

Accelerated Master of Arts in History

Note: Admission to the Accelerated M.A. program is open to current KU undergraduate students only. If you are a non-KU student interested in graduate study, consult information about our M.A. and Ph.D. programs, respectively.

Description

The Accelerated M.A. program in History enables qualified KU students to earn both a Bachelor's degree and a Master's degree in history in five years. Students apply to join the accelerated program by January 1 of their Junior year, and spend the following two years completing a mix of undergraduate and graduate coursework.

The program has two tracks, one leading to an M.A. in U.S. History and one leading to an M.A. in World History. The M.A. may be pursued as a terminal degree or as preparation to pursue doctoral studies at KU or elsewhere.

Careful course selection and steady progression through the undergraduate career is necessary to ensure all requirements for both degrees be completed within the five-year timeframe. All prospective students should discuss their interest in admission to the accelerated program with both the Director of Undergraduate Studies and the Director of Graduate Studies as early as possible but no later than Fall of the student's Junior year.

Prospective students are eligible to apply to the graduate program in their Junior year. **Applications are accepted on a rolling basis but should be submitted before the end of the applicant's junior year.**

Applications must be received at least 4 weeks prior to start of the student's second to last undergraduate semester.

The following program requirements must be met by this time:

- Major GPA of at least 3.5 and cumulative GPA of at least 3.00;
- On track to complete all requirements for a B.A. degree in History from KU with one additional year of study beyond the junior year.

Applicants must complete an Application for Graduate Study (<https://gradapply.ku.edu/apply/>) online. The following information should be gathered in advance and uploaded with the application:

- Two letters of recommendation (preferably from professors in the major). You will be asked to enter the names and e-mail addresses for two recommenders while completing the online application. Your recommenders will automatically receive an e-mail requesting their letters when you submit the application. It is not necessary for your recommenders to send hard copies of their letters to the department if they submit their letters electronically. Should a recommender feel uncomfortable with the online submission process, please contact the department for more options.
- Résumé or curriculum vitae
- A one-page statement of educational and career objectives
- A writing sample, preferably from an history course, 5-10 pages of text not including the bibliography, endnotes, or images following endnotes.

Upon review of the Application for Admission, the History Department will notify the student of his or her eligibility to begin coursework in the program the following Fall semester. Final acceptance to the graduate program will be contingent upon the following:

- Successful completion of all requirements for the Bachelor's degree;
- Grades of B+ or above in all History graduate-level coursework taken in the final year of undergraduate study.
- Submission of a Program of Study

Program of Study

- After acceptance to the program, M.A. students will submit an M.A. Program of Study Worksheet. Students are expected to identify three fields of study (geographical, thematic, and chronological) in consultation with their primary advisor. These fields must be approved by the primary advisor and Director of Graduate Study by April 15. The Program of Study Worksheet also designates a Primary Advisor and two other faculty advisors as the official members of the student's M.A. Committee.

To express interest and request further information about the History Accelerated M.A. Program, click one of the links below to complete a short form.

Current KU Students inquiry form (<https://www.applyweb.com/fixie/form/s/T2b1fa0/>)

Future Jayhawks inquiry form (<https://college-forms.app.ku.edu/forms/form/1/>)

The course requirements for this accelerated program are fulfilled by a combination of graduate-level courses taken for both undergraduate and graduate credit in Year 4, and graduate credit courses taken in Year 5. Numerous graduate-level courses are regularly offered that fulfill distribution requirements for both the Bachelor's and M.A. degrees.

