



B.A. in History

The study of history involves the study of all human thought and action, ranging from the economic and the political to the psychological and the artistic. Combining the perspectives and methods of the social sciences and the humanities, it seeks to comprehend the problems and challenges faced by individuals and societies in the distant and recent past, nearby and far away. This understanding of the human experience provides the necessary historical perspective to explain the present.

In the process of making sense of our collective and individual past, the student of history develops research, analytical and communication skills which can be drawn upon in a variety of careers. History majors from Sonoma State have developed careers in journalism, teaching, law, business, public consulting and research, museum and records management, genealogy, library science and government service.

The History Major is designed both to provide the basis for a solid liberal arts education and to meet the needs of individual students. Within the specific requirements of the Major, students receive basic instruction in the history of the United States as well as that of other countries. They are also introduced to the methods of historical inquiry, techniques of historical writing, differing philosophies of history and historiography, past and present. Beyond these basic requirements, students may arrange course work to fit their needs and interests. Upper division classes are generally small and offer ample individual attention, guidance and interaction between students and faculty.

B.A. in History

The Bachelor of Arts degree in History at Sonoma State University is a 40 unit major with a core of lower division survey courses (12 units) in American and World History (6 of which meet General Education requirements).

Upper Division requirements include a one-semester course in the Study of History and a Senior Seminar in which students conduct research, write and present an original paper. The additional 20 units required for the Major must include at least one course in European history and one course on an area of the world other than Western Europe or the United States.

As one of the original departments in the University, the History Department has developed a wide-ranging and diversified program. Courses are offered on the regions of Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe and the Middle East during Ancient, Medieval, Modern and Contemporary periods. In addition to G.E. requirements, studies in United States history include: Black history, Women's history, California history, and period courses. The department also offers lecture series and a wide range of topical courses.

In addition to classroom courses, students are encouraged to take advantage of independent research projects, internships, community-involvement projects and teacher-aide opportunities. Such experiences in "applied history" can provide entry into potential careers or positions and students interested in teaching careers are required to develop supervised teaching experiences prior to entering credential programs. Other opportunities include an Honors Program, the student journal, *In Retrospect*, and the Phi Alpha Theta Honor Society.

History serves non-majors in areas such as Latin American, European, Russian, East Asian, Indian or ethnic studies, and social science, management and humanities majors frequently develop double majors including history or acquire a minor in history. History is also one of the approved majors leading to a secondary or single-subject credential.

Minor in History

The minor in history consists of 20 units of history (exclusive of G.E.), including the two-semester surveys in American and World history, History 391 (The Study of History) and three upper division courses in a single field.

Master of Arts

The Master of Arts degree in history is designed to provide students with a program of advanced intensive study leading to specialization in: African, Asian, European, Latin American, United States or Women's history. Apart from the final requirement of either a master's thesis (and oral examination) or two field examinations (written and oral), the master's program contains flexibility sufficient to meet the varying personal, professional and academic needs of the candidate. The Graduate advisor and the Chairman of the thesis or field committee provide assistance and direction toward achieving the student's academic objectives.

"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." George Santayana, *Life of Reason*.

The History Major

Lower Division Units

HIST 201	Foundations of World Civilization	3
HIST 202	Development of the Modern World	3
(3 units required for G.E.)		6
HIST 251	History of the United States to 1877.....	3
HIST 252	History of the United States since 1865.....	3
(3 units required for G.E.)		6

Upper Division

HIST 391	The Study of History	4
HIST 498	Senior Seminar.....	4
Additional courses in History		20
(Must include one upper division course in European history and one upper division course in an area of the world other than Western Europe or the United States, and at least 17 units must be upper division.)		
Total units (exclusive of G.E.).....		34

History Honors Program

Eligible* students must have completed the major core requirements, except for the Senior Seminar, to earn the honors degree: 16

HIST 498	(or designated Senior Seminar)	4
HIST 499	Honors Seminar (to complete an Honors Thesis)	4
Total units needed for History Honors Degree		44

*Eligibility for the history honors degree:

1. A 3.50 GPA at Sonoma State University or overall.
2. Demonstrated proficiency in a foreign language.

The History Minor

HIST 201	Foundations of World Civilization	3
HIST 202	Development of the Modern World	3
(3 units required for G.E.)		6
HIST 251	History of the United States to 1877.....	3
HIST 252	History of the United States since 1865.....	3
(3 units required for G.E.)		6
HIST 391	The Study of History	4
Three upper division courses in a single field (United States, European, Latin America and Non-Western).....		10
Total units in History Minor (exclusive of G.E.).....		20

History Department Faculty

Judith E. Abbott, Ph.D., University of Connecticut.
Medieval and Ancient Roman History.

Stephen Bittner, Ph.D., University of Chicago
Modern Russian and Modern European History.

Randall Dodgen, Ph.D., Yale University
Asian and Pacific Rim History.

Steve Estes, Ph.D., University of North Carolina
20th Century United States History.

Mary Halavais, Ph.D., University of California, San Diego.
Early Modern Europe, Spain and Latin America.

Michelle Jolly, Ph.D., University of California, San Diego.
U.S., California, and Women's History.

Robert A. Karlsrud, Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles.
U.S. Labor and Social History; Secondary Education.

Kathleen Noonan, Ph.D., University of California, Santa Barbara.
British Isles, Europe, Colonial American History.

William H. Poe, Ph.D., Brandeis University.
Ancient Mediterranean Archaeology.

Clarice Stasz, Ph.D., Rutgers University.
U.S. Social and Cultural History.

Theresa Alfaro Velcamp, Ph.D., Georgetown University
Mexican, Latin American, Borderlands History.

D. Anthony White, Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles.
Latin American History.

We hope this information will be helpful. Official requirements of all majors and programs are published in the Sonoma State University catalog. Sonoma State University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution and has a strong commitment to the principal of diversity. A member of the California State University

