and France, European society, women

Maria Marsilli: Latin America

Malia McAndrew: Modern United States, African-American, women

Paul Murphy: Renaissance and Reformation, church, early modern Europe

Roger Purdy: Japan, East Asia

David Robson: Early America, U.S. constitutional

Part-Time:

Bruce Beebe: Medieval Europe

Sven Dubie: Modern United States

Ramez Islambouli: Islamic studies

Marian Morton (professor emeritus): United States social, women

John Patton: Europe

Amy Rock: World Geography

Bari Oyler Stith: United States regional, social, public history

George Vourlojianis: United States military

Non-Departmental:

Linda Eisenmann: U.S. higher education and women

James Krukones: Russia, Soviet Union, eastern Europe

W. Francis Ryan: Europe