

**Department of History
Undergraduate Program
2014 - 2015**

Updated June 23, 2014

Major Requirements for History

A grade of C or better is required in all History (HY) courses.

<u>Requirements</u>	<u>Hours</u>
History Sequence ¹	
Select four of the following courses: ²	12
HY 101 Western Civilization I	
HY 102 Western Civilization II	
HY 104 World History to 1600	
HY 105 World History 1600 to the Present	
HY 120 The United States To 1877	
HY 121 The United States Since 1877	
Research Courses	
HY 300 The Historian's Craft	3
HY 497 History Capstone	3
History Electives	21
Select seven (7) courses in History (HY) not listed above, including three at the 400-level and two at the 300-level or above. Students must take two (2) of their electives in U.S. history and (2) in non-U.S. history; one of the two non-U.S. history electives must be a non-Western history.	
Total Hours	39

¹ Completion of this requirement will automatically satisfy Core Curriculum Area IV: History.

² Students may not take both HY 101 and HY 104 or both HY 102 and HY 105.

³ Students may take no more than a total of 6 semester hours of the following independent studies courses: Directed Readings in History (HY 491/HY 492) or Internship in Public History (HY 482).

⁴ Students must take 18 semester hours in 300- and 400-level courses at UAB.

Minor Requirements for History

A grade of C or better is required in all courses applied to the minor.

	Requirements	Hours
Introductory U.S. History		
Select one of the following:		3
HY 120	The United States To 1877 ¹	
HY 121	The United States Since 1877 ¹	
Introductory History courses		
Select two of the following: ²		6
HY 101	Western Civilization I ³	
HY 102	Western Civilization II ³	
HY 104	World History to 1600	
HY 105	World History 1600 to the Present	
HY 120	The United States To 1877 ³	
HY 121	The United States Since 1877 ³	
History Electives		
Select six hours from 300-level or above History (HY) courses and three hours any level history.		9
Total Hours		18

¹ May also apply toward Core Curriculum Area IV.

² Students may not take both HY 101 and HY 104 or both HY 102 and HY 105.

³ May also apply toward Core Curriculum Area IV.

Note: At least 6 semester hours in history above the 300 level must be taken at UAB. No grade below C may be counted toward the history minor.

Proposed Program of Study for a Major in History

Freshman			
First Term	Hours	Second Term	Hours
EH 101	3	EH 102	3
MA 110	3	Core Curriculum Area IV: History ¹	6
Core Curriculum Area IV: History ¹	3	Core Curriculum Area II: Humanities	3
Core Curriculum Area II: Fine Art ²	3	Core Curriculum Area IV: Social and Behavioral Science	3
Core Curriculum Area IV: Social and Behavioral Science	3		
	15		15
Sophomore			
First Term	Hours	Second Term	Hours
Core Curriculum Area II: Literature ³	3	HY 300	3
Core Curriculum Area III: Natural Science with Laboratory	4	Core Curriculum Area III: Natural Science with Laboratory	4
History Survey	3	Core Curriculum Area II: Humanities	3
Minor	3	Minor	3
General Elective	3	General Elective	3
	16		16
Junior			
First Term	Hours	Second Term	Hours
History (300 level and above)	3	History (400 level)	3
History (200 level and above)	3	History (300 level and above)	3
Minor	3	Minor	3
General Elective	6	General Elective	3
		General Elective	3
	15		15
Senior			
First Term	Hours	Second Term	Hours
HY 497	3	History (400 level)	3
History (400 level)	3	History (300 level and above)	3
History (200 level and above)	3	Minor	3
Minor	3	General Elective	3
General Elective	3	General Elective	1-3
	15		13-15

Total credit hours: 120-122

¹ Select one: HY 101, HY 102, HY 104, HY 105, HY 120 or HY 121.

² Select One: ARH 101, ARH 203, ARH 204, ARH 206, MU 120, THR 100, THR 105 or THR 200.

³ Select One: EH 216, EH 217, EH 218, EH 221, EH 222, EH 223 or EH 224

History Advisor Contact Information

History Advisors:

Kip Hubbard kiph@uab.edu FR/SO Social & Behavioral Sciences; all Foreign Language, all Social Work

Deborah Littleton dlittleton@uab.edu JR/SR Social and Behavioral Sciences

To make an appointment, please call (205) 934-6135.

