The History curriculum is widely diversified by topic and by approach and offers an extensive range of courses from ancient to modern times in American, Asian, European, and Latin American. The Bachelor of Arts degree in History itself is distinctive for four courses that are particularly germane to student development of independent, critical judgment based on historical skills. The First-Year Seminars offer incoming students, particularly those who have completed AP courses, the opportunity to move quickly into the history major during their first year. The two-semester History Colloquium and Practicum are seminars typically completed during the sophomore or junior year that prepare majors in the critical evaluation of historical arguments, research and analysis of historical data, and historical writing. These courses are essential preparation for upper-level lecture courses and seminars and for the senior course Historical Research. This capstone course provides an opportunity to complete a historical research project working one-on-one with a member of the history faculty.

An internship option enhances the program by granting credit for history-related, career-oriented work outside the classroom. The goal of the History program is to produce graduates with a command of factual and conceptual knowledge of the past; the analytical methods that historians use to recover, research, and write about the past; the tools to create and produce materials in a digital age; and well-honed writing and speaking skills. Graduates of the History program go on to a wide range of careers in which the ability to understand and solve historical problems, and in which skills of independent, critical judgment based on historical knowledge, are useful. Because the practice of history requires the ability to analyze and communicate ideas clearly as well as to retain factual information, it is an ideal preparation for law school and for careers in business, public policy, government, and journalism.

Honors in History at Graduation requires a 3.5 grade-point average in the major and superior work in HIST 485 Historical Research, or HIST 486 Historical Research Abroad.

Phi Alpha Theta, the national history honorary society, enriches the quality of the History program and offers opportunities to participate in social and educational activities.

### Major Requirements

**Select 6 credits of the following survey sequences:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST 121</td>
<td>Western Civilization I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; HIST 122</td>
<td>and Western Civilization II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 131</td>
<td>American History to 1865</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; HIST 132</td>
<td>and American History Since 1865</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 141</td>
<td>Asian Civilization I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; HIST 142</td>
<td>and Asian Civilization II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 297</td>
<td>History Colloquium</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 298</td>
<td>History Practicum</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Select 15 elective credits at the 200-level and beyond**

**Select 9 credits at the 400-level**

---

1 Three credits must be HIST 485 Historical Research or HIST 486 Historical Research Abroad and 3 credits of which may be HIST 491 Individual Study.

AMST 202 Sophomore Special Topics Seminar Sophomore Special Topics Seminar or AMST 303 Junior Special Topics Seminar (3 credits total) may count as an elective in the History major with permission from the Department Chair.

Internships (HIST 499B Internship) are encouraged, but count as electives in the major only with permission from the Department Chair.

### General Education Requirements

The general education requirements for Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science degrees ([https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/general-education/requirements-bachelor-arts-bachelor-science-degrees/](https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/general-education/requirements-bachelor-arts-bachelor-science-degrees/)) apply to all students who are seeking to earn an undergraduate B.A. or B.S. degree.

Students seeking a Bachelor of Liberal Studies degree have a separate set of BLS general education requirements ([https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/general-education/requirements-bachelor-liberal-studies-degrees/](https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/general-education/requirements-bachelor-liberal-studies-degrees/)).

### Electives

Elective courses are those that are not needed to fulfill a general education requirement or major program requirement but are chosen by the student to complete the 120 credits required for graduation with a B.A./B.S. degree or the BLS degree. These courses may be taken graded or pass/fail (or S/U in the case of physical education and 100-level dance). No student in a regular B.A./B.S. program may count more than 60 credits in a single discipline toward the 120 credits required for graduation.

### History Required for the Degree: 120 credits

### History and American Studies Department

Claudine L. Ferrell, Chair
Will B. Mackintosh, Career Advisors (History)
Krystyn R. Moon, Career Advisor (American Studies)

### Faculty

**Professors**

Susan R. Fernsebner
Claudine L. Ferrell
Jeffrey W. McClurken
Krystyn R. Moon
Bruce R. O’Brien
Allyson M. Poska

**Associate Professors**

Nabil S. Al-Tikriti
Porter R. Blakemore
Erin K. Devlin
Steven E. Harris
Will B. Mackintosh
Jason R. Sellers