

## HISTORY MA

## HISTORY MS

College of Social & Behavioral Sciences  
Department of History  
110B Armstrong Hall • 507-389-1618

Chair: Margaretta Handke, Ph.D.  
Graduate Coordinator: Charles Piehl, Ph.D.

Melodie Andrews, Ph.D.; Christopher Corley, Ph.D.; Kathleen Gorman, Ph.D.; Erwin Grieshaber, Ph.D.; Matthew Loayza, Ph.D.; Tao Peng, Ph.D.; Larry Witherehl, Ph.D.

History, the interpretive study of the past, enhances the understanding of the present and guides planning for the future. As one of the liberal arts, history provides excellent preparation for many careers, including teaching, journalism, law, government, information science, historical society work, and archives. Graduate study in history at Minnesota State University offers Master of Arts and Master of Science degrees.

With a graduate faculty of 9 professors, the Department of History offers courses about the United States, Europe, Latin America and Asia. The Memorial Library has in excess of 1,100,000 bound volumes and microtext titles, more than 2,500 print periodical and newspaper subscriptions, nearly 100,000 maps and aerial photos, and nearly 10,000 audio and visual resources including videotapes, DVDs, and audio books. The library has been a depository for federal documents since 1962 and of Minnesota state documents since 1958. In addition, the library has information retrieval capability from over 140 academically oriented data bases. The online catalog and interlibrary loan allows access to materials in other library collections containing full text for more than 23,000 journals. The library also houses the M.J. Lass Center for Minnesota Studies and the Southern Minnesota Historical Center.

**Admission Requirements.** In addition to meeting the general admission requirements of the College of Graduate Studies and Research, an applicant must have completed at least 16 undergraduate semester credits in history, of which at least 6 must be in U.S. history and 6 in European history. Minimum GPA requirements on a 4.0 scale are 2.75 for all undergraduate work or 3.0 for the last 60 undergraduate semester credits.

**Advising.** The department graduate coordinator is the initial advisor of all students. Entering students are required to consult with the coordinator before registering for any graduate courses. The permanent advisor is selected when the student submits a plan of study. Regular student/advisor consultation throughout the program is recommended.

**Financial Assistance.** The department offers graduate assistantships, usually beginning in the fall semester of each academic year.

HISTORY MA  
(Thesis Plan - 30 credits)

Required Core (12 credits)  
HIST 625 Historiography (3)  
HIST 655 Research & Writing (3)

Choose one of the following:  
HIST 600 Reading Seminar: Eur. History (3)  
HIST 602 Reading Seminar: Third World (3)  
HIST 604 Reading Seminar: U.S. History (3)

Choose one of the following:  
HIST 608 Research Seminar: Eur. History (3)  
HIST 610 Research Seminar: U.S. History (3)

Required Non-Departmental Electives (6 credits)  
Choose any non-history electives selected in consultation with an advisor.

Required Thesis or Alternate Plan Paper  
HIST 699 Thesis (3-6)

Required History Electives (6-15 credits)

Choose courses in consultation with an advisor.

Required:  
Knowledge of a foreign language acceptable to the History Department Graduate Committee must be demonstrated prior to the earning of any thesis credits. Fulfillment of this requirement may be by completion of a college level sequence of one academic year with an average grade of at least B.

Required:  
A minimum of 21 credits in History is required under the Thesis Plan.

HISTORY MS  
(Thesis Plan - 30 credits)  
(Alternate Plan Paper - 34 credits)

Required Core (12 credits)  
HIST 625 Historiography (3)  
HIST 655 Research & Writing (3)

Choose one of the following:  
HIST 600 Reading Seminar: European History (3)  
HIST 602 Reading Seminar: Third World (3)  
HIST 604 Reading Seminar: U.S. History (3)

Choose one of the following:  
HIST 608 Research Seminar: European History (3)  
HIST 610 Research Seminar: U.S. History (3)

Required Electives  
Choose any elective courses in consultation with an advisor.

Required General (Non-History) Electives, (6 credits) APP Option Only  
Choose any courses in consultation with an advisor.

Required Thesis or Alternate Paper Plan  
HIST 699 Thesis (3-6)  
HIST 694 Alternate Plan Paper Research (1-2)

Under the Alternate Plan, one Alternate Plan Paper at least 26 pages long is required. Normally, the paper should be initiated as a term paper in 500 or 600 level history courses. With the permission of the graduate coordinator and the student's advisor, the student may write the paper by registering for History 694: Alternate Plan Paper Research for 1 or 2 semester credits.