HONORS PROGRAM IN HISTORY

Purpose

The History Honors Program is designed for outstanding history majors at UAB and allows qualified students to write an Honor's Thesis based on original research. Faculty-led independent research for the senior thesis provides students with experience in applying historical methods and analytical writing techniques. This more advanced study helps prepare undergraduate history majors for graduate work in the field or for post-graduate training in other areas such as law, theology, and medicine. Students who complete the program will graduate "With Honors in History."

Eligibility

To be eligible for the History Honors Program, students must complete at least 60 semester hours with a minimum 3.0 overall GPA and a minimum 3.5 GPA in history courses. At least 24 semester hours in the history major (including HY 300 Historian's Craft and HY 497 History Capstone) must be completed prior to acceptance in the Honors Program.

Interested students must apply for the program which includes submitting a prospectus with bibliography. The application cover sheet must be signed by the faculty member who has agreed to direct the Honor's Thesis. If the student is accepted to the program, the student and the thesis director will choose two additional faculty members to make up the student's thesis committee. The thesis committee will determine whether the student's completed thesis qualifies for honors.

Requirements

The History Honors Program requires 39 total semester hours in history and maintenance of an overall 3.0 GPA and a 3.5 GPA in history courses through graduation.

Additional requirements include:

- **12** semester hours of lower-division survey courses selected from Western Civilization, HY 101 and 102, World History, HY 104 and 105, United States History, HY 120 and 121;
- **3** semester hours of HY 300, The Historian's Craft. The department recommends that this course be taken after the completion of the lower-division survey requirement and before taking upper-division courses;
- **18** semester hours which should include 9 semester hours at the 300 or 400 level and 6 semester hours at the 400 level (these courses may not be transferred from another institution and must be taken at UAB);
- **3** semester hours of HY 497, The History Capstone.
- **3** semester hours of HY 401, Honors Thesis in History
- **39** semester hours total Honors in History major requirements.

Honors students may take one or two graduate seminars in history for undergraduate credit with permission of the Director of the History Undergraduate Program. This credit may **not** be used for graduate credit.

Contact

For additional information on the History Honors Program, contact the Director of History Undergraduate Program or Chair; Telephone (205) 934-5634.

The History Capstone-FAQ

Who has to take it?

All History majors who began taking courses at UAB after July 2009 are required to take HY 497, The History Capstone.

When do I take it?

The Capstone course has to be part of your last 30 hours of course work. Please note that the Capstone is NOT offered in the summer.

How does it work?

The Capstone course is a major research project or presentation which is the culmination of your work as a History major. Your research is done under the supervision of a member of the History faculty. You should ask a professor in the field of study in which you are interested if he or she is willing to direct your capstone. In order to make sure that you are able to work with the instructor of your choice, you should plan ahead. Some semesters an instructor may not be available, and each instructor can only work with a limited number of projects.

What will my project be?

You and the instructor will decide what sort of research project/presentation you will do. He or she will also monitor your progress during the semester. Please note that it does NOT have to be a formal research paper. The History department also houses the Media Studies program and interested students may get assistance from that program on how to prepare a visual presentation of their research.

How do I register?

Once you have permission from the instructor who will direct your project, send that permission WITH your name and B00 number (student I.D.) to CASHistory@uab.edu. Within 48 hours you should get an e-mail telling you that you can register for HY 497.

Some examples of research projects which History majors have done as capstones:

- "‘I am Cain and Abel’: The Cinema of Andrezej Wajda and the Practice of Preference Falsification"
- "Kami Animal Spirits of Shinto and Chinese Influence"
- "Resurrection in the Ancient World and Early Christianity"
- "Establishing Islam after the Death of Mohammad"
- "The Black Prince: Hero or Villain"
- "Syphilis in Early Modern England"
- "The Evolution of Early Kabuki Theater"
- "How Von Braun 'Sold' or Pitched the Space Projects"
- "Vergangenheitsbewältigung: Women and the Third Reich"
- "The Evolution of the English Navy"

