Minor in History

Why study history?

Who? What? Where? When? are the questions most commonly associated with the study of history. But these are only bits of information, bubbles on a multiple-choice test. They are not history. They are the building blocks of history, parts that when put together in the right way become history.

History does not just record a sequence of events in the past. The practice of history examines change over time and tries to understand the forces that contributed to those changes. Historians are most interested in questions that begin by asking ‘why’ or ‘how.’ These questions demand complex answers about who we are, how we have come to where we are, and what forces have shaped humanity through time.

How did Spanish conquistadors manage to defeat the Aztec Empire? Why did Napoleon try to conquer Europe? How did the Industrial Revolution contribute to global warming? Why did Taiwan break off from mainland China? These questions demand complex answers. In trying to come up with those answers historians turn to the building blocks of who, what, where, and when to assemble the historical evidence in a way that answers the big question.

In a culture that places primary value only on living in the present, studying history can offer a rare foundation for critiquing or at least comprehending the current state of the world. Studying history helps you cut through the myths that cloud our understanding of ourselves and others, and offers a depth of comprehension that few other disciplines can promise. The following are some key characteristics of the history department and major:

- **Useful**: The study of history at the collegiate level emphasizes vital lifelong skills. These include critical thinking, analysis of qualitative and quantitative sources, research methods and practices, persuasive writing, and articulate speaking. The skills acquired through historical study can be transferred easily to any number of future careers and occupations. Graduates with KU History degrees have gone on to become lawyers, business professionals, teachers, consultants, journalists, social workers, archivists, civil servants, and even medical doctors.

- **Welcoming**: Few limits exist to what you may study. Politics, sexual relations, art, labor, literature, rebellion, war - the Department of History draws no boundaries between what you may and may not examine. To that end it also shares students and faculty with other programs such as African and African American Studies, Women and Gender Studies, Environmental Studies, Global and International Studies, Indigenous Studies, and all of the geographical area studies programs.

- **Flexible**: Students must take only two required courses - a course on historical methods (HIST 301) and a senior research seminar (HIST 696) or honors thesis (HIST 690 & HIST 691). Because few courses have sequential prerequisites, History is easy to take as a minor or as a second major.

- **Worldly**: History is excellent preparation for travel and work abroad, and around thirty majors yearly participate in KU’s Study Abroad (http://www.studyabroad.ku.edu/) program. The Department of History itself offers overseas opportunities, such as a pre-law institute at Cambridge University.

- **Intimate**: Courses in the department are usually small, and the larger courses always include trained Graduate Teaching Assistants to give individual attention and feedback. All students take at least two seminars of no more than fifteen students, and honors students work one-on-one with a faculty member. Further, students in the Department have organized movie nights, lectures, and informal get-togethers, so you are never lost in the crowd.

- **Prominent**: Faculty in the department are nationally and internationally recognized leaders in their field, and they bring this advanced knowledge to bear on their teaching.

- **Resourceful**: Resources for history research at KU are rich. Watson and Anschutz libraries help make up a major research library collection, and the Spencer Research Library offers such resources as the Wilcox Collection on extremist politics, the University Archives, and major collections in British and Irish history, among others.

Requirements for the Minor

**History Minor Course Requirements**

Students selecting this minor must complete the following:

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<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<td><strong>History Category I: Western Orientation</strong> Satisfied by two courses (6 hours) from the following:</td>
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<td>African American Women: Colonial Era to the Present</td>
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<td>Economic and Social History of Later Medieval Europe, 1000-1500</td>
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Minor in History