Requirements for the B.A. Major

History Major Core Knowledge and Skills

Majors must complete a course in the following area:

The Historian's Craft. Satisfied by:

Code	Title	Hours
HIST 301	The Historian's Craft	3
HIST 302	The Historian's Craft, Honors	3

History Required Elective

Majors must complete 10 courses (30 hours) of electives. 4 courses (12 hours) must be in Category I and 4 courses (12 hours) must be in Category II, listed below. At least 9 of these 30 credit hours must be completed at the 500 level or above and will also count toward the master's degree. No more than three courses (9 hours) may be taken in courses numbering 100-299. **The student must be approved to begin coursework toward the master's degree prior to enrolling in any 500 level or above courses that are to count for both undergraduate and graduate credit.**

History Category I: Western Orientation. Satisfied by courses in Ancient, Medieval, Modern Western Europe, Russia/Eastern Europe, United States:

Code	Title	Hours	Code	Title	Hours
HIST 101	Introduction to Western History: _____	3	HIST 332	Sex in History	3
HIST 102	Introduction to History, Honors: _____	3	HIST 333	Eurometro: Visions of the European Metropolis, 1849-1939	3
HIST 103	Environment and History	3	HIST 334	The Great War: The History of World War I	3
HIST 105	Introduction to Ancient Near Eastern and Greek History	3	HIST 335	History of Jewish Women	3
HIST 106	Introduction to Roman History	3	HIST 336	Ethics, Ideas, and Nature	3
HIST 107	Introduction to the Ancient World	3	HIST 337	History, Ethics, Modernity	3
HIST 108	Medieval History	3	HIST 338	African American Urban Community and Class in the Midwest	3
HIST 109	The Black Experience in the Americas	3	HIST 340	The History of the Second World War	3
HIST 112	Introduction to British History	3	HIST 341	Hitler and Nazi Germany	3
HIST 114	Renaissance to Revolution: Europe 1500-1789	3	HIST 343	The Holocaust in History	3
HIST 115	French Revolution to the Present: Europe 1789-Present	3	HIST 344	Modern Jewish History	3
HIST 116	French Revolution to the Present: Europe 1789 to Present, Honors	3	HIST 345	Hard Times: The Depression Years in America, 1929-1941	3
HIST 128	History of the United States Through the Civil War	3	HIST 347	Environmental History of North America	3
HIST 129	History of the United States After the Civil War	3	HIST 348	History of the Peoples of Kansas	3
HIST 140	Global Environment I: The Discovery of Environmental Change	5	HIST 350	The Korean War, 1950-1953	3
HIST 142	Global Environment II: The Ecology of Human Civilization	5	HIST 356	At the Movies: U.S. History on the Silver Screen	3
HIST 144	Global Environment I: Discovery of Environmental Change, Honors	5	HIST 358	The Vietnam War	3
HIST 145	Global Environment II: The Ecology of Human Civilization, Honors	5	HIST 359	The Black Experience in the U.S. Since Emancipation	3
HIST 177	First Year Seminar: _____	3	HIST 361	Youth, Sex, and Romance in Post-WWII United States	3
HIST 201	Writing the Past-Category I/Western Topics: _____	3	HIST 362	The American Way of War Since World War II	3
HIST 203	Speaking the Past-Category I/Western Topics: _____	3	HIST 365	Invention of the Tropics	3
HIST 220	A Global History of Human Health	3	HIST 367	Magic and Superstition in European History	3
HIST 229	United States in the 1960s	3	HIST 373	The Supreme Court and Religious Issues in the United States	3
HIST 230	Sex, Gender, Film, and History	3	HIST 376	Immigrants, Refugees, and Diasporas	3
HIST 231	War and 20th Century U.S. Culture	3	HIST 377	Everyday Communism in Eastern Europe	3
HIST 250	Study Abroad Topics in: _____	1-5	HIST 378	Beyond the Iron Curtain: Soviet Perspectives on the Cold War	3
HIST 303	Sin Cities	3	HIST 379	Europe in Crisis: Empire, Extremism, and War, 1890-1945	3
HIST 304	1642, 1688, 1776: Three British Revolutions	3	HIST 389	Topics in Western History: _____	3
HIST 305	The Scientific Revolution	3	HIST 391	Topics in (Honors): _____	3
HIST 308	Key Themes in Modern Global History	3	HIST 401	Case Studies in: _____	2-3
HIST 312	American Culture, 1877 to the Present	3	HIST 402	War and Society in Greece and Rome	3
HIST 314	Globalization: History and Theory	3	HIST 404	Technology and the Modern World	3
HIST 316	Ministers and Magicians: Black Religions from Slavery to the Present	3	HIST 407	History of Science in the United States	3
HIST 317	African American Women: Colonial Era to the Present	3	HIST 410	The American Revolution	3
HIST 318	Indian Territory	3	HIST 412	The Civil War in America, 1828-1877	3
HIST 319	History, Women, and Diversity in the U.S.	3	HIST 450	Study Abroad Topics in: _____	1-5
HIST 320	From Goddesses to Witches: Women in Premodern Europe	3	HIST 460	Topics in: _____	1.5
HIST 321	From Mystics to Feminists: Women's History in Europe 1600 to the Present	3	HIST 461	The Asia-Pacific War, 1937-1945	3
HIST 324	History of Women and the Body	3	HIST 492	Readings in History	1-4
HIST 325	The Spanish Inquisition	3	HIST 494	Service Learning in History	1-3
HIST 331	Age of Empires-The Atlantic 1400-1800	3	HIST 500	History of the Book	3
			HIST 501	Topics in Western History: _____	3
			HIST 502	The Age of Heroes: Early Greece	3
			HIST 503	The Ancient History of the Near East	3
			HIST 506	Roman Republic	3