**HISTORY UNDERGRADUATE COURSES WITH CREDIT HOURS AND TYPE
100 – 200 LEVEL**

Course	Course Name	Level	Hours	Type
HY 101	Western Civilization I	UG	3	Western
HY 102	Western Civilization II	UG	3	Western
HY 104	World History to 1600	UG	3	Non-West
HY 105	World History 1600 to Present	UG	3	Non-West
HY 120	The United States To 1877	UG	3	US
HY 121	The United States Since 1877	UG	3	US
HY 201	Economic History of the United States	UG	3	US
HY 202	Reacting to the Past	UG	3	Various
HY 203	History of American Technology	UG	3	US
HY 206	Introduction to Film and History	UG	3	US
HY 207	The American Film	UG	3	US
HY 208	Women in Film	UG	3	US
HY 210	History of American Medicine	UG	3	US
HY 214	Roman Republic	UG	3	Western
HY 217	History of Ancient Greece	UG	3	Western
HY 218	History of the Roman Empire	UG	3	Western
HY 219	Late Antiquity and Early Middle Ages	UG	3	Western
HY 223	African-American History To 1865	UG	3	US
HY 224	African-American History Since 1865	UG	3	US
HY 225	History of Alabama	UG	3	US
HY 226	History and Development of Birmingham	UG	3	US
HY 227	Technology and Society	UG	3	US
HY 228	Southern Industrial History	UG	3	US
HY 230	Middle East 550 BCE to 1453 CE	UG	3	Non-West
HY 234	The World Since 1945	UG	3	Non-West
HY 235	War in the Modern World	UG	3	US
HY 236	Europe Since 1945	UG	3	Western
HY 245	Introduction to Latin American History	UG	3	Non-West
HY 247	Indians, Spaniards and Creoles	UG	3	Non-West
HY 248	Modern Latin America	UG	3	Non-West
HY 251	Nineteenth-Century Europe	UG	3	Western
HY 252	Twentieth-Century Europe	UG	3	Western
HY 257	The Celtic Fringe: Ireland, Scotland, Wales	UG	3	Western
HY 258	Britain and the Third World	UG	3	Western
HY 259	Social History of Crime	UG	3	Western
HY 262	Introduction to Early Modern Spanish History	UG	3	Western
HY 263	History of the Russian Empire	UG	3	Western
HY 264	Russian Revolution: 1917-1921	UG	3	Western
HY 265	History of the Soviet Union: 1917-1991	UG	3	Western
HY 270	Topics In History	UG	3	Various

Course	Course Name	Level	Hours	Type
HY 271	Traditional East Asian History and Culture	UG	3	Non-West
HY 272	Modern East Asia	UG	3	Non-West
HY 278	Untold Stories: Oral History	UG	3	US
HY 279	Women Rogues, Radicals and Reformers	UG	3	US
HY 280	Historic Preservation and Public Policy	UG	3	US
HY 285	Mapping Our World	UG	3	Western
HY 289	Topics in African American History	UG	3	US
HY 290	Topics in History	UG	3	Various
HY 291	Topics in History	UG	3	Various
HY 292	Topics in History	UG	3	Various

**HISTORY UNDERGRADUATE COURSES WITH CREDIT HOURS AND TYPE
300 LEVEL**

Course	Course Name	Level	Hours	Type
HY 300	The Historian's Craft	UG	3	Research
HY 303	Women in American History	UG	3	US
HY 304	U.S. Civil Rights Movement	UG	3	US
HY 305	Popular Culture in American History	UG	3	US
HY 307	The American Film	UG	3	US
HY 308	History of Popular Music in the United States	UG	3	US
HY 309	American Film in the 1980s and 1990s	UG	3	US
HY 310	Film in the 1960s	UG	3	US
HY 311	History of the Documentary Film	UG	3	US
HY 312	Rock n' Roll and Race Relations	UG	3	US
HY 313	Indie Rock from Punk to Post Modern	UG	3	US
HY 314	Roman Republic	UG	3	Western
HY 315	Egypt in the Age of the Pyramids	UG	3	Western
HY 316	Imperial and Post-Imperial Egypt	UG	3	Western
HY 317	History of Ancient Greece	UG	3	Western
HY 318	History of the Roman Empire	UG	3	Western
HY 319	Late Antiquity and Early Middle Ages	UG	3	Western
HY 320	Political History from Roosevelt to Roosevelt	UG	3	US
HY 321	Political History Since FDR	UG	3	US
HY 322	The Great Depression in Film	UG	3	US
HY 325	Southern Politics in the 20th Century	UG	3	US
HY 326	Mansions, Mines and Jim Crow	UG	3	US
HY 327	Southern Labor History	UG	3	US
HY 329	U. S. Women's Labor History	UG	3	US
HY 330	Middle East 550 BCE to 1453 CE	UG	3	Non-West
HY 334	The World Since 1945	UG	3	Non-West
HY 336	Europe Since 1945	UG	3	Western
HY 341	U. S. - Latin American Relations	UG	3	US/NonWest
HY 342	Sex & Latin American Society	UG	3	Non-West
HY 343	Modern Latin America	UG	3	Non-West
HY 351	Continental Enlightenment, 1680-1790	UG	3	Western
HY 353	The Christians in History	UG	3	Western
HY 355	The Reformation	UG	3	Western
HY 357	Religion in Early Modern European History	UG	3	Western
HY 359	Social History of Crime	UG	3	Western
HY 360	The Celtic Fringe: Ireland, Scotland, Wales	UG	3	Western
HY 361	Britain and the Third World	UG	3	Western
HY 370	End of the U.S.S.R.	UG	3	Western
HY 371	Traditional East Asian History and Culture	UG	3	Non-West
HY 375	The Pacific War, 1931-1945	UG	3	US/NonWest