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HIST 450  Study Abroad Topics in: _____
HIST 460  Topics in: _____
HIST 461  The Asia-Pacific War, 1937-1945
HIST 492  Readings in History
HIST 494  Service Learning in History
HIST 500  History of the Book
HIST 501  Topics in Western History: _____
HIST 502  Development of Ancient Greece, ca. 1000-300 B.C.
HIST 503  The Ancient History of the Near East
HIST 506  Roman Republic
HIST 507  Early Roman Empire
HIST 508  Late Roman Empire (284-527)
HIST 513  Early Medieval Culture
HIST 515  The Crusades in Cross-Cultural Perspective
HIST 516  Later Medieval Culture
HIST 519  European Intellectual History of the Seventeenth Century
HIST 520  The Age of the Renaissance
HIST 521  The Age of the Reformation
HIST 522  The Age of Religious Wars, 1540-1648
HIST 524  The French Revolution
HIST 525  France and Its Empire: From Acadia to Zidane
HIST 527  Recent European History, 1870 to the Present
HIST 528  Economic History of Europe
HIST 529  Intellectual History of 19th Century Europe
HIST 530  History of American Women--Colonial Times to 1870
HIST 531  History of American Women--1870 to Present
HIST 532  History of Women and Work in Comparative Perspective
HIST 534  Captivity in America, 1492-1800
HIST 537  France from the Renaissance to the French Revolution
HIST 538  European Intellectual History of the Eighteenth Century
HIST 541  British History, Tudors and Stuarts
HIST 545  British History from Monarchy to Democracy
HIST 547  The Intellectual History of Europe in the Twentieth Century
HIST 548  Rise of Modern Britain
HIST 551  Spain and its Empire, 1450-1700
HIST 555  British Political Thought
HIST 556  British Political Thought, Honors
HIST 557  Nationalism and Communism in East Central Europe from 1772 to the Present
HIST 558  Religion in Britain Since the Reformation: A Survey
HIST 559  Religion in Britain Since the Reformation: A Survey, Honors
HIST 560  The Value of Freedom
HIST 562  United States Environmental History in the 20th Century
HIST 563  U.S. Environmental Thought in the 20th Century
HIST 564  Medieval Russia
HIST 565  Imperial Russia
HIST 568  Rise and Fall of the Soviet Union
HIST 570  The Middle East After World War II
HIST 574  Slavery in the New World
HIST 591  Food in History: West and East
HIST 601  Oral History
HIST 608  History of Sexuality
HIST 610  American Colonial History
HIST 613  Slavery and Freedom in the Age of Jackson
HIST 615  Rise of Modern America: Politics, Culture, and Society, 1900-1950
HIST 616  Contemporary America, 1941-Present
HIST 617  America in the 1960's
HIST 618  History of the American West to 1900
HIST 620  History of Kansas
HIST 621  The American West in the 20th Century
HIST 625  The Body, Self and Society
HIST 626  Men and Masculinities
HIST 628  American Economic Development
HIST 630  The United States and the World, 1890-2003
HIST 631  The Contemporary Afro-American Experience
HIST 636  Agriculture in World History
HIST 646  Witches in European History and Historiography
HIST 649  History of Feminist Theory
HIST 660  Biography of a City: _____
HIST 661  Palestine and Antiquity
HIST 670  Comparative Diasporas
JOUR 618  First Amendment and Society

History Category II: Non-western Orientation

Satisfied by two courses (6 hours) from the following:

HIST 102  Introduction to History, Honors: _____
HIST 104  Introduction to African History
HIST 109  The Black Experience in the Americas
HIST 110  Introduction to Non-Western History: _____
HIST 111  Introduction to African History, Honors
HIST 117  Russia, An Introduction
HIST 118  History of East Asia
HIST 119  History of East Asia, Honors
HIST 120  Colonial Latin America
HIST 121  Modern Latin America
HIST 122  Colonial Latin America, Honors
HIST 123  Modern Latin America, Honors
HIST 124  Latin American Culture and Society
HIST 140  Global Environment I: The Discovery of Environmental Change
HIST 142  Global Environment II: The Ecology of Human Civilization
HIST 144  Global Environment I: The Discovery of Environmental Change, Honors
HIST 145  Global Environment II: The Ecology of Human Civilization, Honors
HIST 150  
Introduction to Food History: Around the World in Eight Dishes?