HIST 507	Early Roman Empire	3	HIST 140	Global Environment I: The Discovery of Environmental Change	5
HIST 508	Late Roman Empire (284-527)	3	HIST 142	Global Environment II: The Ecology of Human Civilization	5
HIST 510	Topics in Non-Western History: _____	3	HIST 144	Global Environment I: Discovery of Environmental Change, Honors	5
HIST 520	The Age of the Renaissance	3	HIST 145	Global Environment II: The Ecology of Human Civilization, Honors	5
HIST 521	The Age of the Reformation	3	HIST 160	Introduction to West African History	3
HIST 522	The Age of Religious Wars, 1540-1648	3	HIST 177	First Year Seminar: _____	3
HIST 524	The French Revolution	3	HIST 190	Warlords and Rebels in Asia	3
HIST 525	France and Its Empire: From Acadia to Zidane	3	HIST 202	Writing the Past-Category II/Non-Western Topics: _____	3
HIST 527	Recent European History, 1870 to the Present	3	HIST 204	Speaking the Past-Category II/Non-Western Topics: _____	3
HIST 528	Economic History of Europe	3	HIST 250	Study Abroad Topics in: _____	1-5
HIST 530	History of American Women--Colonial Times to 1870	3	HIST 300	Modern Africa	3
HIST 531	History of American Women--1870 to Present	3	HIST 303	Sin Cities	3
HIST 541	British History, Tudors and Stuarts	3	HIST 307	Modern Africa, Honors	3
HIST 545	British History from Monarchy to Democracy	3	HIST 308	Key Themes in Modern Global History	3
HIST 548	Rise of Modern Britain	3	HIST 314	Globalization: History and Theory	3
HIST 563	U.S. Environmental Thought in the 20th Century	3	HIST 318	Indian Territory	3
HIST 564	Medieval Russia	3	HIST 326	Native Americans Confront European Empires	3
HIST 565	Imperial Russia	3	HIST 327	The Premodern Middle East	3
HIST 568	Rise and Fall of the Soviet Union	3	HIST 328	The Modern Middle East	3
HIST 574	Slavery in the New World	3	HIST 332	Sex in History	3
HIST 591	Food in History: West and East	3	HIST 336	Ethics, Ideas, and Nature	3
HIST 601	Oral History	3	HIST 337	History, Ethics, Modernity	3
HIST 610	American Colonial History	3	HIST 348	History of the Peoples of Kansas	3
HIST 615	Rise of Modern America: Politics, Culture, and Society, 1900-1950	3	HIST 351	American Indian and White Relations to 1865	3
HIST 616	Contemporary America, 1941-Present	3	HIST 352	American Indians Since 1865	3
HIST 617	America in the 1960's	3	HIST 353	Indigenous Peoples of North America	3
HIST 618	History of the American West to 1900	3	HIST 365	Invention of the Tropics	3
HIST 621	The American West in the 20th Century	3	HIST 368	A History of Afro-Latin America	3
HIST 625	The Body, Self and Society	3	HIST 369	Colonialism and Revolution in the Third World, Honors	3
HIST 630	The United States and the World, 1890-2003	3	HIST 371	Tequila, Tango, Carnival, City	3
HIST 631	The Contemporary Afro-American Experience	3	HIST 376	Immigrants, Refugees, and Diasporas	3
HIST 649	History of Feminist Theory	3	HIST 378	Beyond the Iron Curtain: Soviet Perspectives on the Cold War	3
JOUR 618	First Amendment and Society	3	HIST 390	Topics in Non-Western History: _____	3