Course	Course Name	Level	Hours	Type
HY 376	Japan and the United States	UG	3	US/NonWest
HY 377	Modern East Asia	UG	3	Non-West
HY 378	Untold Stories: Oral History	UG	3	Western
HY 379	Women Rogues, Radicals and Reformers	UG	3	Western
HY 388	History of American Medicine	UG	3	Western
HY 389	Topics in African American History	UG	3	Western
HY 390	Topics in History	UG	3	Various
HY 391	Topics in History	UG	3	Various
HY 392	Topics in History/SL	UG	3	Various
HY 393	Topics in History	UG	3	Various

**HISTORY UNDERGRADUATE COURSES WITH CREDIT HOURS AND TYPE
400 LEVEL**

HY 401	Honor's Thesis	UG	3	Research
HY 402	Reacting to the Past	UG	3	Various
HY 403	Colonial American History to 1765	UG	3	US
HY 404	American Revolution	UG	3	US
HY 405	War and Society in Early America	UG	3	US
HY 406	Age of Jackson & the Market Revolution	UG	3	US
HY 407	Frontiers of Early America 1492-1815	UG	3	US
HY 408	Early Republic, 1789-1828	UG	3	US
HY 409	U.S. Constitutional History to 1877	UG	3	US
HY 410	U.S. Constitutional History Since 1877	UG	3	US
HY 411	The Antebellum South	UG	3	US
HY 412	The American Civil War	UG	3	US
HY 413	Reconstruction in America	UG	3	US
HY 414	The New South, 1877 to 1945	UG	3	US
HY 415	The Modern South, 1945 to Present	UG	3	US
HY 416	The Fifties in America	UG	3	US
HY 417	The Making of Modern America, 1877-1920	UG	3	US
HY 418	America in the 1920s and 1930s	UG	3	US
HY 419	The Second World War	UG	3	US
HY 420	Recent America, 1945 to Present	UG	3	US
HY 421	The Vietnam Wars, 1945-1975	UG	3	US/NonWest
HY 423	Southern Women: Image and Reality	UG	3	US
HY 424	Emergence of Modern America, 1877-1945	UG	3	US
HY 427	History of American Technology	UG	3	US
HY 428	Technology and American Life	UG	3	US
HY 429	Workers in American Society	UG	3	US
HY 430	U. S. Labor History	UG	3	US
HY 431	American Film and Violent Society	UG	3	US
HY 432	Labor History in Film	UG	3	US
HY 435	American Urban History	UG	3	US
HY 438	The Changing American Landscape	UG	3	US
HY 439	American Environmental History	UG	3	US
HY 445	History of Women in Latin America	UG	3	Non-West
HY 446	Nations of the Andes	UG	3	Non-West
HY 447	Modern Mexico	UG	3	Non-West
HY 448	Topics in History	UG	3	Various
HY 449	Topics in History	UG	3	Various
HY 450	Topics in Ancient History	UG	3	Western
HY 451	History of Greece	UG	3	Western
HY 452	History of Rome	UG	3	Western
HY 453	Clash of Civilizations	UG	3	Western
HY 454	Topics in Middle Eastern History	UG	3	Non-West

