MINOR IN HISTORY

Minor in History

Student Learning Outcomes

Students graduating from this program will:

• Knowledge of the Past: Acquire knowledge of the world’s civilizations and peoples, and their political, economic, social and cultural histories.
• Knowledge of the Past: Gain in-depth knowledge of a historical field by specializing in one of several departmental interest areas.
• Knowledge of the Past: Gain exposure to a range of historical subjects outside the interest area.
• Knowledge of the Past: Complete at least one course that examines a non-western society.
• Perspectives: Develop a historical understanding of an increasingly multicultural society and interdependent world.
• Perspectives: Understand the variety and complexity of the human experience and foster an appreciation for processes of change.
• Perspectives: Comprehend how constructions of class, race and gender dynamically shape social structures, national identities and all forms of human relationships.
• Perspectives: Realize the interlocking relationships among science, technology, the environment and society.
• Perspectives: Appreciate the value of interdisciplinary perspectives and methods.
• Analysis and Interpretation: Critically evaluate secondary, textual evidence by identifying a thesis, noting sources and methods used in argument, discerning the conclusions and determining the perspective, bias and reliability of the argument.
• Analysis and Interpretation: Think critically, and master the art of interpretive analysis based on the widest possible array of primary sources: written, material and other cultural texts.
• Research and Communication: Locate printed and online information sources to research a topic exhaustively.
• Research and Communication: Write clear, well organized, properly documented and grammatical prose.

Studying history provides students with unique opportunities to develop their intellectual passions, interests, abilities, skills (critical thinking, research, writing, and oral communication) and sensibilities—insight, empathy, and perspective.

Understanding the past provides students with a rich foundation of learning and valuable skills upon which more specialized knowledge can be built. A history background can help students build toward a range of careers—from business to government to education to the law—and facilitate the pursuit of alternative paths especially valuable in a fluid labor market.

Program Requirements

A minor in history may be earned with a minimum of 18 credit hours of coursework in the discipline (at least 12 of which must be at the 300- and 400-level). A maximum of six of the 18 credit hours may be taken in two of the survey courses.