History Category II: Non-western Orientation. Satisfied by courses in Africa and Middle East, East Asia, Latin America, Native America:

Code	Title	Hours	Code	Title	Hours
HIST 102	Introduction to History, Honors: _____	3	HIST 391	Topics in (Honors): _____	3
HIST 103	Environment and History	3	HIST 392	Huns, Turks, and Mongols: The Nomad Factor in Asian History	3
HIST 104	Introduction to African History	3	HIST 393	The Silk Road	3
HIST 109	The Black Experience in the Americas	3	HIST 394	Made in China: Chinese Business History	3
HIST 110	Introduction to Non-Western History: _____	1-3	HIST 395	History of Sushi	3
HIST 111	Introduction to African History, Honors	3	HIST 397	From Mao to Now: China's Red Revolution	3
HIST 117	Russia, An Introduction	3	HIST 398	Introduction to History of Japan: Anime to Zen	3
HIST 118	Premodern East Asia	3	HIST 399	The Samurai	3
HIST 119	Modern East Asia	3	HIST 400	Indigenous People of the Great Plains	3
HIST 120	Colonial Latin America	3	HIST 401	Case Studies in: _____	2-3
HIST 121	Modern Latin America	3	HIST 450	Study Abroad Topics in: _____	1-5
HIST 122	Colonial Latin America, Honors	3	HIST 460	Topics in: _____	1.5
HIST 123	Modern Latin America, Honors	3			
HIST 124	Latin American Culture and Society	3			

HIST 461	The Asia-Pacific War, 1937-1945	3
HIST 480	Travelers' Tales of the Middle East	3
HIST 481	From Harem to the Streets: Gender in the Middle East, 1900-Present	3
HIST 492	Readings in History	1-4
HIST 494	Service Learning in History	1-3
HIST 503	The Ancient History of the Near East	3
HIST 510	Topics in Non-Western History: _____	3
HIST 511	Foodways: Native North America	3
HIST 512	Foodways: Latin America	3
HIST 561	Liberation in Southern Africa	3
HIST 564	Medieval Russia	3
HIST 565	Imperial Russia	3
HIST 568	Rise and Fall of the Soviet Union	3
HIST 570	The Middle East After World War II	3
HIST 574	Slavery in the New World	3
HIST 575	The Many Faces of Mexico	3
HIST 576	History of the Caribbean and Central America	3
HIST 579	The History of Brazil	3
HIST 580	Economic History of Latin America	3
HIST 581	The Japanese Empire	3
HIST 583	Imperial China	3
HIST 584	Modern China	3
HIST 585	Beer, Sake, Tea-Beverages in Japan History	3
HIST 587	Age of Shoguns: Early Modern Japan	3
HIST 588	Japan, 1853-1945	3
HIST 589	Japan Since 1945	3
HIST 591	Food in History: West and East	3
HIST 596	Defining Japan: Marginalized Groups and the Construction of National Identity	3
HIST 598	Sexuality and Gender in African History	3
HIST 601	Oral History	3
HIST 603	History of Tibet	3
HIST 604	Contemporary Greater China	3
HIST 605	Medieval Japan	3
HIST 611	Early American Indian History	3
HIST 612	History of Federal Indian Law and Policy	3
HIST 618	History of the American West to 1900	3
HIST 619	History of the American Indian	3