HY 455	Renaissance & Reformation	UG	3	Western
HY 456	17th Century Europe: Absolutism, Revolution & Sci	UG	3	Western
HY 457	19th Century Europe	UG	3	Western
HY 458	Modern Europe	UG	3	Western
HY 459	Spain and the Spanish Inquisition	UG	3	Western
HY 460	Ancient and Medieval Britain	UG	3	Western
HY 461	English History: 1307-1660	UG	3	Western
HY 462	Early Modern Britain	UG	3	Western
HY 463	Victorian Britain	UG	3	Western
HY 464	Modern Great Britain	UG	3	Western
HY 465	French Enlightenment	UG	3	Western
HY 466	The French Revolution	UG	3	Western
HY 467	Modern France, 1815 to Present	UG	3	Western
HY 468	German Catastrophe 1815-2012	UG	3	Western
HY 469	Stalin and Stalinism	UG	3	Western
HY 470	The Soviet Union Since 1953	UG	3	Western
HY 471	Russian Intellectual History	UG	3	Western
HY 472	Terror & Terrorism from French Revolution to Present	UG	3	Western
HY 473	The Cold War	UG	3	Western
HT 475	Modern China	UG	3	Non-West
HY 476	Japan to the 19th Century	UG	3	Non-West
HY 477	Modern Japan	UG	3	Non-West
HY 478	Topics in European History	UG	3	Western
HY 480	Historic Preservation & Public Policy	UG	3	US
HY 481	Public History	UG	3	US
HY 482	Internship in Public History	UG	1-3	US
HY 483	Internship in Environmental Studies	UG	1-3	US
HY 489	Topics in African American History	UG	3	US
HY 490	Undergraduate Seminar in History	UG	3-6	Various
HY 491	Directed Readings in History	UG	3	Various
HY 492	Directed Readings in History	UG	1-3	Various
HY 497	History Capstone	UG	3	Research
HY 498	Topics in History	UG	3	Various
HY 499	Topics in History	UG	3	Various

Guide to College Majors in History

What is History?

Historians study, analyze, and interpret the facts and timelines of the past. They use any recorded source of information to perform this task, including government records, newspaper articles, photographs, institutional records, articles from periodicals, interviews, films, personal diaries, and letters.

Most historians have a specialty. This specialty could include a particular state or country, a certain time, or a particular person or group of persons (such as a presidential historian). A historian may also specialize in a less tangible field such as intellectual, cultural, political, or diplomatic history.

Trends for History Careers

According to the United States Department of Labor, today's history majors enjoy stronger opportunities for employment when they blend their history degree training with another specialty, like finance or literature. Finding a niche that you love will not only open up new job opportunities, it will create a stronger chance for you to position yourself as one of only a handful of experts in a highly specialized field.

Skills of Successful History Majors

- **Understanding of history and development as it applies to nations and groups of people.** History majors don't just study world events for the sake of trivia. By truly understanding the causes and effects of major shifts in politics and culture, historians can help us prevent future catastrophes by preventing us from repeating past mistakes. Revealing cyclical patterns in history can help politicians and economists understand the ebb and flow of power and trade, while assuring citizens of the world that life goes on through even the darkest hours.
- **Efficiency in oral and written presentation skills.** Historians must tell the stories of people who cannot speak for themselves. Therefore, the best historians develop powerful storytelling skills that allow them to relate history to a variety of audiences. Historians working in primarily academic fields must be able to present papers and presentations under the scrutiny of their peers. Corporate historians must prepare reports for company officials that provide insight for future decisions. Authors and journalists use language to make history come alive on the printed page or on the big screen.
- **Detailed research skills.** Historians must understand how to dig deep for facts that their predecessors may have overlooked. With advances in technology, historians enjoy unprecedented access to previously unavailable texts and artifacts that shed new light on ancient cultures. Modern historians, on the other hand, must wade through today's abundance of data to glean the most compelling threads of current events. All historians learn the benefits of triangulation, a technique that helps researchers verify facts by identifying multiple, unconnected sources of information.
- **Proficient interview skills and techniques.** To tell stories of human events, historians must develop powerful abilities to ask questions that bring new information to light without influencing interview subjects. By probing interviewees correctly, historians can uncover

compelling new pieces of data that can radically alter our understanding of past actions. Historians with direct access to major historical figures may spend their entire careers chronicling decisions and policies for the benefit of future generations. Specialists in ancient cultures use the same interviewing techniques to question their predecessors and peers, to refine and improve the stories we tell to our children and their children.