HIST 160  
Introduction to West African History

HIST 177  
First Year Seminar: ______

HIST 190  
Warlords and Rebels in Asia

HIST 191  
Dawn of Japan

HIST 202  
Writing the Past-Category II/Non-Western Topics: ______

HIST 204  
Speaking the Past-Category II/Non-Western Topics: ______

HIST 205  
History and the Headlines

HIST 206  
Disasters in Mediterranean Antiquity

HIST 210  
Brazil and Africa: Atlantic Encounters

HIST 215  
A Global History of Money: Aristotle to Bitcoin

HIST 250  
Study Abroad Topics in: ______

HIST 300  
Modern Africa

HIST 303  
Sin Cities

HIST 307  
Modern Africa, Honors

HIST 308  
Key Themes in Modern Global History

HIST 314  
Globalization: History and Theory

HIST 318  
Indian Territory

HIST 326  
Native Americans Confront European Empires

HIST 327  
The Premodern Middle East

HIST 328  
The Modern Middle East

HIST 332  
Sex in History

HIST 336  
Ethics, Ideas, and Nature

HIST 337  
History, Ethics, Modernity

HIST 348  
History of the Peoples of Kansas

HIST 351  
American Indian and White Relations to 1865

HIST 352  
American Indians Since 1865

HIST 353  
Indigenous Peoples of North America

HIST 365  
Invention of the Tropics

HIST 368  
A History of Afro-Latin America

HIST 369  
Colonialism and Revolution in the Third World, Honors

HIST 370  
Violence and Conflict in Latin American History

HIST 371  
Tequila, Tango, Carnival, City

HIST 372  
Violence and Conflict in Latin American History, Honors

HIST 376  
Immigrants, Refugees, and Diasporas

HIST 378  
Beyond the Iron Curtain: Soviet Perspectives on the Cold War

HIST 381  
Enemies of Ancient Israel

HIST 382  
Jerusalem Through the Ages

HIST 390  
Topics in Non-Western History: ______

HIST 391  
Topics in (Honors): ______

HIST 392  
Huns, Turks, and Mongols: The Nomad Factor in Asian History

HIST 393  
The Silk Road

HIST 394  
Made in China: Chinese Business History

HIST 395  
History of Sushi

HIST 397  
From Mao to Now: China's Red Revolution

HIST 398  
Introduction to History of Japan: Anime to Zen

HIST 399  
The Samurai

HIST 401  
Case Studies in: ______

HIST 415  
The Rise of Civilization

HIST 450  
Study Abroad Topics in: ______

HIST 460  
Topics in: ______

HIST 461  
The Asia-Pacific War, 1937-1945

HIST 471  
Social History of South America

HIST 480  
Travelers' Tales of the Middle East

HIST 481  
From Harem to the Streets: Gender in the Middle East, 1900-Present

HIST 492  
Readings in History

HIST 494  
Service Learning in History

HIST 510  
Topics in Non-Western History: ______

HIST 511  
Foodways: Native North America

HIST 512  
Foodways: Latin American

HIST 543  
Modern Iran

HIST 561  
Liberation in Southern Africa

HIST 564  
Medieval Russia

HIST 565  
Imperial Russia

HIST 568  
Rise and Fall of the Soviet Union

HIST 570  
The Middle East After World War II

HIST 571  
Pre-Hispanic Mexico and Central America

HIST 572  
Ancient American Civilizations: The Central Andes

HIST 573  
Latin America in the 19th Century

HIST 574  
Slavery in the New World

HIST 575  
The Many Faces of Mexico

HIST 576  
History of the Caribbean and Central America

HIST 577  
The Andean World

HIST 579  
The History of Brazil

HIST 580  
Economic History of Latin America

HIST 581  
The Japanese Empire

HIST 583  
Imperial China

HIST 584  
Modern China

HIST 585  
Beer, Sake, Tea-Beverages in Japan History

HIST 587  
Age of Shoguns: Early Modern Japan

HIST 588  
Japan, 1853-1945

HIST 589  
Japan Since 1945

HIST 590  
Cultural History of Korea

HIST 591  
Food in History: West and East

HIST 593  
Modern Korea

HIST 596  
Defining Japan: Marginalized Groups and the Construction of National Identity

HIST 597  
Japanese Theater History

HIST 598  
Sexuality and Gender in African History

HIST 600  
West African History

HIST 601  
Oral History

HIST 603  
History of Tibet

HIST 604  
Contemporary Greater China

HIST 605  
Medieval Japan

HIST 608  
History of Sexuality

HIST 611  
Early American Indian History

HIST 612  
History of Federal Indian Law and Policy
HIST 618  History of the American West to 1900
HIST 619  History of the American Indian
HIST 622  History of the Plains Indians
HIST 636  Agriculture in World History
HIST 640  Entrepreneurship in East Asia
HIST 660  Biography of a City: _____
HIST 670  Comparative Diasporas

History Electives
Satisfied by 2 HIST courses (6 hours)  6

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

Minor Hours
Satisfied by 18 hours of minor courses.

Minor Hours in Residence
Satisfied by a minimum of 9 hours of junior/senior (300+) hours of KU resident credit in the minor.

Minor Junior/Senior (300+) Hours
Satisfied by a minimum of 12 hours from junior/senior courses (300+) in the minor.

Minor Graduation GPA
Satisfied by a minimum of a 2.0 GPS in all departmental courses in the minor. GPA calculations include all departmental courses in the field of study including Fs and repeated courses. See the Semester/Cumulative GPA Calculator (http://clas.ku.edu/undergrad/tools/gpa/).