**General Requirements:**  
A minimum of 21 credits in History is required under the Thesis Plan. A minimum of 24 credits in History is required under the Alternate Paper Plan.

**Other Degree Requirements.** Each student is expected to complete satisfactorily both a written comprehensive examination and an oral examination. The written examination will cover a field of historical study. Each field is to be defined by area, chronological period and branch of history. Typical fields, for example, would include United States Political History to 1865, United States Social History 1865 to present, and European Economic History 1500-1700. The oral examination will be a defense of the thesis or alternate plan papers. Any candidate who performs unsatisfactorily may retake either or both examinations once.

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

HIST 501 (4) Classical World of Greece & Rome  
The history of Greece and Rome stressing political, social, and economic institutions and cultural and intellectual achievements.

HIST 502 (4) Foundations of Judaism, Christianity, & Islam  
A history of western monotheistic religions and their interactions with the secular world and each other from the beginnings of Judaism to the Crusades.

HIST 503 (4) The Middle Ages  
A history of the Middle Ages stressing political, social, and economic interactions and cultural achievements.

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## HISTORY

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### HIST 506 (3) Renaissance & Reformation

Intellectual, social, and cultural developments in Western Europe, 1300-1600.

### HIST 507 (3) Scientific Revolution & Enlightenment

Europe during the 17th and 18th centuries when science and reason replaced religion as the intellectual authority.

### HIST 512 (4) Modern Germany since 1500

Review of German history from the Reformation and Thirty Years War to the present, including such topics as Rise of Prussia, Revolution of 1848, Bismarck and the formation of a German Empire, World War I, Weimar Republic and the rise of Hitler, World War II, and Germany since 1945.

### HIST 514 (4) Early England to 1603

England from ancient times to the death of Elizabeth I.

### HIST 515 (4) England since 1603

Political, social, and economic development of England and Great Britain since the death of Elizabeth I.

### HIST 519 (4) France since the Revolution in 1789

Review of French history from the Revolution of 1789 to the present, including such topics as origins and course of the Revolution, Napoleon, Louis XVIII to Third Republic, World War I, World War II and France since 1945.

### HIST 521 (4) Modern Russia

A history of Russia and surrounding areas from the fall of Tsarism in 1917 to the modern era.

### HIST 524 (4) Scandinavian History

Political, economic, social, cultural, and emigration-immigration history of the Scandinavian countries, including major themes in the mass migration and history of Scandinavians in America. Emphasis on the period, 1500-present.

### HIST 527 (4) Eastern Europe

A history of Eastern Europe from the middle ages to the present.

### HIST 530 (1-4) United States: Selected Topics

### HIST 531 (1-4) European History: Selected Topics

### HIST 532 (1-4) World History: Selected Topics

### HIST 534 (4) East Asian History: 1800 - 1945

A comparative history of the Chinese and Japanese nations from the 19th century to 1945.

### HIST 535 (4) East Asian History: 1945 - the Present

A comparative history of the rise of the Chinese and Japanese nations from 1945 to the present.

### HIST 536 (4) History of East Asian Relations with the United States

History of relations of major East-Asian countries with the United States from the late 18th century to the present.

### HIST 537 (4) African History

Review of African history from the earliest civilization of Africa to the present, including such topics as Empires of West Africa and East Africa, spread of Islam in Africa, Bantu migrations, European contact and slave trade, European Colonization and independent Africa.

### HIST 542 (4) History of Latin America

Review of Latin America history from Ancient American Civilizations to the present.

### HIST 550 (3) Minnesota to 1880

Survey of Minnesota's frontier history with emphasis on Indian-white contacts, exploration, and settlement.

### HIST 551 (3) Minnesota since 1880

Modern political, economic, and social history of the state, emphasizing both its uniqueness and its relationship to national and regional developments.

### HIST 554 (4) Early America to 1763

This course will examine America's political, social, economic, and cultural development from the earliest settlement of the continent by indigenous peoples to 1763, when provincial Americans began to demand more than token equality in the British Empire.

### HIST 555 (4) Revolutionary & Early National America 1763-1820

This course will examine the social, economic, ideological, political, diplomatic, and military experiences of the United States between 1763 and 1820, in order to understand the creation of the American political nation and the culture which developed within it.