History Capstone Seminar

Majors must complete a capstone research experience in which they research and write an original thesis based on primary sources. Alternatively, majors with a GPA above 3.5 may choose to write a senior honors thesis. 3 of these credit hours will also count toward the master's degree and must be completed during the Senior year.

Satisfied by one of the following:

HIST 696 Seminar in: _____ or

HIST 690 Honors Course in History and HIST 691 Undergraduate History Honors Seminar

History Major Hours & Major GPA

While completing all required courses, majors must also meet each of the following hour and grade point average minimum standards:

Major Hours

Satisfied by 36 hours of major courses. No more than 2 HIST 492 (<https://catalog.ku.edu/search/?P=HIST%20492>) Readings in History courses may be applied to the major. Only courses taken in the Department of History or cross-listed in other units are accepted for credit toward the major.

Major Hours in Residence

Satisfied by a minimum of 15 hours of KU resident credit in the major.

Major Junior/Senior Hours

Satisfied by a minimum of 27 hours from junior/senior courses (300+) in the major. Of these 27 hours, at least 6 hours (two courses) must be taken at the 500-699 level (in addition to HIST 696).

Major Junior/Senior Graduation (300+) GPA

Satisfied by a minimum of a 2.0 KU GPA in junior/senior courses (300+) in the major. GPA calculations include all junior/senior courses in the field of study including F's and repeated courses. See the Semester/Cumulative GPA Calculator (<http://clas.ku.edu/undergrad/tools/gpa/>).

Proficiency in a foreign language is required for the M.A. degree if pursuing an MA with a focus outside the United States. Students in the accelerated program should complete at least the fourth semester of a relevant foreign language with a grade of B or better by the end of Year 4 or be prepared to demonstrate proficiency by passing the department's language proficiency exam at the beginning of Year 5. Should the student not pass the proficiency exam, s/he will be expected either to enroll in the appropriate level of language study or establish a plan for passing the language exam at the start of the second semester of Year 5.

Master's Degree Requirements

The master's program in history requires satisfactory completion of 30 credit hours of graduate courses. In addition to the 12 credit hours of graduate coursework taken during the Senior year, students must complete an additional 18 credit hours of graduate coursework once fully admitted to the master's program. These include:

Code	Title	Hours
HIST 802	Seminar in: _____	3
HIST 805	The Nature of History	3

Electives (12)

At least 12 hours of electives numbered 800 or above. Students may take up to 3 of these hours outside of the History department.

No more than 9 hours of Electives numbered 500-799. Students in the Accelerated Masters should plan to take 9 hours of 500+ electives before the end of their fourth year.

MA Examination

In the final semester of enrollment, terminal M.A. degree will sit for a ninety-minute oral examination that covers the student's research fields and the papers prepared in the undergraduate capstone seminar (HIST 696 or 690/691) and the graduate research seminar (HIST 802), respectively.

The M.A. exam tests the student's mastery of the scholarly debates pertinent to their field and their facility with advanced methods of historical research and writing.

The examination will cover basic historiographical questions, and the student should offer evidence of knowledge of the field equivalent to the material contained within a survey textbook. Moreover, the exam is designed to permit the student to demonstrate competency in engaging in an academic conversation. The examining committee will also discuss the content and significance of the research papers and advise upon future directions in the student's submission of these papers for publication.