- **Proper and accurate record keeping skills.** Even minor errors in recording interview data or research findings can warp our perception of events. History majors learn traditions and techniques that assure an accurate depiction of the past. Stringent peer review programs combined with an eager fact-checking culture prevent historians from making unethical or inaccurate claims to support controversial views or policy decisions.
- **Critical thinking skills.** Besides cataloging the people and the events of the past, history majors learn how to see hidden patterns in time that can profoundly influence our future. To the layperson, it might seem that many of the world's stories have already been told. History majors develop the ability to look at tired tales in fresh new ways, so they can show us the relevance of past events to our current lives.
- **Strong interpersonal communications skills.** Throughout their careers, history majors will rely on the powerful abilities to speak person-to-person that they develop during their degree programs. Whether gently coercing an interview subject to reveal a previously secret piece of information or defending themselves in an academic debate, historians must apply the most effective communication skills to fit a variety of situations.

Career options for aspiring history major graduates:

- **Arts Foundation Manager.** Combining a deep understanding of the importance of the arts throughout history with the interpersonal skills required to run a large charity organization, many arts foundations and other nonprofit organizations recruit history graduates for leadership positions. A history major's organizational skills and attention to detail makes him or her ideal to keep an eye on complex financial transactions, especially the transfer of assets from family endowments. Likewise, a professional with strong storytelling skills can more effectively recruit major donors during capital campaigns by putting a potentially large contribution in an attractive context.
- **Executive Coach.** A growing number of history majors have put their strong interpersonal communication skills to work as advisors to corporate leaders. Executive coaches help their clients weigh important decisions in the context of past successes and failures. Coaches must also use their interviewing and research skills to quickly assess the real truth of a situation before offering guidance. Most importantly, executive coaches help professionals write their own histories by encouraging clients to look at the longest possible historical view of current events. Historian and consultant Steven Covey often advises students to "begin with the end in mind" and address today's decision by envisioning the bullet points in your own future obituary.
- **Financial Auditor.** In the wake of financial misdealing and ethical violations at many publicly traded companies, banks, and auditing firms have started to hire an increasing number of history majors to help improve their research and investigative operations. Though a career as an auditor can be highly rewarding, professionals with a background in history tend to be motivated by their search for the truth, as opposed to business school graduates who may want

to find the quickest route to profits. History majors who work as auditors can apply their storytelling skills to relate critical information to company leaders and shareholders in a format that is easier to digest than just a raw set of numbers.

- **Foreign Service Agent.** You may not find yourself slinking around European nightclubs in swanky clothing like the stars of the television series *Alias*, but the United States Government does want your help if you understand the history and culture of foreign countries. Numerous government agencies employ history majors to provide valuable insight and context for potential policy and partnership decisions. Helping our leaders better understand the customs of our friends and foes around the world can open up new opportunities for trade and cooperation, or it can defuse the military fallout of potential misunderstandings.
- **History Professor.** Some history majors thrive in academia so well, that they make perfect candidates to train tomorrow's generation of historians. Tenured history professors don't just recite copy from old textbooks, however. Many faculty members spend most of their time writing about history and culture while leading research teams that investigate new leads about specialized subjects. By uncovering new information and reaching new insights, history professors help refine the stories we tell about past civilizations while helping us write a better story for ourselves.
- **Judicial Clerk.** History professionals with a passion for the law can find their true calling as clerks in a variety of court settings. In today's highly litigious culture, clerks combine their ability to look up information in online databases with their skills for hunting down obscure references in the stacks of law libraries. Students with powerful memories can launch lucrative careers as assistants and advisors to judges. By relating current court cases to previous precedents, clerks can speed decision-making and keep the wheels of justice moving swiftly.
- **Legislative Analyst.** Attention to detail and keen insight into the effects of legislation make history majors valuable advisors to lawmakers, lobbyists, and nonprofit organizations. History majors can effectively predict the outcomes of government spending programs and other legislative initiatives, while recommending alternate solutions to current problems. History majors employed as analysts can also use their interviewing skills to lead teams of market researchers. Through personal interviews, polls, and focus groups, analysts can discover the most effective ways to tell stories about new programs to concerned voters.
- **Magazine Editor.** History majors that edit magazines rely on their strong memories and powerful fact-checking skills to prepare compelling reading for their subscribers. In the fast-paced world of publishing, many editors have to make coverage decisions based on raw instinct. A history major can immediately understand whether a story or an angle holds relevance for their readers in the context of current events. They can also help writers and contributors adjust their projects based on past coverage of a topic or an interview subject. By viewing their role through a historical perspective, magazine editors can create publications that accurately chronicle our current lives.
- **Marketing Director.** Like many liberal arts and humanities majors, history students make excellent candidates for the advertising and marketing sectors. Their deep understanding for common cultural references allows history graduates to tell stories to consumers that actively engage them in the messages of their products or brands. History majors can use their powerful storytelling skills to win over internal stakeholders like clients or company leaders. And their