### HIST 558 (4) U.S. History 1820-1861

This course will discuss the social, economic, and political issues from the rise of Jackson through the beginning of the Civil War. Major issues to be covered include: Jacksonian Democracy, Industrialization, Reform, Westward Expansion, Slavery, and the 1850s.

### HIST 559 (4) U.S. History 1861-1900

Examines issues of slavery and conflict between the North and the South leading up to, during, and after the Civil War, and the rise of a socially and culturally diverse manufacturing society by the 1880s.

### HIST 562 (4) U.S. History 1900-1945

A history of foreign and domestic themes during the Progressive Era; the 1920s, the Great Depression, and the periods of the two world wars. Includes examinations of reform and radical movements on the left and right.

### HIST 563 (4) U.S. History 1945-Present

Social, political, and foreign affairs since World War II.

### HIST 565 (4) History of U.S. Foreign Relations, 1775-1900

Explores the economic, strategic, and ideological factors shaping American diplomacy from 1775 to 1900. Students will examine how U.S. policymakers defined their goals and how their assumptions led the United States to pursue territorial and commercial expansion.

### HIST 566 (4) History of U.S. Foreign Relations in the Twentieth Century

An examination of the major factors influencing U.S. diplomacy since 1900. Students will examine how influential policymakers defined their diplomatic goals and how both domestic and external factors have contributed to America's reaction to wars and revolutions around the world.

### HIST 570 (4) American Frontier

Occupation of the area between the Mississippi and the Pacific from Spanish exploration to the late 19th century.

### HIST 575 (3) The American South

A course which surveys the major themes in southern history and tackles the question whether the South has been un-American or ultra-American.

### HIST 576 (4) Comparative Slavery and Emancipation

This course will discuss slavery and emancipation in the Atlantic World (Africa, Latin America, and the United States). Students will discover how slavery and emancipation differed in various regions and over time.

### HIST 577 (3) Advanced African-American History

A course which deals with the main themes in African-American history and their interpretations.

### HIST 578 (4) America in Vietnam

This course will examine the Vietnam War. Students will discover how and why the U.S. became involved in Vietnam, examine the specific problems faced by American diplomats and military officials, and how the war affected American society.

### HIST 581 (4) U.S. Civil Rights Since 1945

This course will examine the Civil Rights Movement, broadly defined, from 1945 to the present, but focusing on the period from 1945 to 1970. We will also explore the way in which African Americans and their white supporters mobilized for equality in the face of massive white resistance and seeming federal indifference.

### HIST 583 (4) American Social and Cultural History

A history of the intersection of culture and society in America.

### HIST 584 (4) American Labor History

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An examination of the history of labor and the emergence of social welfare within the context of the modernization of western society and the diversity of the United States.

HIST 585 (4) History of American Immigration and Ethnicity

A historical study of the immigration and ethnic experience in America. It includes an examination of political, social, economic and legal changes that resulted in population movements to the U.S. Attention is given to anti-immigrant movements.

HIST 587 (4) United States Women's History

This course is designed to provide a survey and analysis of the historical experiences of women in the United States from earliest settlement by indigenous peoples to the present in order to aid students in understanding the contemporary situation of women in American society.

HIST 590 (1-4) Workshop

Specific titles to be announced in departmental course descriptions.  
P/N only.

HIST 600 (3) Reading Seminar in European History

Intensive reading on a specialized historical topic. May be repeated once under a different instructor and sub-title.

HIST 602 (3) Reading Seminar in Third World History

Intensive reading on a specialized historical topic. May be repeated once under a different instructor and sub-title.

HIST 604 (3) Reading Seminar in United States History

Intensive reading on a specialized historical topic. May be repeated once under a different instructor and sub-title.

HIST 608 (3) Research Seminar in European History

May be repeated once under a different instructor and sub-title.

HIST 610 (3) Research Seminar in United States History

May be repeated once under a different instructor and sub-title.

HIST 625 (3) Historiography

Survey of major historical writings and interpretations.

HIST 655 (3) Historical Research & Writing

HIST 677 (1-4) Individual Study

HIST 691 (1-4) In-Service

HIST 694 (1-2) Alternate Plan Paper

HIST 697 (1-6) Internship

Practical work experience in teaching or in an historical agency.

HIST 698 (1-6) Internship

Practical work experience in an historical agency.

HIST 699 (3-6) Thesis

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