A detailed presentation of departmental degree requirements and regulations is included in the department's Graduate Student Handbook, available online at <https://history.ku.edu/graduate-resources> (<https://history.ku.edu/graduate-resources/>).

Progression Requirements

Given the accelerated nature of this program, each student's progress will be closely monitored at various points during the program:

1. Upon approval to begin graduate coursework in the accelerated program, the student must meet with the DGS to plan the final year of undergraduate study.
2. In the final semester of undergraduate study, the department will review the student's performance in graduate-level History courses taken in the final year. The student must earn a grade of B+ or better in each of these courses to be eligible for regular admission to the master's degree.
3. Following completion and award of the undergraduate degree, the admitted student will again meet with the DGS to review the course plan for the final year of graduate study and update as needed. The student's performance in the graduate-level courses taken as an undergraduate will be evaluated.
4. The student will not be permitted to enroll in courses for graduate credit toward the master's degree until the baccalaureate degree has been conferred.

Students should complete all requirements for the Accelerated M.A. within 2 to 3 semesters of receiving the bachelor's degree. If unforeseen circumstances prevent the timely completion of the master's degree, the student must consult with their graduate advisor to develop an alternative plan for completion.

Year 1

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
ENGL 101 (Goal 2.1 Written Communication/BA Writing I) ¹	3 ENGL 102 (Goal 2.1 Written Communication/BA Writing II) ¹	3
Goal 1.2 Quantitative Reasoning	3 BA Quantitative Reasoning (QR) ²	3
1st Semester Language(BA 2nd Language)	5 2nd Semester Language (BA 2nd language)	5
Goal 1.1 Critical Thinking	3 Goal 2.2 Communication	3
Goal 3 Social Science	3 Goal 3 Humanities	3
	17	17

Year 2

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
3rd Semester Language (BA Second Language)	3-5 4th Semester Language, or 1st semester of Another Language, unless req for mjr (BA Second Language) ⁴	3-5
Goal 4.1 US Diversity	3 Goal 3 Natural Science	3
HIST 301 (Major Requirement)	3 BA Laboratory/Field Experience (LFE)	1-2
Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ³	3 HIST Elective Level	3
Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ³	3 HIST Elective	3
	15-17	13-16

Year 3

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
Goal 4.2 Global Awareness	3 Goal 5 Social Responsibility & Ethics	3
HIST Elective 300+	3 HIST Elective 300+	3
HIST Elective 300+	3 HIST Elective 300+	3
Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ³	3 Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ³	3
Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ³	3 Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ³	3
	15	15

Year 4

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
HIST Elective Level 500+ (Major Requirement, MA Requirement)	3 HIST 696 (Goal 6 Integration & Creativity, Major Requirement, MA Requirement)	3
HIST Elective Level 500+ (Major Requirement, MA requirement)	3 HIST Elective Level 500+ (Major Requirement, MA requirement)	3
HIST Elective Level 300+	3 Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ³	3
Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ³	3 Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ³	3
Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ³	3	
	15	12

Year 5

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
HIST 805	3 HIST 802	3
HIST Elective 800+	3 HIST Elective 800+	3

HIST or outside department Elective 800+	3 HIST Elective 800+	3
9		9

Total Hours 137-142

- ¹ The BA requires completion of two courses of collegiate-level writing instruction. Students who test out of Composition will still need to complete ENGL 102 (or equivalent) and one additional Goal 2.1 course.
- ² Visit this website (<https://collegeadvising.ku.edu/ba-quantitative-reasoning/>) for a list of courses that fulfill the BA Quantitative Reasoning requirement.
- ³ Hour requirements (incl. 45 jr/sr hrs) are typically met through KU core, degree, major, second area of study and/or elective hours. Students completing the BGS with a major must choose a secondary area of study. Individual degree mapping is done in partnership with your advisor.
- ⁴ For students completing the language requirement via the 3+1 language option, note that many first semester languages are 5 credit hours.