attention to detail comes in handy when preparing marketing budgets and analyzing the effectiveness of advertising campaigns and press releases.

- **Novelist.** Though novels are works of fiction, audiences crave authenticity in their entertainment. Many history majors who share a love of writing can put their knowledge of historical periods to use by crafting clear visions of days gone by. Because history majors spend so much time learning to decipher the causes and effects of major world events, they can craft elaborate scenarios that keep readers engaged from cover to cover. By couching their tales in accurate settings, historians can open up their favorite worlds to new audiences. Many readers pick up a historian's love of an era or of a character, while enjoying an entertaining story.
- **Politician.** History majors that enter the political arena often enjoy significant advantages against competitors who lack the insight into world events and the ability to communicate ideas effectively. Many politicians with history degrees can develop innovative new policies and strategies by emulating some of the world's most admired leaders. They can identify potential trouble more easily by matching up other legislators' ideas with historical precedent. Most importantly, they can approach their positions with the long view of history on their side. By envisioning positive results, they can effectively break down their goals into actionable steps that appeal to voters.
- **Real Estate Professional.** As groups of Americans move around the country to follow jobs and opportunity, real estate professionals that can tap into the higher end of the market can benefit from significantly larger commissions with little extra work compared to colleagues that hustle subdivision properties. History majors entering the real estate field can exploit their skills to translate the history and character of a building into an attractive story for potential buyers. Since many real estate purchases happen because of emotional feel rather than pure financial logic, a history major that creates the most compelling vision for their clients can reap huge rewards by adding significant value to each purchase.
- **Sales Analyst.** History majors can use their understanding of cultural cycles to predict market swings. By timing sales and promotions to match larger trends, sales analysts help their firm maximize profits during boom times and preserve revenues during lean periods. By applying their research skills to the study of short-term and medium-term sales, history majors working as sales analysts can recommend strategy shifts that help their employers compete more effectively in the open market.
- **Sportswriter.** If sports fans want to know the facts about a game, they can look at a box score. If they really want to understand the impact of a team's performance or an athlete's individual achievement, they turn to trusted sportswriters and columnists. History majors who love sports can chronicle today's stars by comparing them to history's most memorable athletes. By telling powerful stories, sportswriters with history degrees can engage sports fans in entertaining and sometimes passionate debates about the future of current players and the legacies of our most influential athletes.
- **Television Producer.** The proliferation of cable and satellite television networks in the past few decades has created an intense demand for fresh, yet inexpensive, productions. Many historians have jumped at the opportunity to tell stories about their favorite eras on networks like The History Channel or The Discovery Channel. As filmmaker Ken Burns reignited America's love for historical documentaries, many history majors use film and television to tell new stories from

past eras. Using compelling storytelling techniques, historians can build powerful dramas from actual events more quickly and efficiently than Hollywood studios can churn out television shows and blockbusters.

Salary Information for Careers in History

Federal and state governments hire the largest percentage of historians for a variety of positions. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, historians in a 2012 study reported a median annual salary of \$52,480.

Certification and Licensure

No specific state or federal governments require historians to hold specific licenses or certifications. Instead, many potential employers rely on the peer review and publishing process to determine the long-term authenticity of a historian's work. Therefore, most history degree programs encourage students to pursue publication of their research in academic journals. Likewise, many degree programs prepare students to showcase their work as oral presentations at conferences.

Excerpt from: <http://www.worldwidelearn.com/online-education-guide/social-science/history-major.htm>